

# Council Clippings

Monthly Newsletter of  
St. Joseph PTA Council

Volume 29, Issue 4

December 2013



Merry Christmas



## Presidents

### Corner...

Wow!!! The Holiday Season is upon us! Did that go fast for you to?? St Joseph PTA Council would love to wish each and everyone a Happy Holiday Season!

Now down to the work. We are fast approaching the mid point of the year which means several things!

1. St. Joseph PTA Council will be taking nominations for the NOMINATING COMMITTEE!
2. Also if you have not already done it BE SURE to get in your 2 membership cards an your Council Dues so you can be eligible for awards and grants from the SJPTA
3. Each unit should be looking for their nominating committees.
4. Make sure you are a UNIT IN GOOD STANDING reflections are due and unless your unit is in good standing the state will not be able to entertain what your youth is contributing!
5. Big plans are in the works for Founders Day keep your eyes open!!!!
6. Founders Day plans means that we are approaching Deadlines for the AWARDS that St. Joseph PTA Council will be giving out this year!
7. Founders Day also means we are approaching deadlines for the grants that PTA wants to award your unit with so be thinking about those and getting the applications filled out. Remember your unit must have sold 50 major saver cards or more!!

Remember I enjoy hearing the wonderful things going on at your units please contact me so I can celebrate with you! I would also love to hear from schools during our meetings about those things! Together we can make the St Joseph School District a much celebrated and educated place for our children!!!

I heard this the other day and wanted to share with you: "We are not nor have we ever been in competition with one another. We want every child to have what every child deserves. The more we share our great ideas and even our failures the more each child GAINS." Please let us continue to come together, work together, teach one another and labor for those we Love!

I can always be reached at [sjpta@hotmail.com](mailto:sjpta@hotmail.com) and all of our award applications and grant applications can be found at [www.stjoepta.org](http://www.stjoepta.org)

Joyce Brewka; St. Joseph PTA Council

## 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 \_\_\_\_\_ Send request to:  
(Plastic Cover, Shell, Pin Back=1 Component) Derrick Brewka  
806 South 38th  
St. Joseph, MO 64507  
816-390-7287

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Send Bill To:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

[i3girlsmom@yahoo.com](mailto:i3girlsmom@yahoo.com)

For Council Use Only

Button Machine reserved for \_\_\_\_\_ Check out date \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Confirmation Sent \_\_\_\_\_ Check in date \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Components Issued \_\_\_\_\_  
Number Returned \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Number Used \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_ Total Due \_\_\_\_\_

Confirmation  
Your Request for the Button Machine is confirmed for \_\_\_\_\_

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

Family & Community Engagement Clippings Article  
December 2013  
Submitted by: Charisse Giseburt

The last few articles for Family and Community Engagement have focused on the Volunteer and Mentor Programs for the SJSD. The next few months will spotlight the amazing Business Partner Program that benefits the students, staff, families and community. The business partnerships are vital to the district because of the resources they provide, but also because the students are encouraged to give back to the business or community as a whole.

## SCHOOL TO BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

The School to Business Partnership Program allows one more way for the District to be engaged with and reach out to the community for assistance. These partnerships provide opportunities for students to receive various time, energy, and resources from the business community to enhance their educational experiences. Currently 142 businesses are actively involved with the SJSD schools. Partnerships encompass many activities from employees serving as volunteer mentors in classrooms and internship programs to financial assistance for field trips and student rewards. Mike Buckler is the coordinator for this program and can be reached at 671-4020.

### **A few of the expectations of the School to Business Partnerships so that success is endured are:**

- The major emphasis is on the use of voluntary human resources to enrich the educational environment.
- Partnerships are based on developing a relationship between the school and business.
- The partnership is built around district and building goals.
- Each partnership is autonomous and designed to meet the mutual needs of school and business. Schools identify their needs and partners identify resources and projects. A mutual agreement spells out commitments, activities, time frame, and responsibilities.
- Partnerships are developed by a team of people from the school and business who share in the preparation of goals and activities. Broad-based representation from school, business, parents, and community is important to overall success.
- Partnerships are sustained by ongoing communication between school and business.
- Partnership activities support the total development of all students.
- Partners need to receive recognition, both internally and publicly.
- Partnerships must be accountable. Businesses need assurance that what they are doing is worthwhile and making a difference.

