

Council Clippings

Monthly Newsletter of
St. Joseph PTA Council

Volume 18, Issue 5

January 2004



Presidents

Corner...

Kerry Funck, Council President

The New Year brings us a very difficult but not unattainable task. Helping to pass a tax levy. I hope you are up to the challenge.

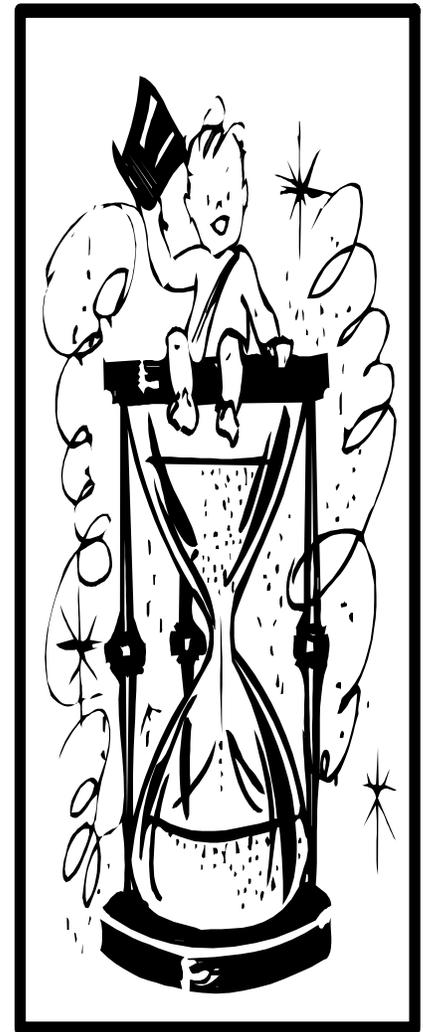
As I read and reread the "Financial Crossroads" sheet from the district I can't help to feel sad, not only for the students but also for the people who will have to make the very hard choices. What is best for our kids of St. Joseph? Smaller class sizes? Bus service? Nurses and Counselors at each school? Fine Arts? All the extracurricular activities offered? Alternative schools?

What is best for the students of St. Joseph is to continue to provide all the things before the budget cuts happened. But how do we get back there? How can PTA/PTSAs help: Parent Involvement, increase membership, letting your parents know what is going on in the schools (newsletters, PTA meetings, etc.). Who better to get the information out than parents!

Be an advocate for your school and the students who attend there. Get new parents involved. Ask them to volunteer. But most of all BE POSITIVE.

The budget issues are real. There is no threat. If this levy doesn't pass, programs will be cut and schools will have to close.

What is best for all the children of the St. Joseph School District? Our Support!



Reminder:

January Meeting date has been changed to Thursday 8th at 6:00. Senator Charlie Shields will be explaining the state budget crisis and how it affects our district.

God Bless the Master

God bless the master of this house,
The mistress also,
And all the little children,
That round the table go,
And all your kin and kinsmen
That dwell both far and near;
I wish you a Merry Christmas
And a **Happy New Year.**

--Traditional from England

AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK

American Education Week was celebrated this year November 16-22, 2003. The Theme for this year was, **Great Public Schools for Every Child--America's Promise**. We had a really good turn out! Student's had artwork, writing, math, photos, collages and much more, from many schools displayed at East Hills Mall. There were three nights of performances on the stage at the mall, which consisted of choirs, bands and a drumline. All performances were wonderful! Also represented with tables or displays were; Parents As Teachers, Fire Department, American Legion, Hillyard Technical School, VEST and PTA Council. We had good media coverage with the help of several people. Sharon Kosek spoke on "Live at Five" and KQ2TV came out to the mall the first and last nights of performances, with interviews and coverage of the students during their performances. Newspress also did an editorial about AEW in the daily paper that week.

I would like to thank everyone who had a part in making this year's AEW such a success. Thank you to all the schools that had displays put up and the volunteers who came out and put the displays together, they all looked very nice. Thank you to all the schools that performed at the mall. Special thanks to; Kerry Funck, Sharon Kosek, Robin Kelly, Tom Snyder and Steve Huff. Without them, I would have never gotten it all done.

Chontel Richardson, AEW Chairman



WE'VE MOVED

The Missouri PTA office has moved to a new location at the Missouri School Boards' Association building. The new address is....

