



Connections With Kids, For Kids

Nevada PTA
6175 Spring Mountain Rd.
Suite 1B
Las Vegas, NV 89146
800-782-7201
702-258-7885
office@nevadapta.org

Volume 1, Issue 2

Winter 2011-2012

Dates to Remember

January 2012

- 1 Pay Membership Dues to Nevada PTA
- 18 Deadline to submit Resolutions
- 20 Reflections Entries Due to Nevada PTA Office
- Register for Nevada PTA Convention

February 2012

- 1 Pay Membership Dues to Nevada PTA
- 12-18 Take Your Family to School Week
- 17 PTA Founder's Day
- Select a Nominating Committee

March 2012

- 1 Pay Membership Dues to Nevada PTA
- 26 Awards Applications Due to Nevada PTA Office

April 2012

- 1 Membership Dues to Nevada PTA
- 26 Take Your Child to Work Day
- 26-28 Nevada PTA Convention
- Nominating Committee presents slate of officers

May 2012

- 1 Pay Membership Dues to Nevada PTA
- 6-12 Teacher Appreciation Week
- Local PTA Board Elections
- Email list of new officers to office@nevadapta.org.
- Prepare for fiscal year review.

June 2012

- 1 Pay Membership Dues to Nevada PTA
- 21-24 National PTA Convention, San Jose, CA
- 30 Summer Leadership Training, Las Vegas

July 2012

- TBA Summer Leadership Training, Northern Nevada

August 2012

- 18 Summer Leadership Training, Las Vegas

Reflections - Deadline for Entries to State is January 20, 2012

The deadline is almost here! Reflections Chairs at many PTAs have been working hard, collecting Reflections entries, having them judged, and planning awards ceremonies.

Here are a couple of reminders for your PTA's Reflections chair as your PTA gets ready to send your winning entries to Nevada PTA:

The deadline for Reflections entries to be delivered to Nevada PTA is **Friday, January**

20, 2012 by 3:00 pm.

If you are mailing the entries, please be sure that they are delivered by the due date and are addressed to: Nevada PTA, 6175 Spring Mountain Rd.,



PTA REFLECTIONS
40 Years of Achievement in the Arts

Suite 1B, Las Vegas, NV 89146.

Please be sure that you have reviewed this year's Reflections rules; *there have been many changes in the rules about how entries must be submitted.*

Finally, make sure your PTA is in Good Standing.

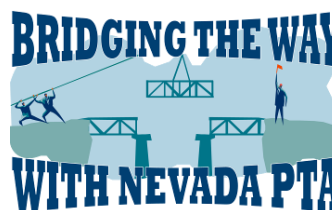
For more information about the Reflections program and the current rules, go to: www.ptareflections.org or call Nevada PTA.

Nevada PTA 72nd Annual Convention - Registration is Open!

Hey! I saw that - you were going to skip this article. I know - you just don't think that convention will be interesting or you don't think that it will help you to be a better PTA leader.

The Convention Committee wants to challenge you this year to give convention a try! The PTA leaders that have

attended in the past know a well kept secret; convention is a lot of fun and a great opportunity to learn more about



PTA and the opportunities that the association provides you and your local PTA members. The other important part of the equation is the opportunity to talk to PTA leaders from all over the state. These folks have walked in your shoes; they know what it means to be a

(Continued on page 3)

January's Membership Drive - Real Men Join PTA!

Nevada PTA and Parents Guide of Las Vegas have joined together to promote Nevada PTA's Real Men Join PTA membership campaign.

The Parents Guide has donated a full page **Real Men Join PTA** ad every month for a full year (see page 10 of this newsletter). Each ad will feature pictures of men from all over the state of Nevada that have

joined PTA. The first month's ad featured pictures of school superintendents, school board trustees, coaches from UNLV and Nevada State Superintendent of Schools. (The ad is available for your use on Nevada PTA's website: <http://nevadapta.org/dev/membership-campaigns/>)

To further promote the campaign the magazine will be

printing posters and will be producing (4) 15 minute TV spots for Nevada PTA to be played throughout the coming year.