## ***Council Clippings Article Assignments for January 2014*** ***Articles are due December 5, 2013***

❖ <b><i>Presidents Report</i></b>	❖ <b><i>Character &amp; Spiritual</i></b>
❖ <b><i>Regional Director article</i></b>	❖ <b><i>Reflections</i></b>
❖ <b><i>Founders Day</i></b>	❖ <b><i>Awards</i></b>

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

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." - Nelson Mandela

Submitted by Mollie Siemens

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## **Salute To Schools**

January is Salute to Schools month. If you are doing something special in your school, please let me know.

Lisa Holmes, 2nd VP @ [lisahmcm@gmail.com](mailto:lisahmcm@gmail.com).



## BUCHANAN COUNTY SPELLING BEE

Saturday, February 15, 2014, may seem far in the distance, but it will be here before we know it. For the schools enrolled with Scripps National Spelling Bee by the October 15, 2013, deadline, access is available online to all the information needed to insure that their spelling champions are eligible to move up to the county level. I have contacted each school with information about the bee and the official enrollment forms for their spellers.

Again this year we will have the simultaneous spell-offs for the elementary level in the boys' gym and the middle level in the girls' gym. To determine the top two finalists to the regional bee, a spell-off with the five finalists from both the elementary and middle school divisions will take place. These ten finalists will compete for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place trophies and the opportunity to represent Buchanan County at the regional bee.

Registration of the qualifying spelling participants for the bee is at 12:30 P.M. on Saturday, February 15, 2014, with the bee following immediately at 1:00 P.M. As always, the bee is held at Truman Middle School, 3227 Olive, St. Joseph, Missouri. I would like to thank the Truman staff and Principal, Sandy Steggall in advance for allowing us to once again use their facility.

As always, if you have questions or comments in regards to the bee, please contact me at [karenheyde@yahoo.com](mailto:karenheyde@yahoo.com) or 816-279-9290.

Respectfully,  
Karen Heyde-Lipanovich  
Coordinator, Buchanan County Spelling Bee

## 2013-2014 National PTA Reflections Program

Missouri PTA wants to help make sure your unit is on track for a successful Reflections Program. This is a reminder of a few important points regarding the program. We hope you find this information beneficial and please contact us at [reflections@mopta.org](mailto:reflections@mopta.org) if we can be of assistance.

The 2013-2014 National PTA Reflections® Program theme is "Believe, Dream, Inspire". The state deadline is fast approaching – January 16, 2014; only two more months!

If you need information about online registration including creating an account, submitting the unit participation form & student entry form watch the Reflections Webinar – live on November 19 or December 17 from 7:30 – 8:30 P.M. CST

- Provide reflections chair's name & contact information to the state office – [office@mopta.org](mailto:office@mopta.org) If you don't have a chair yet, it's not too late!
- Organize a small group of volunteers to tackle the task as a team.
- [Register](#) or establish an account for your local unit with National PTA
- Complete the Local Unit participation Form [online](#)
- Student entry forms must be completed online
- Make sure unit is on track for unit in good standing status - click [here](#) for details.
- Utilize available training & resources
  - MO Local [Leader's Guide](#)
  - National PTA Reflections [Information](#)
- State winners will be announced by the first week of March
- State Reflections Student Showcase – April 26, 2014; Rockbridge High School in Columbia starting at 1 p.m.

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

Dear St. Joseph School District Principals and PTA Unit Presidents,

We would like to invite you to apply for our grant for the 2013-2014 school year. Please note to be eligible for the grant your unit must have sold a minimum of 50 Major Saver Cards in our last campaign. Enclosed you will find the Mission Statement and the Purposes of the PTA. Please remember when choosing a project to submit that you keep these ideals in mind. We want to help your school in continuing to bring worthwhile, education based programs to your students.

