

Council Clippings

Monthly Newsletter of
St. Joseph PTA Council

Volume 22, Issue 2

October 2006



Presidents

Corner...

Deb Conrad, Council President

As fall is fast approaching, we have left behind those lazy days of summer. Now begins the hustle bustle of running the kids to this event, attending that meeting, and feeling somewhat overwhelmed. But it is also a time of formulating inspiring ideas, meeting new people, and getting involved for our students, parents and teachers.

PTA membership represents the most common form of involvement in our schools for most parents. Now is the time to capitalize on membership. At our Council meeting, the air was filled with excitement about membership ideas and numbers. It sounds like many units realize the importance of getting membership off with a big bang. Our Council goal for the units is 100% or 10% over last year's numbers. Remember, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Paterson and myself want to be members of each and every unit. Now is the time to enlist as many voices as possible to **Believe...Join PTA!**

A great way to learn more about PTA, exchange ideas and make new friends is by attending the Missouri PTA Convention this year October 6-8th in Tan-Tar-A. Each unit president should have received a convention packet. You can register on-site for a slight additional cost. Information and registration forms are also available at www.mopta.org or by calling the Missouri PTA office at 1-800-328-7330. Don't forget that there are sections of the state and national website that only members can access by using the two codes on the back of your membership card.

At the state level legislatively the Bullying bill was signed by the Governor on Wednesday, Sept. 13th. This is an important step in our efforts to advocate for our children. PTA Local Leader News and This Week in Washington are newsletters available to you via e-mail that contain information about the important legislative work that your PTA membership money does for our children. The legislative component of PTA continues to be the important difference in PTA as opposed to other parent organizations.

Continued on page 2

Parent involvement is critical to student success. When parents are involved

- * Higher grades and test scores are the result
- * Better attendance by students with involved parents
- * More consistently completed homework
- * Higher graduation rates, and greater enrollment in postsecondary education

Find out more at mopta.org.



Council Clippings Article Assignments for November 2006 Articles are due October 10, 2006

<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Presidents Report</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Character & Spiritual</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Regional Director article</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>State Convention Report</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Reflections</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Council Award</u>

All articles must be emailed to Lori Prussman at aokmom@hotmail.com, subject: CLIPPING ARTICLE . Thank you for getting your articles to me in a timely manner.

Continued from page 1 Presidents report

A few house keeping items to remember for this month. Units need to have their council dues paid by October 15th to be in good standing. Council dues can be sent to Christy Callaway at 2125 N 33rd St. Saint Joseph, Missouri 64506.

Please join council the first Monday of every month for our PTA St. Joseph Council meeting at Hillyard's Technical School. The October meeting is for PTA presidents, and November will be for principals and presidents. But certainly not limited to those few people, everyone is encouraged to attend these meeting. It is a great opportunity to exchange ideas with other units, find out about new programs (like OMDR) and meet new people. We hope to see all of you there!

Finally, in a recent issue of the MOPTA President's Dispatch Kathy Nevans our new Missouri PTA State President may have said it best when she said, "If you don't hear this everyday from someone, please hear me now; THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! Thank you for all that you are doing to insure that your children, all children, achieve and that all schools succeed. Parent Involvement is the KEY to student achievement and school success. Thank you for believing!"



Plan of work for Treasurer 2006-2007

As Treasurer for the St. Joseph PTA Council, I will have custody of all funds of the St. Joseph PTA Council, shall collect all monies and write all checks and keep an accurate record of these. I shall present a financial statement at each monthly meeting, submit the year-end books for audit, and shall have IRS forms prepared at the proper time.

Christy A. Callaway
Treasurer
St. Joseph PTA Council 2006-07

By Changing Your Thinking

By Author Unknown

By changing your thinking,
You change your beliefs;
When you change your beliefs,
You change your expectations;
When you change your expectations,
You change your attitude;
When you change your attitude,
You change your behavior;
When you change your behavior,
You change your performance;
When you change your performance;
You change your LIFE!!

