

Start a PTA in your school or community

Contact the Illinois PTA. Arrangements can be made to have a PTA representative come to your school or community location to talk with you about the PTA and answer any questions you may have. There are knowledgeable PTA representatives throughout Illinois who will help you during the process of BECOMING PTA!



About the Illinois PTA

The Illinois PTA, with over 140,000 members state-wide, is a volunteer organization dedicated solely to the welfare of children in their schools and communities. Illinois PTA was organized on May 30, 1900, and has since worked diligently to support public schools and to ensure that all children have equal opportunities and access to education. The Illinois PTA is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

**Be a Role Model
Join PTA!**

**Illinois
PTA**
everychild.onevoice.

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**Illinois
PTA**

**Parents
Teachers
Community
Working
Together
For All
Children!**

Why PTA?

PTA is “the best way” to be a parent organization involved in working for the benefit of all children. It is “the best way” to address the concerns of the children in our communities. It also is “the best way” to challenge the educational and societal environment of all children.

PTA operates with a dedicated 99% volunteer force that has believed for over 100 years that parent involvement is the foundation upon which our children's futures are shaped. It believes that “the best way” to achieve effective change is to work together and share concerns, rather than separately and work alone. It knows that the services and personal contact offered by PTA is “the best way,” and that “the best way” to advocate for all children is to be a member of PTA.

Over the 106 year history of the National PTA, whether the focus has been on kindergarten in schools, child labor laws, hot lunch and breakfast programs, polio vaccinations, juvenile justice reform, student scholarships, school bus safety arms, Internet education or foster care reform, most of the work has been done by volunteers.



Get Connected with PTA!

Benefits of PTA

1. A network of resources and support as close as the phone or email.
2. Courses, workshops, and state conferences that will instruct and aid you in the day-to-day working of your local unit and increase your advocacy skills.
3. An established set of bylaws that will guide your local unit. Local units are self-governing.
4. By becoming a PTA, you are established as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.
5. An annual convention that offers workshops on current issues and procedures, and the opportunity to be part of the decision-making as the Illinois PTA moves forward.
6. Resources covering a variety of procedural topics.
7. Liability insurance at a very reasonable rate is available.
8. A free subscription to the Illinois PTA Bulletin and the National PTA Magazine “Our Children.”
9. Access to the Illinois PTA and National PTA Web sites.
10. As a PTA, you will receive up-to-date information on the legislative programs being addressed by our elected officials in Illinois and in Washington.
11. An opportunity to sharpen your personal skills through PTA training.
12. The opportunity for your unit to support the Illinois PTA Scholarship Program.

Established Programs

National PTA Reflections Program: An arts enrichment program for students in preschool through high school.

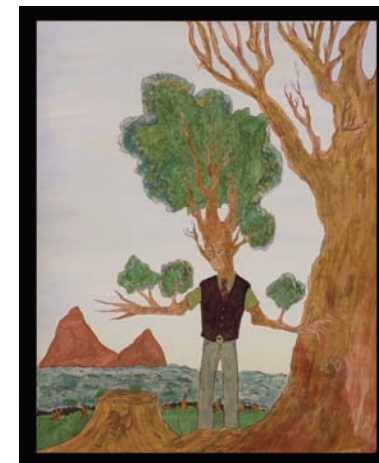
National Standards for Parent/Family Involvement Programs: Research-based standards to help schools develop effective parent involvement programs, events, and activities.

Illinois PTA Scholarship Program: Each year, the Illinois PTA awards two scholarships in each of the 20 PTA Districts in Illinois. Funds for this Program come from donations.

Illinois PTA Leadership Courses:

Leadership courses and workshops are available to PTAs to help with the management of your local PTA unit.

Resolutions: PTA members may formulate a “Resolution,” which can be presented at the annual convention to be approved by the delegates for further implementation.



2008
Reflections
“I can make a
difference by
Being One
With Nature”