As we discussed at our Council meeting please remember to check with downtown office to make sure that they approve of said project (making sure any maintenance problems do not arise) example: any new equipment for the playground, any equipment with special electrical needs, or any project that would require district maintenance, etc.

We also discussed that due to IRS needs we need to have a paper trail of where we spend our not for profit monies. Please help us by turning in receipts for the projects when you have them. This just assures us that we will be able to continue this grant and not get audited by the IRS. I have heard some horror stories about other not for profit organizations losing their status because they did not have the proper paperwork. **Please mail receipts to St. Joseph PTA Council, PO Box 8716, St. Joseph, 64508.** We greatly appreciate your help with this.

**Please submit your application on or before Jan. 15, 2014 to St. Joseph PTA Council, PO Box 8716, St. Joseph, MO 64508.**

Thank you for your continued support of the St. Joseph PTA Council.

### The **PURPOSES** of The Parent Teacher Association

- To promote the welfare of children and youth in home, school, community and place of worship.
- To raise the standards of home life.
- To secure adequate laws for the care and protection of children and youth.
- To bring into closer relation the home and the school, that parents and teachers may cooperate intelligently in the education of children and youth.
- To develop between educators and the general public such united efforts as will secure for all children and youth the highest advantages in physical, mental, social and spiritual education.

### **MISSION STATEMENT** PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION

The mission of the PTA is three-fold:

- To support and speak on behalf of children and youth in the schools, in the community, and before governmental agencies and other organizations that make decisions affecting children;
- To assist parents in developing the skills they need to raise and protect their children; and
- To encourage parent and public involvement in the public schools of this nation.

**Grant Request**  
**Through the St. Joseph PTA Council**  
**For the 2013-2014 School Year**

**The executive committee of each PTA/PTSA may apply for one grant up to the amount of \$500.00. To qualify for the grant your unit must have sold a minimum of 50 Major Saver cards to be eligible.**

**All proposals will require the following information to be eligible for consideration:**

1. General description of the project's purpose and population served.
2. Brief description of the project's implementation plans.
3. Current Bylaws on file, Council Dues paid and at least one membership turned into the state PTA office.
4. Detailed description of project for which funds are requested including:

**Purpose and goals of project**

- A. Participants to be served
- B. Breakdown of funds requested by specific categories.

**Completed proposals should be returned to St. Joseph PTA Council on or before Jan. 15, 2014. Please send to St. Joseph PTA Council, PO Box 8716, St. Joseph, MO 64508.**

School name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact person: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of PTA/PTSA President \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Principal \_\_\_\_\_

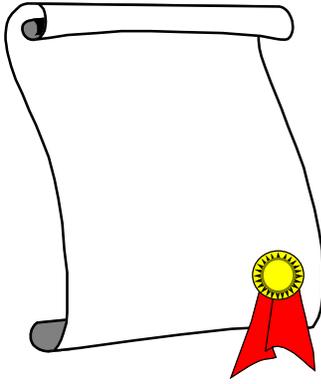


III. Describe your project:

A. Purpose and goals for the project (projects must have preapproval from the District office):

B. Describe participants to be served, including how they will be selected.

C. Provide a detailed breakdown of expenses, including categories and anticipated expenditures in each category. Be sure amounts are correct, including any shipping and handling fees. To ensure that funds are being used for projects that have been approved we ask that you submit receipts for said project. Once approval has been made on a project we ask that you use grant money for said project only.



## **THE ST. JOSEPH PTA COUNCIL OUTSTANDING PRINCIPAL AWARD**

Our school principals provide a great deal of leadership for the children, their families, staff, teachers, other principals of the St. Joseph School District, and our community. They deserve recognition for their dedicated efforts.

The St. Joseph PTA Council (since 1994-95 school year) will honor one outstanding St. Joseph School District principal at the annual Founder's Day Banquet.

