

# Council Clippings

Monthly Newsletter of  
St. Joseph PTA Council

Volume 31, Issue 1

November/December 2015



## Presidents Corner...

Hello Friends,

My name is Nici Hayes, and I am the PTA Council President for the St. Joseph School District. Some of you may know me from my past Council positions as the Membership Coordinator, and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President. I am happy to represent our Council as the President, and appreciate the chance to continue building on the solid foundation of our past President, Joyce Brewka.

I'd like to share a few projects the Council is focused on this school year. One of these projects is a special committee that will be formed to provide training to PTA Units, begin community conversations with Units, school administration, and other key community members, as well as provide needed brainstorming/collaboration time among Units. We are excited about this special committee, and are hopeful that this will assist with building on our foundation.

Another project we have decided to focus on is providing an opportunity for Units to let the Council know what they need for their students in the form of a grant or aide provided by Council funds. This might look like extra student supplies, items for a school, or something we haven't even dreamed of yet. As you can tell, this is a pretty vague description because we know there are needs out there that perhaps just need a little funding to make happen. We would like your help in determining what those needs are. If your Unit is interested in this special project, please let a Council Member know and we will help guide you in the right direction.

The last project I want to touch on is simply continued support to Units. The Council only as strong as the Unit who needs the most support. We are truly looking at how we can support Units, provide technical assistance when needed, and help provide a united voice on behalf of our students in the St. Joseph School District.

If you have any questions or comments for the Council, please let any of the Council Members know. I am thankful for your continued support to our students, educators, staff, administration, parents, and Council. Thank you, and have a blessed holiday season.

Nici Hayes  
St. Joseph PTA Council President

## Clarence J. Carpenter Memorial Fund Board of Trustees Annual Report 2014-2015

The Clarence J. Carpenter Memorial Fund was established by the St. Joseph Parent Teacher Association in 1937 in memory of Clarence J. Carpenter, former principal of Neely Elementary School and principal of Bliss Junior High School at the time of his death. A volunteer board of 12 members manages the fund – the St. Joseph PTA Council elects 9 and the Council President and Coordinator of Health Service also serves on the board. The Superintendent of Schools is an advisor to the Board. We currently have 1 Honorary Trustees: Mrs. Sandy Frazer.

The Board meets in September, November, January, March, and May.

Officers of 2014-2015 were Lori Prussman - Chairman, Sherri Manville - Vice-chair, Crissy O'Daniell - Recording secretary, Heather Weddle - Corresponding secretary, and Lisa Little - Treasurer.

This year a total of 69 students were helped with eye care. The cost of this care was \$6,257.19.

There were no dental bills presented this year.

HELP A CHILD TO SEE 2015 CAMPAIGN received \$5,686.86 in donations.

The Spec Shoppe, was honored at the Founder's Day Dinner for their years of service to the students of SJSD. The St. Joseph PTA Council made a donation to the Carpenter Fund, in their honor.

At the May meeting a budget of \$8,115.00 was approved. New officers elected for the coming year are: Lori Prussman - Chair, Sherri Manville - Vice-chair, Crissy O'Daniell - Recording secretary, Joyce Brewka- Corresponding secretary, and Lisa Little- Treasurer.

The Board wishes to thank all the units and individuals for the donations they have made to make it another successful year for the Board to give eye and dental care to the students of the St. Joseph School District.

Submitted by Lori Prussman



**St. Joseph PTA Council  
has a new address  
PO Box 1162, 64502.**

**Keep an eye out for returned mail.  
We apologize for any  
inconvenience.**

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**PTA Council Dues  
Are now Overdue  
Please remit as soon as possible**

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**Reminder that MOPTA will not  
be holding its annual convention  
in October; the convention has  
been moved to the spring. Keep  
an eye out for more information  
as it is released!**

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**Is Nici Hayes; St. Joseph PTA Council  
President, a member of your unit yet?  
If not please contact her asap!**

**Clarence J Carpenter Memorial Fund Board  
donations can be mailed to:  
Lisa Little  
3020 Kathleen Ave, St. Joseph MO 64506  
Thank you in advance for your continued  
support!!!**



## **Plan of Works Council Clippings**

My plan is to obtain all information for Clippings by the 15th of each month since we will not be printing hard copies any longer. My goal is to have Clippings uploaded to the website; [www.stjoepta.org](http://www.stjoepta.org), the last week of each month or at the latest the first week of the month.