This is a great opportunity for your PTA to use the materials donated by Parents Guide to assist you in your membership campaign. Please continue to look for the magazine in the

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Nevada PTA
Board of
Managers

President:

Kimberly Tate
ktatepta@gmail.com

President Elect:

Amy Henderson
amynvpta@aol.com

VP Leadership:

John "Kirt" Kirtley
johnkirtleynevadapta@yahoo.com

VP Legislative Services:

Tami Berg
Tami.nv.pta@sbcglobal.net

VP Membership & Marketing:

David Flatt
Dflattnevadapta@embarqmail.com

VP Programs:

Kelley Miner
kelleynvpta@aol.com

Treasurer:

Kimberley Leverett
KimInvpta@gmail.com

Secretary:

Jenene Boardman
bordppl@cox.net

Parliamentarian:

Sue Smuskiewicz
Smuskis@cox.net

Region I

(Washoe, Storey County)
Director: Bridget Burckhard
B.burckhard@sbcglobal.net

Region II

(Humboldt, Pershing & Lander Counties)
Director: Joan Westover
joanwestover@hotmail.com

Region III

(Elko, Eureka & White Pine Counties)
Director: Vacant

Region IV

(Clark, Lincoln & Southern Nye Counties)
Director: Linda Johnson
lsjvegas@aol.com

Region V

(Northern Lyon, Northern Nye & Churchill Counties)
Director: Karin Cooney
kcooney@sbcglobal.net

Region VI

(Douglas, Carson City, Mineral and Southern Lyon Counties)
Director: Leticia Servin
lservin@carson.k12.nv.us

Happy New Year!

A Message from the President...

Dear Local PTA Leaders,

We are half way through the school year, have you accomplished everything you wanted to? Many of our Local PTAs have done amazing things during the fall. They have definitely started off strong and many are still running strong and steady so they can finish the race on top.

Now that you have been promoting your programs and running your successful membership drives I would encourage you to take a few minutes to reflect on what your PTA has done. Reflection allows us to make process improvements and will help your PTA when applying for awards. You most definitely should apply for awards; this is a way to be acknowledged for the many hours of hard work and dedication your team has donated to help all children in your school succeed. Get your team pumped up to finish the year strong by applying for awards.

Another way to keep the excitement going is to take your PTA leadership team to Nevada PTA's Annual Convention. Convention is your professional development and is a legitimate PTA expense. Don't miss out on the opportunity to bring more to your school. This year we are also hosting a Town Hall where many of Nevada's Public School Superintendents will be answering questions directly from our attendees about family engagement. The Town Hall is a way to reinforce how important it is for PTA leaders to continue to build strong relationships with school officials. Relationships require time and consistency; it is my hope that each of our PTAs have strong relationships with their site administrators. Now that we are at the half way mark why not take it a step further and attend a school board meeting? Nevada PTA provides reminders of upcoming meetings.

Are you a friend of Nevada PTA on Facebook? Do you follow us on Twitter? If not start today, this is a great way to find up to date information. Please encourage your members to follow Nevada PTA as well. Does your PTA use Just Between Friends? This is a great tool to help you communicate with your members and by using this tool you allow Nevada PTA to communicate important information to your members as well. Maintaining strong consistent communication is essential for all of our success and helps members understand the value of their membership. Together we are stronger, please help Nevada PTA and Nevada's children by using the tools available to maintain constant communication with your members.

Wishing you continued success!


President
Nevada PTA

Nevada PTA

Members at Large:

Dawn Miller
Gladys Recinos
Tina Swanson

Consultants:

Wayne Bauman
D'Lisa Crain
Barbara Clark
Moises Denis
Estela Gutierrez
Denise Hedrick

Rebecca Kapuler
Caroline McIntosh
Eva Melendrez
Robin Munier
Casey Rogers
Russell Rowe

Anna Severens
Shawn Vogel
Debbie Smith

Nevada PTA 72nd Annual Convention

(Continued from page 1)

PTA leader. They have great ideas about all things PTA and they want to hear your ideas, too!