Submitted by Victoria Carvell

Plan of work for Salute the Schools 2006-2007

January 2008 is the month to salute your school. I will be responsible for all the school district's employees not associated with a PTA. I plan to deliver a thank you note and a special treat from the Council.

Laura Caton
Chair

REFLECTIONS

The theme for this year's Reflections is: "I WONDER WHY..." I will be visiting each school and delivering the rules and entry forms during the first week of October.

The deadline for entries is January 12, 2007. All entries must be received by 5:00pm at the TMC.

The reception for Reflections will be April 19, 2007 at the Keatley Center.

If you have any questions or would like me to speak to your Reflections chair please feel free to contact me. Home phone 233-0627

E-mail: slawson@stjoelive.com

Diana Slawson

St. Joseph PTA Council
Auditors Report
August 20th, 2006

Audited Balance as of July 31 st , 2005	\$ 700.68
Total Receipts	66,191.27
Total Disbursements	(28,300.23)
Ending Balance as of July 31 st , 2006	<u>\$38,591.72</u>

Bank Statement Balance as of July 31 st , 2006	\$39,048.22
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 Outstanding Deposits

 Outstanding Checks:

#1440 Lake Contrary PTA	\$ 25.00	
#1447 Benton PTA	\$ 25.00	
#1448 Bode PTSA	\$ 25.00	
#1477 Total Promotions	<u>\$381.50</u>	(456.50)

Checkbook Balance as of July 31 st , 2006	<u>\$38,591.72</u>
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Money Market Account #903906

Beginning Balance as of July 31 st , 2005	\$22,858.90
Interest Earned	366.12
Ending Balance as of July 31 st , 2005	<u>23,225.02</u>

Certificate of Deposit

Beginning Balance as of July 31 st , 2005	\$ 9,440.23
Interest Earned	391.66
Ending Balance as of July 31 st , 2006	<u>\$ 9,831.89</u>

St. Joseph PTA Council
Proposed Budget
2006-2007

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>BUDGET 2005/2006</u>	<u>ACTUAL as of 04/07/06</u>	<u>BUDGET 2006/2007</u>
All Day Skates	\$1,000.00	1,266.50	1000.00
Council Dues	\$750.00	750.00	750.00
Summer Skates	\$2,500.00	2,087.00	2000.00
Major Saver Cards	\$23,000.00	32,305.77	23,000.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$27,250.00	\$36,409.27	\$26,750.00

EXPENSES

Council Projects

American Education Week	\$100.00	0	100.00
Founders Day	\$2,600.00	3,012.97	2600.00
Grants	\$17,500.00	17,500.00	17500.00
Reflections	\$700.00	54.63	500.00
Salute to School	\$350.00	243.02	350.00
School of Information	\$650.00	41.51	650.00
Undistributed Funds	\$500.00	399.17	NA
Spelling Bee	\$175.00	152.20	175.00
#1 Total Council Projects	\$22,575.00	\$21,403.50	\$21,875.00

Organization

Bylaws	\$20.00	0	20.00
Character & Spiritual	\$500.00	500.00	500.00
Legislation	\$450.00	25.00	450.00
Membership	\$600.00	00	700.0
Ways & Means	\$250.00	0	250.00
#2 Total Organization	\$1,820.00	\$25.00	\$1,920.00

Promotion

Awards	\$300.00	176.87	300.00
Founder's Day Awards			700.00
Council Clippings	\$250.00	121.21	250.00
Other Publications	\$50.00		50.00
Our Children-Contact Magazines	\$100.00		100.00
Parent Involvement	\$200.00		400.00
#3 Total Promotion	\$900.00	\$298.08	\$1,800.00

Officers

President	\$350.00	118.00	350.00
1st Vice	\$50.00	50.00	50.00
Recording Secretary	\$20.00	0	20.00
Correspondence Secretary	\$200.00	44.35	200.00
Treasurer	\$30.00	0	30.00
Sgt At Arms	\$100.00	115.00	125.00
#4 Total Officers	\$750.00	\$327.35	\$775.00