I will also prepare an email with link to Corresponding Secretary of Clippings so that it can be emailed to everyone as well.

I will also keep the website and Yearbook updated.

Clippings Chair  
Lori Prussman

## **Mark your calendars**

PTA Council Meetings  
Meetings will be held at TMC  
General meetings begin at 7:00 pm

November 2<sup>nd</sup>, Monday  
December 7<sup>th</sup>, Monday  
January 5<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday  
March 7<sup>th</sup>, Monday  
April 4<sup>th</sup>, Monday  
May 2<sup>nd</sup>, Monday



**Council Clippings Article Assignments for December  
Articles are due November 15, 2015**

<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Founders Day</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Spelling Bee</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Reflections</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Regional Director article</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Presidents Report</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Character &amp; Spiritual</u>

**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.**

## Regional Director Report

**\*Membership cards...**If your unit has not received membership cards yet please go online to [www.mopta.org](http://www.mopta.org) and fill out the request form so the office can mail them to you.

**\* Log in information to MOPTA website....**the user name is your PTA unit ID. The password is your PTA Unit EIN followed by the word P@sW0rD (the @ sign for the A, and a zero for the O). This will give you access to your unit information. Please keep the officer information updated so that the office has current contact information for your officers.

**\*Reminder to send in your PTA memberships monthly.** The new form is on the MOPTA site and on PTA Council site; [www.stjoepa.org](http://www.stjoepa.org).

**\*IRS deadline** is fast approaching. 990's must be filed by the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the 5<sup>th</sup> month following the close of the fiscal year. (Fiscal year ending June 30, the 990 is due November 15.)

**\*Reports due Dec. 1, 2015 to MOPTA office...**Financial Review/Audit, Annual year end report and a copy of your IRS confirmation. These reports can be postal mailed or emailed to the state office.

**\*Be on the lookout for upcoming Convention information. Convention will be held in Columbia, April 2016.**

**If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call or email me; Lori Prussman, 816-262-2664 or [lorip@mopta.org](mailto:lorip@mopta.org).**

### Council Clippings Article Assignments for January Articles are due December 15, 2015

<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Founders Day</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Awards</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Reflections</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Regional Director article</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Presidents Report</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Character &amp; Spiritual</u>

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.

## Unit in Good Standing...

To be a unit in good standing with the State PTA you must...

- Submit your financial review by Dec. 1
- Submit your annual report by Dec. 1
- Submit your IRS tax confirmation by Dec. 1
- Submit membership monthly
- Bylaws must be current (no need to submit a copy if current)
- New Officers list must be submitted by March 31<sup>st</sup> each year

I recently found a quote that I hope would influence everyday of your life.

“In a world full of people who couldn't care less, be someone who cares more.”  
It reminded me of a daily prayer I want try to include in my life.  
God, where will your Spirit lead today?  
Help me be fully awake and ready to respond.  
Grant me courage to risk something new and become a blessing of your love and peace.  
Amen

Sometimes we just need to be open to those that God place in our path and they will know we care.

Submitted by Alix Wilson

## Unit in Good Standings Report 2015-2016

Unit Name:

	<b>State PTA</b>	<b>Council</b>	<b>Complete</b>
<b>Financial review</b>	X	X	
<b>Annual report</b>	X	X	
<b>Tax confirmation</b>	X	X	
<b>PTA memberships to State PTA</b>	X	X	
<b>Current bylaws</b>	X	X	
<b>Council dues paid</b>		X	
<b>Insurance confirmation</b>		X	
<b>Unit budget</b>		X	
<b>District form/their external audit</b>		X	

This form can be used to track the reports/information as you submit them to the State PTA and also St. Joseph PTA Council.

# 2016 National PTA Legislative Conference Webinar Series

Upcoming Webinar: PTA Advocacy 101

**What:** PTA Advocacy 101

**When:** Thurs., Dec. 10

**Time:** 8 p.m. EST

Join National PTA's **Vice President of Advocacy, Shannon Sevier** and **Director of Government Affairs, Jacki Ball** **Thurs., Dec. 10**, for a [PTA Advocacy 101 webinar](#).

