

Summer 2014  
Volume 5, Issue 1

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[www.livoniaptscouncil.org](http://www.livoniaptscouncil.org)



### Coming Up:

Aug 13	LPTSA Council Executive Board Meeting
Aug 21	LPS Bounce Back to School Stevenson HS
Aug 23	Summer Leadership Academy Royal Oak HS
Aug 27	TENTATIVE LPTSA Council Presidents WS
Sept 2	First Day of School
Sept 15	LPTSA Council Meet & Greet & GMM
Sept 20	LIM Parent training

## Letter from the President

Hello PTA community,

With the summer still in full swing, it's hard to think about heading back to school in September! With that said, I would like to thank those PTA officers and committee chairs that have taken time during the summer months to join the Livonia PTSA Council to work on Audits and Membership training.

On July 16, Council hosted 37 PTA members for our second annual Audit Party - in two hours, we were able to complete audits for 12 units! Thank you to Churchill PTSA, Frost PTSA, Garfield PTA, Grant PTA, Holmes PTSA, Hoover PTA, Jackson Center PTA, Johnson PTA, Kennedy PTA, Riley PTA, Rosedale PTA and Webster PTA for joining us and completing your audit!

One night later, Council hosted 16 more PTA members for a Membership workshop. Great ideas were shared and we are eager to increase our membership this year.

One of our goals is to better serve our units this year. Are you a new officer this year - would you like training? Or just some advice? Have you 'been around the PTA block' a few times? Could you use some new ideas - or are you looking for improved service from Council? Let us know! We want to see you succeed!

Do you remember to put the PTA logo on all communications that you send out? Remember to include the PTA logo to make sure your families know what you do for them!

One of the new programs we plan to roll out this year is a Membership Benefits program

We will be working with local businesses to offer discounts to PTA members. We hope this will make your Membership drive easier and that you will see increases in your membership numbers!

Other things that Council can do for you include promoting your fundraisers, Box Tops collections, officer training - even help during PTA events. If you can think of other ways that we can support or assist you, let us know!

We offer you assistance through assigned liaisons - they are your first step for questions or assistance. Training is also available through the Michigan PTA - with the annual Summer Leadership Academy scheduled for Saturday August 23 at Royal Oak High School. I encourage all officers to attend - please remember to budget for training and conventions! The registration form can be found online at [www.michiganpta.org](http://www.michiganpta.org) or at the end of this newsletter.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions, concerns or suggestions. I look forward to a great PTA 2014-2015.

Julie Thompson  
President, Livonia PTSA Council



## Reflections News



National PTA's Reflections program encourages students in pre-K through grade 12 to explore and be involved in the arts.

create original works of art in the categories of dance choreography, film production, music composition, literature, photography and visual arts.

**The theme for the 2014-2015 school year is *The world would be a better place if...***

**Contact: Cyndi Plerzynski**  
cyndi.pierzynski@livoniaptscouncil.org

Thousands of students will reflect on the theme and

### Reflections 101 - Upcoming Webinars

This webinar will introduce general program information, share ideas, and offer recommendations on how to implement PTA Reflections in your school and beyond. Let's get started!

Agenda:

Introduction to PTA Reflections

1. Program Planning
2. Organizing Your Team
3. Promoting Reflections
4. Collecting and Judging Student Entries
5. Opportunity for State and National Recognition
6. Celebrate! Recognize Student Participation and Achievement
7. Wrapping Up

Dates: Join us live on the second Tuesday of the month from 8:30 P.M. to 9:30 P.M. ET

- August 12, 2014 <https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/926092630>
- September 9, 2014 <https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/926879590>
- October 14, 2014 <https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/927778942>

## Council Calendar online

Does your unit collect Box Tops? Let Council know - we can add you to our Fundraising tab on our webpage. Families without children in k-8 schools do sometimes collect Box Tops and don't know where to send them. Let us help you with your fundraising efforts!