Nevada PTA's 72nd Annual Convention starts on Thursday, April 26 and concludes on Saturday, April 28, 2012 with the Silver Star Banquet. All workshops, meetings and the banquet are being held at Texas Station in Las Vegas.

PTA leaders and members from across the state that attend Convention will learn new skills, network with other PTA members, and help conduct the business of the Nevada PTA.

As a PTA leader or member, this is your opportunity for professional development!

The 2012 convention features

many exciting events:

- **New this year!** Town hall meeting with superintendents from many school districts in Nevada discussing "The Future of Education in Nevada." Attendees will have an opportunity to submit questions to the panel.
- Many great workshops on a wide variety of topics.
- Wonderful keynote speakers and presenters.
- Parent Resource Expo featuring representatives from many community organizations and fundraising companies on Saturday, April 28th.
- Silver Star Banquet and Awards ceremony on Saturday, April, 28th.

Convention allows the PTA membership in Nevada, acting

through its accredited delegates, an opportunity to:

- Approve Nevada PTA and local PTA bylaws amendments
- Adopt resolutions.

REGISTER NOW to save money! The sooner you register, the less expensive your Registration fees will be. Three Day Registration includes the Silver Star Banquet, an additional meal and snacks.

Three Day Registration Fee:

\$100.00 per person if received by Tuesday, February 28, 2012

\$125.00 per person if received after Tuesday, February 28, 2012

The Packet is available on Nevada PTA's website, www.nevadapta.org.

Questions? Call the Nevada PTA office at 702-258-7885.



Attendees at the 2011 Convention in Reno, Nevada

2012 Convention Schedule (*Tentative*)

Thursday April 26, 2012

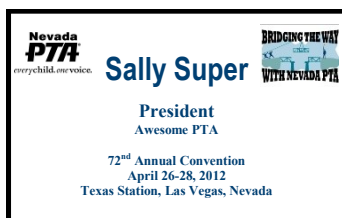
- 4:30 pm Registration
- 5:30 pm Convention 101
- 5:30 pm Workshop 1
- 6:30 pm General Session I

Friday April 27, 2012

- 7:30 am Registration
- 9:00 am Workshop 2
- 10:30 am General Session II
- 12:15 pm Lunch (provided)
- 2:00 pm Workshop 3
- 3:30 pm Region Caucuses
- 5:15 pm General Session III
- 7:15 pm Dinner on your own

Saturday April 28, 2012

- 7:00 am Registration
- 8:00 am Parent Expo Opens
- 9:00 am Workshop 4
- 10:15 am Workshop 5
- 11:15 am Lunch on own / Parent Expo
- 1:00 pm Expo / Silent Auction & Prize Drawings
- 2:00 pm Workshop 6
- 3:15 pm Town Hall
- 5:00 pm Reception
- 6:00 pm Silver Star Banquet



President

Delegate

Plays Well With Others

PTA ♥ the Arts

We Care About Kids

Sample convention ribbons; every attendee gets a name badge and can collect ribbons. Don't try to hide it - you love the convention ribbons as much as we do!

Book Your Rooms for Convention Now!

Reserve rooms prior to April 12, 2012 to receive the Nevada PTA room rate:

\$35: Wed. Apr. 25 and Thu. Apr. 26

\$55: Fri. Apr. 27 and Sat. Apr. 28



Texas Station

2101 Texas Star Lane
North Las Vegas, NV 89032
(800) 654-8888

Convention Sponsorship and Exhibitor Opportunities Now Available!

Businesses and organizations that are interested in connecting with local PTA leaders and members are invited to become a Sponsor or Exhibitor at Nevada PTA 72nd Annual Convention.