The principal must be nominated by a member of his or her PTA/PTSA unit and should be an exemplary individual for his/her peers.

The principal should actively encourage PTA/PTSA leaders in his or her school; use creativity in working with the school's unit; encourage PTA/PTSA membership; attend PTA/PTSA functions; encourage teachers and staff members from his or her school to be members of PTA/PTSA as well as encourage them to attend PTA/PTSA functions; and work for the overall betterment of PTA/PTSA. First year principals are not eligible for nomination.

Nomination forms for this award, **MUST** be received by the St. Joseph PTA Council Awards Chairman **NO LATER THAN January 15, 2014!!** Please only one nomination per principal.

Nominations are to be sent to: **Jackie Grimwood, PTA Council Awards Chair**  
PO Box 8716, St. Joseph, MO 64508

Only the Award Winner will be announced at the PTA Founder's Day Banquet. He or she will receive a prestigious, engraved PTA Medallion Award and a financial stipend for his or her outstanding leadership in PTA/PTSA. The individual's name will also be put on display in the School Board Room of the St. Joseph School District. **\*Please feel free to use additional page for answers**

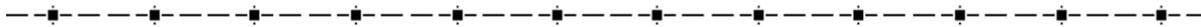
**St. Joseph PTA Council**  
**Outstanding Principal Of The Year Nomination Form**

Nominator's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator's Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator's Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator's Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



Principal's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_

Principal's Position in the PTA/PTSA: \_\_\_\_\_



How my principal encourages individuals to become PTA/PTSA members and how my principal encourages individuals to attend PTA/PTSA activities:

Please list and explain **THREE** great ideas or things your principal has done at your school during this school year:

**The St. Joseph PTA Council  
Lifetime PTA Leadership Award  
The Dr. Dan L. Colgan National PTA Foundation Award**

**Background:**

In order to keep the National PTA organization financially strong for generations to come, the National PTA started a Foundation.

At the 2005 National PTA Convention, the first National PTA Foundation Breakfast was held. This activity helped to initiate the idea of making gifts to the National PTA Foundation to keep PTA a strong organization for the future. Please see [www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org) for additional information about the foundation.

The Dr. Dan L. Colgan National PTA Foundation Award is named after Dr. Colgan because of his strong support and positive relationship with the St. Joseph PTA Council, its units, and members as well as the Missouri PTA. Dr. Dan Colgan has been a model for superintendents across Missouri as a caring and passionate supporter of all children and PTA.

Dr. Colgan has served as the Superintendent of School District of St. Joseph for 13 years. During that time, he has successfully passed much needed levies and a bond issue, befriended thousands of St. Joseph residents, and given of his heart and soul to the children for whom he has been devoted.

**Award Information:**

The Dr. Dan L. Colgan National PTA Foundation Award, which is sponsored by the St. Joseph PTA Council, will donate \$250 each year to the National PTA Foundation in the name of a PTA leader who has given a lifetime of enthusiastic dedication to PTA.

Any PTA member may make a nomination for the Dr. Dan L. Colgan National PTA Foundation Award. **Nominations are due January 15, 2014 to Jackie Grimwood, PTA Council Awards Chair, PO Box 8716, St Joseph, MO 64508.**

The St. Joseph PTA Council Awards Chair with the St. Joseph PTA Council Executive Officers Board making the decision as to the award winner. The presentation will be made at the Founders' Day Banquet. The winner will be presented an award as a keepsake. The first presentation was made at the 2006 Founders' Day Banquet.



## Davis-Langemach PTA Council Award of Excellence

### Background

The “Davis-Langemach 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.

### Determination of Winner

The administrator, teacher, staff member, or volunteer 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.)

This honoree will be presented an award at the annual Founder’s Day Celebration.

### Deadline

All nominations must be sent to St. Joseph PTA Council Awards Chair no later than January 15, 2014.

### Please mail nominations to:

**Jackie Grimwood**  
PTA Council Awards Chair  
PO Box 8716,  
St Joseph, MO 64508



Thank you for your participation.