Do you have PTA events coming up? Do you struggle with setting dates? Let Council help - send us your event dates and we will add them to the Council Calendar at [www.livoniaptscouncil.org/calendar](http://www.livoniaptscouncil.org/calendar).

Having all PTA dates available online will help to minimize conflict with other schools in your triad and district wide. Many families have students at multiple schools, and while we know there will be some

conflicts, hopefully we can help to minimize them! You can submit events online, or email them to [julie.thompson@livoniaptscouncil.org](mailto:julie.thompson@livoniaptscouncil.org)



## Meet the 2014 - 2015 Livonia PTSA Council Board

## PTA Advocacy - what does it mean?

President	Julie Thompson
1st VP	John Grzebik
2nd VP & Founders Day Chair	Stacey Dogonski
Recording Secretary	Karen Werden
Treasurer	Debbie Pline
Corresponding Secretary	Allison Johnson
Immediate Past President	Liz Jarvis
Advocacy Chair	John Grzebik
Awards	OPEN
Bylaws, Policies & Procedures Chair	Lynda Scheel
Chamber Liaison	Robb Drzewicki
DCT Rep	John Grzebik
Directory Chair	Debbie Pline
DSIT Rep	Liz Jarvis
ELV's Chair	Shelly Robinet
Historian	OPEN
LSOY Liaison	John Grzebik
Male Involvement	Robb Drzewicki
Masterworks	Liz Jarvis & Karen Werden
Membership	Joy Ellis
Newsletter	Julie Thompson
Past President	Heather Broos
PEP	Julie Thompson
Public Relations	Robb Drzewicki
Reflections	Cyndi Pierzynski
YMAD	Debbie Pline & Tara Consolino



## Advocacy

Advocacy is at the core of PTA activity - at the state level and at the National Level. From universal kindergarten to a juvenile justice system - National PTA advocates have been at the heart of our nation's greatest advances for youth. Michigan PTA advocates to ensure that parent's voices are heard and that issues related to the health, education and well-being of all children do not go unnoticed. It is our goal to empower and encourage parents to speak to their legislators and the community on behalf of their children.

How does this impact you? Do you know who your State and Local legislators are? Do you think (or know!) that your opinion is important and that it matters?

Do you want to find out how to make your voice heard? Would you like to participate more, but are worried about the time commitment? The Michigan PTA provides updates to members on current and upcoming legislation. They also provide the opportunity to participate in shaping the focus of the Legislative Platform for the 2014 -2015 year.

## Plan now to attend the October 25 Michigan PTA Advocacy day

Double Tree Detroit- Dearborn  
5801 Southfield Service Drive  
Detroit, MI 48228

8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

They will present the

- National PTA Platform
- Michigan PTA Platform
- Emerging Issues

Brunch will be served.

Early Bird registration will be offered through October 6.  
Rates are as follows:

	EB	After 10/6
Member 1st registrant	\$25	\$55
Member Additional regis.	\$20	\$35
Member-Parent+Student	\$35	\$50
Member - Student	\$15	\$25
Non Member	\$50	\$65

For more information or to register, go to the Michigan PTA website at

[www.michiganpta.org](http://www.michiganpta.org)

Click on the Advocacy Tab to find the link to the registration page.

We hope to see you in Detroit on the 26th!

Let your Liaison know if you will be attending, we can meet there!



**Livonia PTSA Council**  
15125 Farmington Road  
Livonia, MI 48150

[www.livoniaptsacouncil.org](http://www.livoniaptsacouncil.org)

Advocate  
Communicate  
Support



us on Facebook  
Livonia PTSA  
Council

**Livonia Save Our Youth Coalition news**  
[www.livoniasaveouryouth.org](http://www.livoniasaveouryouth.org)

### Who We Are

Livonia Save Our Youth is a coalition with a mission to educate and empower the community regarding the health and safety of our young people with a focus on alcohol and other drugs. The coalition includes parents, teens, educators, health care workers, law enforcement, the faith community, and substance abuse professionals. All interested community members are welcome to join us.