For information about these opportunities, go to Nevada PTA's website, www.nevadapta.org, or contact Nevada PTA's office at (702) 258-7885

Awards — Deadline to Apply is March 12, 2012

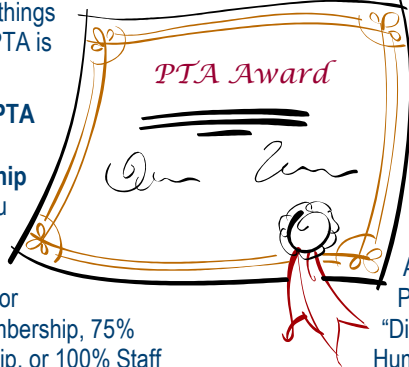
All PTAs in Nevada received the Awards packet during Summer Leadership Training this year.

You tossed it aside since you and your PTA had so much going on at the start of the school year. You've glanced at it once, not sure what to do with it. Now is the time to pull it back out, form a committee to look over the different awards, and get started on applying for those awards.

Every PTA already does most of the requirements for the different awards. It's just writing down the everyday things that you are already doing which meets those requirements. Why

shouldn't you and your board members get the recognition you deserve for all the wonderful things that your PTA is doing?!

Did your PTA have a membership drive? You could receive an award for 100% Membership, 75% Membership, or 100% Staff Membership, and by signing up a few more members than last year, your PTA will qualify for the Membership Increase Award. If you take pictures of events and displays of your



membership campaign you can apply for the Nick Poulakidas Membership Award.

With very little effort you can qualify for the "Outstanding PTA Award," "Gold PTA Award," "Silver PTA Award", "Dixie Worden Humanitarian Award." With that newsletter you send out each month, your PTA could win the "Spotlight Award."

We are sure that you have an

outstanding "Youth", "Teacher", "Administrator", or "Volunteer" who is very dedicated to the school, community, home and family and who would love to be recognized. In fact, you probably have several.

Get out that packet and start applying. Don't know where your packet is? Go to www.NevadaPTA.org>Program s>Awards>2011-2012 Nevada Awards Packet to download the packet.

You and your PTA deserve all that recognition - and then some - for the terrific job your PTA is doing!

2011-2012 Membership Increase Award Winners - So Far!

Congratulations to the PTAs listed below that have already earned the Membership Increase Award!

These PTAs already submitted

more members to Nevada PTA than they did last year. They will receive their awards during Nevada PTA's Convention in April 2012.

Your PTA can be on this list, too! Jump on a January Membership Drive and get rolling. Use "Real Men Join PTA" or check out resources at www.pta.org for ideas for

membership drives.

Not sure how many members your PTA had last year? Contact your Region Director (see Page 2) or Nevada PTA .

Batterman PTA	Desert Heights PTA	Huffaker PTA	Silver Springs / Stagecoach PTA
Beatty Schools PTA	Fernley High PTSA	Lamping PTA	Simmons PTA
Beatty PTA	Ferron PTA	Lummis PTA	Spring Creek Elementary PTA
Bilbray PTA	Fritsch PTA	Mack PTA	Sun Valley PTA
Bordewich-Bray PTA	Galloway PTA	Morrow PTA	Taylor PTA
Bozarth PTA	Gibson PTA	Moss PTA	The Henderson International School PTA
Brookfield PTA	Givens PTA	Mountain View PTA	Thorpe PTA
Brookman PTA	Goldfarb PTA	Perkins PTA	Treem PTA
Carl PTA	Jesse Hall PTA	Ries PTA	Walker International PTA
Chaparral High School PTSA	Herr PTA	Ronzone PTA	Wallin PTA
Cottonwood PTA	Hoggard PTA		Wright PTA

PTA Take Your Family to School Week - February 12-18, 2012

PTA Take Your Family to School Week is celebrated each February to pay tribute to PTA's legacy of building family-school partnerships. PTA Take Your Family to School Week will be held **February 12-18,**

2012 with the purpose of expanding and enhancing family engagement in schools across the country.

National PTA® offers grants to PTAs to implement programs

that engage families in the school community.