**Missouri PTA
2100 I-70 Drive Southwest
Columbia, Missouri 65203**

Toll free number: 800-328-7330

Local number: 573-445-4161

Fax: 573-445-4163

Email: mcptoffice@aol.com

Web: www.mopta.org

Council Clippings Article Assignments for February

Articles are due January 10, 2004

<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Bylaws</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Membership</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Nominating Comm. report</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Character & Spiritual</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Salute to Schools</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Council Awards</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Presidents Report</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.**



You are cordially invited to attend the
St. Joseph PTA Council Founder's Day

Thursday, February 26, 2004

Registration begins at 5:30pm.
Dinner begins promptly at 6:00pm.

Stoney Creek Inn, 1201 Woodbine Road, St. Joseph, MO

Cost-\$8.50 per person

REGISTRATION FORM

Registration Deadline February 3, 2003
NO REFUNDS – NO EXCEPTIONS

School Name _____

Names of those attending _____

Note anyone who is a Missouri Life Member (MLM) with an *
Note anyone who is a Past Council President with a #

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

Lori Bergman
St. Joseph PTA Council
P.O. Box 1271
St. Joseph, MO 64501-1271



**St. Joseph PTA Council
Legislative Update
December 1, 2003**



January 5, 2004 – St. Joseph PTA Council Meeting

The Honorable Charlie Shields to speak at St. Joseph PTA Council Meeting. Please encourage your friends to attend this informational meeting. Senator Shields is chair of the Committee looking into the Foundation Formula.

SJSD Board Member Martin Rucker expected to seek MO 29th District position

Martin Rucker, south side resident and St. Joseph School District Board of Education member is expected to seek the Missouri House 29th District position. State Representative Maurice Lawson will relinquish the post after 2004 because of Missouri's term limits. One of Mr. Rucker's key issues will be school funding.

Missouri PTA Legislative Day

Missouri PTA Legislative Day will be January 26 – 27, 2004 at Jefferson City. This will be a special conference where there will be a PrEP rally to train PTA members to visit their legislators on January 26. The following are the sessions for January 27:

- 9 a.m. Senators will speak on Funding and Tax Policy Issues
- 10 a.m. Legislative Priority Review
- 11 a.m. Governor Holden will address the conference
- 12 noon Senator Bon will speak during the luncheon
- 1 p.m. Capitol visitation with legislators

February 16, 2004 – Missouri Education Rally in Jefferson City

PTA members, teachers, educational leaders, and other interested individuals are expected to meet at the Capitol in Jefferson City in support of educational funding in Missouri. This is Washington's Birthday—so many are expected to attend.

“I am really happy when...”

Reflections 2003-2004

The Reflections program deadline (January 16, 2004) is rapidly approaching! Each PTA unit should be concluding their programs with this deadline in mind. The theme for the 2003-2004 program is “I am really happy when...” Students may enter their original photographs, paintings, drawings, prints, sonnets, poems, short stories or musical compositions. Each student may enter any or all of the four arts areas: Literature, Musical Composition, Photography and Visual Arts. The students may develop the work inside or outside of school. Judges are looking for creativity and adherence to the theme.

It is recommended that your school have a Reflections Chairperson to coordinate the Reflections program. The guidelines for the program are contained in the Reflections section of the summer packet (pg. 138 – 162) sent to each PTA president. Additional copies have been distributed to one Art teacher and one Language Arts teacher (K-8) per building. The specific guidelines are outlined in the booklet. The guidelines are also posted on the Missouri PTA website (www.mopta.org).

Each PTA/PTSA unit may submit the **top three winning entries in each arts area** to enter in the state level contest. The following guidelines must be followed to participate:

1. Your PTA/PTSA bylaws must have been approved by the Missouri PTA within the last three years. If your bylaws have been submitted to State PTA for approval, your unit is covered.
2. Your unit must be current with their dues for this year. Dues **MUST** be submitted to the state office prior to January 23, 2004
3. All entry forms (Reflections booklet pg. 156) **must be completed in full, printed or typed, and SIGNED BY THE STUDENT AND PARENT.** There must be an entry form completed for each piece submitted to go to state. There are specific guidelines for each arts area, so read the Reflections booklet carefully. **Please follow the guidelines** for maximum size of artwork, mounting, preparation of music and literature entries. Put your school’s Reflections chairman’s name and phone number for the local chair name. The Missouri PTA Region is the Pony Express Region.
4. **Each school must fill out Form A** (Reflections booklet pg. 157). Only one form per school is required.
5. Please be sure the addresses on the Official Entry Forms and the Form A are accurate. The invitations to the Recognition Evening in April are sent to the homes of the individual students, the Reflections chairperson and the PTA presidents. These forms are my only source for this information.
6. Remember your school may submit up to 12 entries – a maximum of 3 each in the following categories – Literature, Musical Composition, Photography and Visual Arts.
7. Entries are due in Tom Schneider’s office no later than 3:00 p.m. on Friday, January 16, 2004. Tom Schneider’s office is at the Troester Media Center, 3401 Renick. PTA Council will pack and ship the entries to the state PTA office.
8. The St. Joseph PTA Council will host a Recognition Evening for the students that were selected as winners from their schools – as well as the students that were winners at the state level. The Recognition Evening will be Thursday, April 15, 2004 in the Leah Spratt Building at Missouri Western State College. Invitations will be sent prior to the event.

If you have questions, please call the Missouri PTA office (800-328-7330); Cheryl Meagher, State Reflections Chair (816-461-2449); or Allene Wright (364-5132 or allene@magiccablepc.com) who is the local PTA Council Reflections chair. The state PTA office may also be contacted via the website or email (www.mopta.org or mcptoffice@aol.com).

Allene Wright, Chairman

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, 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:

Linda Peters

PTA Council Awards
406 Kentucky Street
St. Joseph, MO 64504



Thank you for your interest!

**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: Maria Reynolds

1115 E. Highland Ave.

St. Joseph, MO 64505

816-364-2848

rama@magiccablepc.com

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

Check out date _____

Date _____

Signature _____

Confirmation Sent _____

Check in date _____

Signature _____

Number of Components Issued _____

Number Returned _____

Date _____

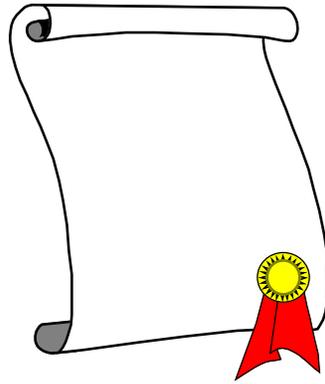
Number Used _____ @ _____

Total Due _____

Confirmation

Your Request for the Button Machine is Confirmed for _____

Signature _____ Date _____



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.

Nomination forms for this award, **MUST** be received by the St. Joseph PTA Council Awards Chairman **NOT LATER THAN FEBRUARY 3, 2003!!** Please only one nomination per principal.

Nominations are to be sent to: Linda Peters
 406 Kentucky Street
 St. Joseph, MO 64504
 238-5326

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.

**Grant Request
Through the St. Joseph PTA Council
For the 2003-2004 School Year**

Each school may apply for one grant up to the amount of \$700.00.

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 and Council Dues paid.
4. Detailed description of project for which funds are requested including:

Purpose and goals of project

Participants to be served

Breakdown of funds requested by specific categories.

Completed proposals should be returned to St. Joseph PTA at the January 8th, 2004 meeting or send to Kerry Funck at Skaith School.

School name:

Contact person:

Address:

Phone number:

Signature of PTA/PTSA President _____

Signature of Principal _____

- I. Describe the purpose of your project, including the population that will be served, types of activities and length of project:

- II. Describe the organizational structure of your project. An organizational chart may be attached to help satisfy this requirement. (What staff will be involved? Who will be accountable for funds? Who will order and receive materials?)

- III. Describe your project:
 - A. Purpose and goals for the project:

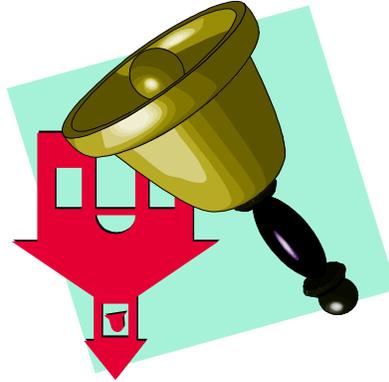
 - B. Describe participants to be served, including how they will be selected.

 - 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.

- IV. Describe what alternatives would be necessary if these funds were not available.

NEWSLETTER FOR PARENTS

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



ST. JOSEPH PTA COUNCIL

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