Supplies

Office Supplies	\$75.00	0	75.00
Postage	\$75.00	\$7.40	50.00
Printing	\$50.00	0	50.00
Procedure Books	\$50.00	0	50.00
#5 Total Supplies	\$250.00	\$7.40	\$225.00

Conventions

National Convention	\$1,500.00	0	1500.00
State Convention	\$800.00	318.44	800.00
MO PTA Workshop	\$500.00	150.00	500.00
Special Workshop	\$100.00	0	100.00
#6 Total Conventions	\$2,900.00	\$468.44	\$2,900.00

Contributions

Cotillion	\$100.00	100.00	100.00
Backpack Buddies		75.00	75.00
Allied Arts Council	\$75.00	75.00	75.00
Jr. Deputy	\$75.00	75.00	75.00
Nat'l Fire Safety	\$75.00	75.00	75.00
Safety Town	\$75.00	75.00	75.00
Performing Arts (Children's)	\$75.00	75.00	75.00
Project Graduation	\$100.00	100.00	100.00
SJSD Board Recognition	\$200.00	147.84	200.00
#7 Total Contributions	\$875.00	\$797.84	\$850.00

Other

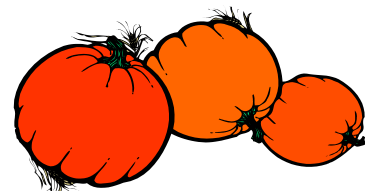
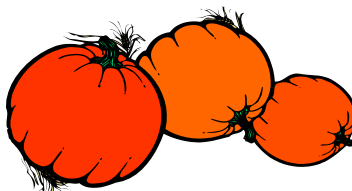
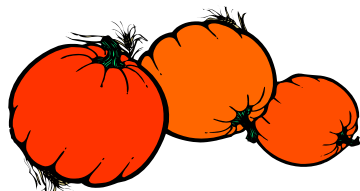
Accounting Cost	\$250.00	125.00	400.00
Installation of Officers	\$30.00	0	30.00
Life Membership (National)-	\$100.00		100.00
Change to Distinguished Life Award			
Misc. Expense	\$200.00	53.00	200.00
SJSD Employees Reception	\$100.00	0	100.00
Treasurers Bond	\$100.00	90.00	100.00
Yearbook	\$50.00	0	50.00
#8 Total Other	\$830.00	\$268.00	\$980.00

TOTAL EXPENSES	\$30,900.00	\$23,595.61	\$31,325.00
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Button Machine Account	\$387.94
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Future Bond & Levy Public Relations Certificate of Deposit	\$9,751.76
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Money Market Account	\$23,101.99
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St. Joseph PTA Council Legislation Committee 2006-07 Program of Work

As the 2006-07 St. Joseph PTA Council Legislation Committee Chairperson, I plan to participate in the following activities for the year:

1. Attend St. Joseph PTA Council monthly meetings and present legislative information of importance to members.
2. Prepare articles for the **St. Joseph PTA Council Clippings**, as needed.
3. Attend political activities to hear and ask opinions of potential/current candidates and gain their opinions about education-related issues.
4. Register Buchanan County residents to vote, as a voter Registrar, as needed.
5. Email, fax, write, or call my state and federal Senators and Representatives or local officials as needed regarding issues concerning education or children.
6. Communicate important legislative alerts with PTA Council Board members when a local, state, or federal educational issue needs support via email, fax, letter, or phone call. (Please only communicate with federal officials via email or phone call. Mail is still detained due to national security issues; faxes are not read frequently as hundreds are sometimes received daily.)
7. Support St. Joseph School District issues that affect education such as a levy, bond, or forum for School District of St. Joseph Board of Education candidates.
8. Serve as a member of the Missouri PTA Legislative Network where I will respond to requests for action by Missouri PTA and encourage others to be a member of the Network.
9. Serve as a member of the National PTA Legislative Network where I will respond to requests for action by National PTA and encourage others to be a member of the Network.
10. Attend the St. Joseph Regional MSTA/Classroom Teachers' Association monthly Legislative Forums, held January through April at Hillyard Technical Center, serving as a greeter or moderator as needed representing St. Joseph PTA Council.
11. Encourage individuals to be knowledgeable of candidates and vote in elections
12. Visit the Missouri Legislative Capitol to visit with area Senators and Representatives regarding PTA issues.
13. Attend the annual regional MSTA Legislative Brunch held in our area.
14. Visit the offices of United States Senators and our US Congress member and other Missouri Congress members in Washington, DC, and speak to important educational issues.
15. Provide Legislative Committee guideline information sheets to be distributed at the St. Joseph PTA Council School of Information.
16. Thank state and federal Senators and Representatives with cards or letters of appreciation.
17. Assist with other activities as assigned by the St. Joseph PTA Council President.