The Livonia Save Our Youth Task Force meets monthly to discuss ongoing activities, hear reports from various committees and community liaisons, and brainstorm ways to prevent and address substance abuse among our young people. New faces are always welcome! Please stop by and see what we're all about.

### Participate in Our Monthly Meetings

First Wednesday of every month  
Livonia City Hall Annex, 33000 Civic Center Drive  
Livonia, MI 48154  
Even Months: 6:00–8:00pm  
Odd Months: 9:00–11:00am

Families in crisis are encouraged to seek help from a support group or a professional. Please see a list of local assistance, including information about Families Anonymous, under the [resources](#) page. For further assistance, please e-mail us or call 734-293-4243.

### Find your Council liaison HERE:

Buchanan	Joy Ellis	<a href="mailto:joy.ellis@livoniaptsacouncil.org">joy.ellis@livoniaptsacouncil.org</a>
Cass	Liz Jarvis	<a href="mailto:liz.jarvis@livoniaptsacouncil.org">liz.jarvis@livoniaptsacouncil.org</a>
Churchill	Joy Ellis	<a href="mailto:joy.ellis@livoniaptsacouncil.org">joy.ellis@livoniaptsacouncil.org</a>
Cleveland	Stacey Dogonski	<a href="mailto:stacey.dogonski@livoniaptsacouncil.org">stacey.dogonski@livoniaptsacouncil.org</a>
Coolidge	Lynda Scheel	<a href="mailto:lynda.scheel@livoniaptsacouncil.org">lynda.scheel@livoniaptsacouncil.org</a>
Cooper	Allison Johnson	<a href="mailto:allison.johnson@livoniaptsacouncil.org">allison.johnson@livoniaptsacouncil.org</a>
Emerson	Shelly Robinet	<a href="mailto:shelly.robinet@livoniaptsacouncil.org">shelly.robinet@livoniaptsacouncil.org</a>
Franklin	Stacey Dogonski	<a href="mailto:stacey.dogonski@livoniaptsacouncil.org">stacey.dogonski@livoniaptsacouncil.org</a>
Frost	Allison Johnson	<a href="mailto:allison.johnson@livoniaptsacouncil.org">allison.johnson@livoniaptsacouncil.org</a>
Garfield	Julie Thompson	<a href="mailto:julie.thompson@livoniaptsacouncil.org">julie.thompson@livoniaptsacouncil.org</a>
Grant	Debbie Pline	<a href="mailto:debbie.pline@livoniaptsacouncil.org">debbie.pline@livoniaptsacouncil.org</a>
Hayes	John Grzebik	<a href="mailto:john.grzebik@livoniaptsacouncil.org">john.grzebik@livoniaptsacouncil.org</a>
Holmes	Karen Werden	<a href="mailto:karen.werden@livoniaptsacouncil.org">karen.werden@livoniaptsacouncil.org</a>
Hoover	Cyndi Pierzynski	<a href="mailto:cyndi.pierzynski@livoniaptsacouncil.org">cyndi.pierzynski@livoniaptsacouncil.org</a>
Jackson Ctr	Debbie Pline	<a href="mailto:debbie.pline@livoniaptsacouncil.org">debbie.pline@livoniaptsacouncil.org</a>
Johnson	Debbie Pline	<a href="mailto:debbie.pline@livoniaptsacouncil.org">debbie.pline@livoniaptsacouncil.org</a>
Kennedy	Julie Thompson	<a href="mailto:julie.thompson@livoniaptsacouncil.org">julie.thompson@livoniaptsacouncil.org</a>
Perrinville	Allison Johnson	<a href="mailto:allison.johnson@livoniaptsacouncil.org">allison.johnson@livoniaptsacouncil.org</a>
Randolph	John Grzebik	<a href="mailto:john.grzebik@livoniaptsacouncil.org">john.grzebik@livoniaptsacouncil.org</a>
Riley	Liz Jarvis	<a href="mailto:liz.jarvis@livoniaptsacouncil.org">liz.jarvis@livoniaptsacouncil.org</a>
Roosevelt	Shelly Robinet	<a href="mailto:shelly.robinet@livoniaptsacouncil.org">shelly.robinet@livoniaptsacouncil.org</a>
Rosedale	Julie Thompson	<a href="mailto:julie.thompson@livoniaptsacouncil.org">julie.thompson@livoniaptsacouncil.org</a>
Stevenson	Karen Werden	<a href="mailto:karen.werden@livoniaptsacouncil.org">karen.werden@livoniaptsacouncil.org</a>
Webster	Liz Jarvis	<a href="mailto:liz.jarvis@livoniaptsacouncil.org">liz.jarvis@livoniaptsacouncil.org</a>