**DAVIS-LANGEMACH PTA COUNCIL AWARD OF EXCELLENCE**

NAME OF NOMINEE \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_

HOME ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF NOMINATOR \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

MY NOMINEE HAS MADE A DIFFERENCE BY.....

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Please use back of page if necessary.)

ADMINISTRATOR'S SIGNATURE

# St. Joseph PTA Council Outstanding PTA Volunteer Award

## Background

This award is to recognize the outstanding PTA volunteers who give of their time to help make a difference at their school. Please help us to show our appreciation for all of their hard work and dedication. These outstanding volunteers are to be honored annually at the Founder's Day Celebration to be held each February.

## Determination of Winner

A nomination from each of the 23 school principals is requested.

These outstanding volunteers will be presented an award at the Founder's Day Celebration, February, 2014.

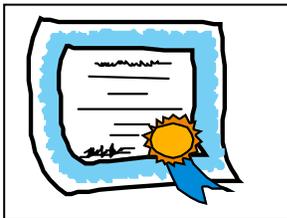
Be sure to invite your nominee to the Founder's Day Dinner and include them in your PTA/PTSA reservations. Your unit should pay for your volunteer to attend.

## Deadline

All nominations must be sent to St. Joseph PTA Council Awards Chair no later than **January 15, 2014**.

## Please mail nominations to:

**Jackie Grimwood**  
PTA Council Awards Chair  
PO Box 8716,  
St Joseph, MO 64508



Thank you for your participation.

**St. Joseph PTA Council Outstanding PTA Volunteer Award**

NAME OF NOMINEE \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_

HOME ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF NOMINATOR \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

MY NOMINEE HAS MADE A DIFFERENCE BY.....

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Please use back of page if necessary.)

ADMINISTRATOR'S SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

# **St. Joseph PTA Council**

## **Outstanding PTA Unit Award**

In our continuing effort to recognize outstanding things going on in our Council, we have created a new award. The “Outstanding PTA Unit” award is to honor a PTA unit for their ongoing efforts to strengthen their school community by developing building cohesiveness through team building. As membership growth is a very important component to a thriving unit we felt this should be recognized and celebrated.

The Outstanding PTA Unit award will be presented at the Founders Day Banquet.

We are asking principals to nominate their unit for all the hard work and dedication that their executive board has exhibited in their ongoing efforts to strengthen their PTA.

Nomination forms for this award must be received by the St. Joseph PTA Council Awards Chairman **NO LATER THAN January 15, 2014!!**

Nominations are to be sent to: Jackie Grimwood, PTA Council Awards Chair

PO Box 8716, St. Joseph, MO 64508

The award winning unit will have the honor of hanging a traveling trophy in their school until next year’s winner is selected. Each board member will be recognized with a certificate of appreciation.

Please feel free to use additional page for answers.

**The St. Joseph PTA Council**  
**Outstanding Unit Award Nomination Form**

Nominator's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator's email: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit name and Executive board members names: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

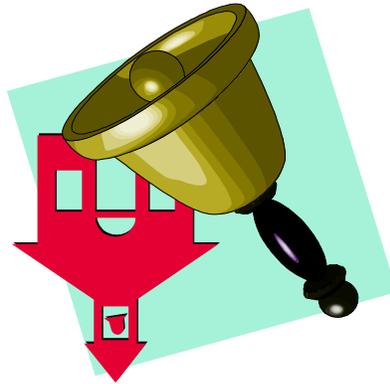
Please list three great activities OR one outstanding program that your PTA or PTSA has done at your school.

Please share your PTA/PTSA's ongoing efforts to build membership, outstanding membership campaign.

Please share how your PTA/PTSA is working on increasing student involvement and building cohesiveness between parents, staff and administration.

NOTICE FOR PARENTS

COMMUNITY NOTICE



ST. JOSEPH PTA COUNCIL

St. Joseph PTA Council  
PO Box 8716  
St. Joseph, MO 64508