Sharon G. Kosek

Sharon G. Kosek, Legislative Chair
St. Joseph PTA Council

Resolution

*In Celebration of Mrs. Melody Smith
as our School District of Saint Joseph Superintendent
and Welcoming her to 2006-07 as a
Partner with St. Joseph PTA Council*

WHEREAS, one of the PTA purposes is to promote the welfare of children and youth in the home, school, community, and place of worship; and

WHEREAS, PTA seeks to bring into close relation the home and the school, that parents and teachers may cooperate intelligently in the education of children and youth; and

WHEREAS, the School District of St. Joseph has one of the highest performing school districts in the state having earned the state's "Distinction in Performance" award twice within the past few years; and

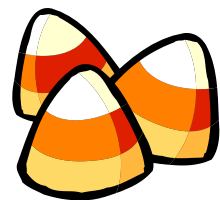
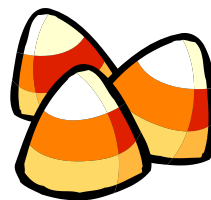
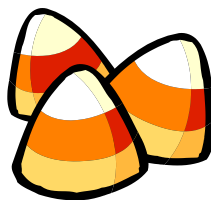
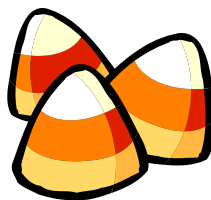
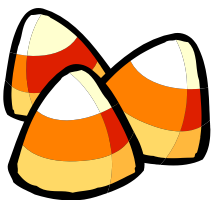
WHEREAS, the School District of St. Joseph has welcomed the positive leadership of our Superintendent of Schools, Mrs. Melody Smith, who will take our District to new levels of achievement during upcoming years; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Melody Smith has already been applauded for her positive support of PTA units in the School District of St. Joseph; and

WHEREAS, the St. Joseph PTA Council is honored to have Superintendent Mrs. Melody Smith as a PTA member and caring and passionate supporter of all children, who strongly believes in doing what is best for kids;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the St. Joseph PTA Council, its 25 member units and its members, celebrate the partnership of our new Superintendent of Schools, Mrs. Melody Smith, with the Saint Joseph PTA Council and member units as we welcome her to the new 2006-07 school year; and we look forward to many years of working together for what is best for kids.

Presented: September 5, 2006
St. Joseph PTA Council General Meeting
Sharon Kosek, Legislative Chair
Deb Conrad, President





Tuesday, November 7, Vote for Public Education

Be sure you are properly registered to vote.

Be familiar with those who are running for office.

Don't vote for individuals just because you recognize their name or because they are first on the list; vote for individuals who support Public Education.

Let candidates know that you are going to vote for individuals who support Public Education and its issues.

Major Candidates for Election at the Federal Level

		Email
US Senator	Claire McCaskill (D)	info@claireonline.com
Missouri	Jim Talent (R)	via www.talent.senate.gov
US Congress	Sam Graves (R)	via www.house.gov/graves/email.htm
6 th District	Sara Jo Shettles (D)	sarajo@sarajo2006.com

Report on Differences between Public Education and Charter Schools/Schools Supported by Vouchers

Recently national research found that there was basically no difference in the test scores of students who attended public schools and those who attended charter schools or those students who attended districts supported by vouchers.