**Building Use - IMPORTANT INFO!**

As you finalize your PTA calendar for the year, please make sure to send a copy to Lynn Crosby

lcrosby2@livoniapublicschools.org

along with the room(s) you will need to reserve. Lynn is in charge of reserving rooms for all LPS buildings throughout the year. Some buildings have several outside groups that use rooms regularly and Lynn makes sure that there are no scheduling conflicts. It might be helpful to have the LPS Continuing Ed booklet handy as you schedule, so that you can get an idea about how often your building is used. Get your requests in early - and have a great PTA year!

**August TO DO LIST:**

- Schedule 2014-2015 planning meeting
- Prepare budget, calendar, review bylaws
- Plan your Membership Drive
- Attend Summer Leadership Academy!

**September TO DO LIST:**

- Hold your first meeting, approve budget, calendar
- Submit Unit Dues, budget, audit and 990 to MI PTA and copies to Livonia PTSA Council
- Secure Committee Chairs
- Invite your Livonia PTSA Council Liaison to your first meeting
- Attend September 15 LPTSA Council Meet & Greet
- Send in Membership dues by the 28th to MI PTA and Council

**Michigan PTA 2014 Awards & Recognition from Convention****Congratulations to the following units:****Student Membership Certificate:**

Frost Middle School PTSA  
Holmes Middle School PTSA

Webster Elementary PTA

**Certificate of Achievement (membership)**

Frost Middle School PTSA  
Holmes Middle School PTSA  
Riley Upper Elementary PTA  
Roosevelt Elementary PTA

**100% Staff (Membership)**

Holmes Middle School PTSA  
Grant Elementary PTA

**2014 Summer Leadership Academy****Register Now!**

**Date:** Saturday, August 23

**Time:** 7:30 am - 5:00 pm

**Place:** Royal Oak High School, 1500 Lexington Blvd., Royal Oak, MI

**Early Bird Registration ENDS Friday August 15! Send in your registration TODAY and save \$!**

Summer Leadership Academy is quickly approaching. Register now to take advantage of reduced fees. Workshops and presentations will include important, useful information for all - first-timers to veterans and everyone in between. Individuals can register on-line, by fax or by mail.

Register as a team of 4 or more and receive a group discount. To register a team, print the registration form and fax or mail it to the State office.



## PEP - what's that?

The PTA/PTSA Excellence Program — better known as PEP — provides PTA/PTSA units with a way to streamline unit requirements and provide a points system for units who complete the required tasks. *PEP helps your unit stay in good standing and encourages unit growth and participation.*

Awards will be presented at the end of the year to the three highest achieving units.

Ways to earn points include:

- Attend monthly Council workshops & meetings
- Submit Annual Unit Dues to MI PTA & copy to Council
- Submit copy of Bylaws to Council
- Attend Summer Leadership Academy
- Submit signed Financial Best Practices form & Bylaws acknowledgement form
- Submit contact info for Council Directory
- Submit Audit to MI PTA & copy to Council
- Submit Budget to MI PTA & copy to Council
- Attend Livonia PTSA Council Founders Day
- Attend MPTSA Advocacy Day
- Attend MPTSA Convention
- Offer Legislative program to parents
- Offer a Parent Program
- Invite your liaison to a meeting
- Achieve membership equal to last year's total
- Surpass last year's membership total
- Submit membership to Council by the 28th of each month

## This space is reserved for - YOU!

Do you have something great going on at your school? Is there something new and innovative that you want to share - or just brag about? Then let us know!