National PTA is the oldest and largest volunteer child advocacy association in the U.S. with more than 100 years of experience advocating on behalf of every student to ensure educational equity and opportunity through a quality public school system.

Participants will learn:

- What it means to be a PTA advocate
- How to effectively advocate at the local, state and federal level
- National PTA's public policy agenda
- How to stay engaged and support our efforts

This webinar is a part of the [2016 National PTA Legislative Conference](#) webinar series designed to help child advocates speak up for the education, health and well-being of all children.

We encourage you to share this webinar with all PTA members and leaders in your community!

Register by going to MOPTA website; [www.mopta.org](http://www.mopta.org) and clicking

**REGISTER NOW**



## Membership In Action





One of my favorite Christmas movies is "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" I am reminded of a line that helps me to reminisce the meaning of Christmas, 'Maybe Christmas', he thought 'doesn't come from a store. 'Maybe Christmas.... perhaps .. means a little bit more'."

If you remember, the Grinch tried to steal all the presents, and food and decorations from the Who's as he hoped to keep Christmas from coming. As he finished his plot he heard from below, "Every Who down in Whoville, the tall and the small, Was singing! Without any presents at all! He HADN'T stopped Christmas from coming it came! Somehow or other, it came just the same!

Even as a senior, I find myself getting caught up in the "stuff" of life. Remember this always helps to remind me of what Christmas is supposed to be. May each of you enjoy the true meaning of Christmas this year; family, friends and faith.

Submitted by Alix Wilson



## Reflections Deadline Postponed until 12/17

The deadline for advancing Reflections entries to state round for Missouri PTA units has been extend one week. The new deadline is Thursday, December 17, 2015. Please email questions regarding the online submission process to [reflections@mopta.org](mailto:reflections@mopta.org).

Details of the showcase will be announced the week of Christmas.

## Unmet needs grant announced by PTA Council

The Council is announcing a new opportunity for Units to take advantage of this year. We are introducing what we are calling Un-Met Needs Funds. These funds will allow the Council to help supplement needs your Unit or students have that you can't quite pay for alone. We have up to \$2500 to help fund needs for this school year.

Here's the process we are implementing at this point. Note: Since this is the first time we are trying this out, this process can change as the Council sees fit.

- Write a letter to the Council explaining what your needs are, what other funding venues you have tried, and how this funding will benefit your Unit/students.
- You can request any money amount needed, however the Council may not fund your entire request.
- You should explain how you have exhausted other funding opportunities.
- Email requests to [sjpta@hotmail.com](mailto:sjpta@hotmail.com).
- The Executive Council Board Members will review each request, and determine if the request will be granted and/or how much money will be funded to the requestor. The Council's Executive Board will inform the requestor of the Board's decision.
- The Board will award recipients until the \$2500 has been depleted.
- You may be asked to write an article for one of our publications explaining how the funding was a benefit to your Unit/students.

Please keep in mind that this is a new opportunity, so the Council does not have solid ideas or restrictions on what the money can be used for. We are asking that you make requests and the Council Executive Board will determine if we can help. If you have questions regarding this process or the funds, please call or email Nici Hayes, Council President.



Please join us as we celebrate  
**St. Joseph PTA Council Founder's Day**  
Thursday, February 4, 2016



Tours of Carden Park begin at 4:30  
Registration begins at 5:30pm.  
Dinner begins promptly at 6:00pm.

Catering by Spanky and Buckwheat's  
Pulled pork, brisket, twice baked potato casserole, green beans, baked beans, salad, and dinner rolls .

Dress is business casual

Carden Park Elementary, 1510 Duncan  
816-671-4160

Cost-\$14.00 per person

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Registration Form...

Registration Deadline: Wed. January 26, 2016  
No Refunds--No Exceptions

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

Person(s) Attending

St. Joseph PTA Council Outstanding Volunteer Award Winner \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of guests: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed:\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Note anyone who is a Past Council President with #



Make Checks payable to:  
And mail to:

St. Joseph PTA Council  
PO Box 1162  
St. Joseph, MO 64502

# COUNCIL CLIPPINGS



EDITOR: LORI PRUSSMAN