New Child Booster Seat Reminder

Children (ages 4-7) who weigh at least 40 pounds but less than 80 pounds, and are less than 4'9" tall must be secured in a child passenger restraint system or booster seat appropriate for that child.

Davis-Langemach/Kosek PTA Council Award of Excellence

Background

The “Davis-Langemach/Kosek PTA Council Award of Excellence” is named after Mrs. True Davis, Sr., and Mrs. Vernon Langemach, both highly admired St. Joseph ladies, who are past State PTA Presidents. This award is also in honor of Mrs. Sharon Kosek who is a past St. Joseph PTA Council President and Legislative chair.

Determination of Winner

The administrator, teacher, or staff member, who has been nominated, must have made a major difference in the life of a student of the St. Joseph School District. It should be something that will be of major impact in the child’s life and must have taken place between the first day of school and the last day of school.

A nomination may be made by a parent/family member, administrator, teacher, staff person, or other adult community member. (No self nominations please.)

The administrator of the nominee as well as the nominating party must sign the form to assure validity.

Each month one winner will be selected and recognized by the St. Joseph PTA Council. The winner will be awarded a certificate of recognition. In addition, a book valued at \$25 will be given in honor of the winner to the school where they are employed. If they are not employed at a school, then they may select which school will receive the book.

An impartial panel of three individuals will determine the winners. The panel will include a school district official, a PTA Council representative, and a local parent.

Nominations submitted will be kept for consideration for that school year unless they are chosen as a winner.

The child’s name will not be released to the public.

In order to be considered as the next month’s award recipient, three copies of the nomination must be received by the 20th of the previous month. The first award will be in September.

Nominations should be sent to:



Angie Davies
PTA Council Awards
4703 Huntsboro Ct.
St. Joseph, MO 64506
angieiscooking@yahoo.com

Thank you for your interest.

DAVIS-LANGEMACH/KOSEK PTA COUNCIL AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

NAME OF NOMINEE

SCHOOL / ASSIGNMENT _____ WORK PHONE _____

WORK ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____

HOME ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____

NAME OF NOMINATOR _____

ADDRESS / SCHOOL _____ PHONE _____

HOME ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____

MY NOMINEE MADE A DIFFERENCE IN A CHILD'S LIFE BY

[illegible]

(Please use back of page if necessary.)

ADMINISTRATOR'S SIGNATURE _____

NOMINATOR'S SIGNATURE _____



St. Joseph PTA Council
Request/confirmation Form
For Button Machine

Name_____

Date_____

Address_____

Telephone # Home_____

Organization_____

Work_____

Project or function_____

Email_____

Date & Time Requested_____

Number of Components Needed_____

(Plastic Cover, Shell, Pin Back=1 Component)

Send request to: Jena Kirschner

10489 SE State Rt. A

St. Joseph, MO 64507

816-244-1687

jena.kirschner@sjsd.k12.mo.us

Or at TMC 816-671-4390

Signature_____

Title_____

Send Bill To:

Make Checks Payable to: *ST. JOSEPH PTA COUNCIL*

Send Payment to: St. Joseph PTA Council

PO Box 1271

St. Joseph, MO 64501

•—————•
For Council Use Only

Button Machine reserved for

Date_____

Confirmation Sent_____

Check out date_____

Signature_____

Check in date_____

Signature_____

Number of Components Issued_____

Number Returned_____

Number Used @ _____

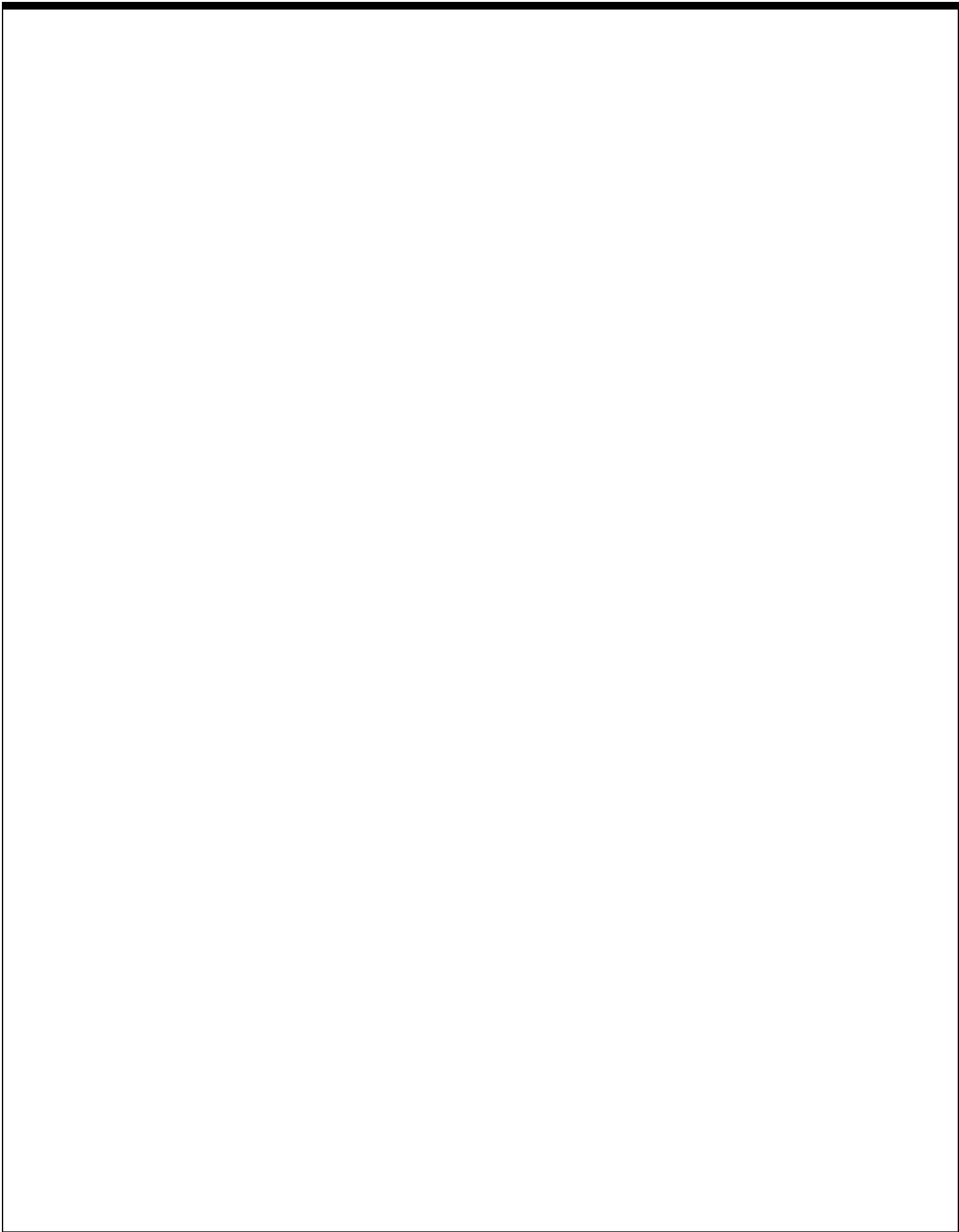
Date_____

Total Due_____

•—————•
Confirmation

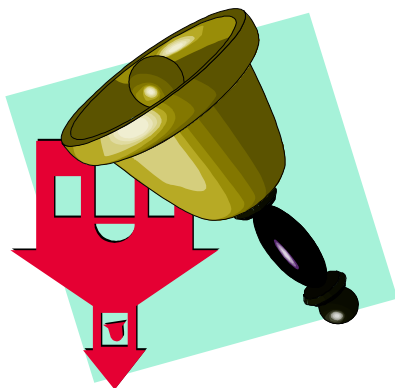
Your Request for the Button Machine is Confirmed for _____

Signature_____Date_____



NEWSLETTER FOR PARENTS

ST. JOSEPH PTA COUNCIL



ST. JOSEPH PTA COUNCIL

St. Joseph PTA Council
PO Box 1271
St. Joseph, MO 64501