We would love to highlight what you are doing here in our newsletter. Send your news to Julie Thompson at [julie.thompson@livoniaptsaacouncil.org](mailto:julie.thompson@livoniaptsaacouncil.org).

### Rosedale PTA Boards 2013-2014 & 2014-2015



### Frost PTSA Music Scholarships 2014



# 2014 Summer Leadership Academy Registration Form

Saturday, August 23, 2014 - Royal Oak High School, 1500 Lexington Blvd., Royal Oak, MI 48073

**Michigan  
PTA**  
everychild.onevoice.®

**Early Bird Deadline is August 15, 2014. Save money and register now!**

## 1. Registrant Information:

I am a: ☐ Parent ☐ Teacher ☐ First-time Attendee ☐ Student

(check all that apply)

☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit/Council Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit/Council Position: \_\_\_\_\_

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School District: \_\_\_\_\_

Michigan PTA ID # (6 digits): \_\_\_\_\_

Meal Selection: ☐ Regular ☐ Vegetarian Do you have special needs? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please describe: \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. Registration:

- ☐ Member PTA/PTSA  
☐ Non-member  
☐ Member - Team of 4  
☐ Non-member - Team of 4  
☐ Students

On or Before 8/15

- ☐ \$45  
☐ \$70  
☐ \$160 total  
☐ \$260 total  
☐ \$25

After 8/15

- ☐ \$70  
☐ \$95  
☐ \$260 total  
☐ \$360 total  
☐ \$25

## 3. Payment Information:

Total Enclosed = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Method of Payment: ☐ Check\* ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ AmEx ☐ Discover

☐ Gift Certificate \_\_\_\_\_ (code)

\*Checks should be made payable to Michigan PTA. Credit card information must be as it appears on your card.

Credit Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_ CVV Code: \_\_\_\_\_

(3 or 4 digit number on back of card (AMEX is on front))

Billing Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Billing City: \_\_\_\_\_

Billing State: \_\_\_\_\_ Billing Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Cancellation/Refunds:** Registrations may be transferred at no charge by contacting the Michigan PTA Office. Onsite alternates must present registration confirmation as proof of transfer. No exceptions will be made. Confirmations will be sent via email. **No refunds will be given after August 15th.**

To register, mail or fax this form to: Michigan PTA, 1390 Eisenhower Place, Ann Arbor, MI 48108, Phone: 734-975-9500, Fax: 734-677-2407, [www.michiganpta.org](http://www.michiganpta.org).

## New This Year!

- Council Leader's Track
- You've Received Your Unit Packet, Now What?!
- What Does It Mean to Be In "Good Standing"?
- What is Field Service?
- Overview of the State Level Awards Process
- Membership Resources to Take Home
- How to Become a National PTA School of Excellence

## Workshop Topics:

- Basic & Advanced Workshops for Officers – Everything you need to know to start off the year and keep going strong!
- Reflections Program – What's new this year... How to start a Reflections Program... How to build on the program you already have in place
- Volunteer Management... Membership... Diversity
- The Importance of Family-School Partnerships
- Nominations and Elections
- And much more...

## More Fun!

- Silent Auction
- Boutique
- Raffle & Door Prizes

**On-line registration is available  
at [www.michiganpta.org](http://www.michiganpta.org)**

**MEDIA PERMISSION:** Be advised that this registration form also serves as an agreement to appear in photos and/or video taken on site at the Summer Leadership Academy. All photos/video may be used for publicity or general information purposes and may be seen by the general public.

Students under the age of 18 must have this media release signed by a parent/legal guardian.

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_