Need some ideas? You can find 2012 Take Your Family to School Week Grant Recipient Project Summaries

here: <http://pta.org/4999.htm>.

If your PTA hasn't participated in Take Your Family to School Week in the past, start with something small this year and watch your program grow!

Now? A Nominating Committee?

“Leadership Begins with the Nominating Committee”

A PTA can be no more effective than its leadership and the Nominating Committee holds the key to a successful PTA. Its responsibility is to present the best qualified nominees for office.

The nominating committee has the task of seeking out qualified nominees is entrusted with the ability to make decisions that

will have a huge influence on your PTA’s future.

Since this is such an important decision-making process members of the committee should be chosen carefully. Elect people who can devote an adequate amount of time to the task.

How to Elect a Nominating Committee

The first step in electing a Nominating Committee is to

consult your PTA’s bylaws. Remember your bylaws provide the “road map” for the entire process. The Nominating Committee is elected by the membership, as described in Article VI - Officers, Section 7 of most PTAs’ bylaws. The number of people to be elected to the Nominating Committee and alternate(s) is stated in the bylaws and is always an uneven number. If more than the required number is

nominated, a vote by ballot is required. Only those holding a membership card or are on the membership list may receive a ballot. The secretary should read those portions of the bylaws pertaining to the nomination and election of officers to the entire membership before election of the Nominating Committee.

Any member of your PTA who has paid current membership
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This Just In - PTAs Can Use Pay Pal

AIM Insurance is now allowing local PTAs in Nevada to use Pay Pal to collect payments or donations.

The following rules apply:

Only Pay Pal Accounts that are set up as Non Profit Merchant Accounts will be permitted.

Accounts are to be set up for deposits, donations and receipt of payments. No purchases can

be made using the Pay Pal account that is connected to the PTA’s bank account as this is a violation of the two signature required policy

All accounts will be verified with Nevada PTA to verify good standing prior to setting up the account for the local PTA.

Nevada PTA, as the parent association will have the ability

to add and delete users from the Pay Pal account at the direction of the local PTA with a copy of the minutes.

Nevada PTA will have the ability to “shut down” Pay Pal accounts that are being used by PTAs that are: not a Unit In Good Standing, do not use accounts according to objectives taught at the NVPTA

Summer Leadership Training and National PTA Money Matters, have any outgoing payments other than customary fees charges by Pay Pal or are in violation of any IRS rule or regulations.

For instructions about setting up your PTA’s account, send an email to kimInvpta@gmail.com.

Congratulations to these PTAs / PTSAs In Good Standing!

These PTAs and PTSAs are considered “Units in Good Standing,” having met all of the following standards:

- Pay annual Insurance Premium.
- Pay Nevada PTA and National PTA Membership Dues of \$4.50 per member to Nevada PTA.
- President and Treasurer attend annual training.
- Submit a copy of IRS 990 or acceptance of 990 e-Postcard and audit for the 2010-2011 fiscal year.
- Have bylaws reviewed and approved by Nevada PTA every three years
- Submit names and contact information for new officers within 10 days of their election

Questions about what your PTA needs to submit in order to be a Unit in Good Standing? Contact your Region Director (see page 2) or Nevada PTA.

Region / PTA	Region / PTA	Region / PTA
I Diedrichsen PTA	IV Darnell PTA	IV Aggie Roberts PTA
I Huffaker PTA	IV Eisenberg PTA	IV Judith Steele PTA
I Lena Juniper PTA	IV Galloway PTA	IV Tomiyasu PTA
I Elizabeth Lenz PTA	IV Gilbert PTA	IV Neil C Twitchell PTA
I Peavine PTA	IV Goldfarb PTA	IV John Vanderburg PTA
I Sun Valley PTA	IV R. Guild Gray PTA	IV Wallin PTA
III Sage PTA	IV J Marlan Walker PTA	IV Eva Wolfe PTA
IV Antonello PTA	IV Jacobson PTA	IV Elise L. Wolff PTA
IV John R Beatty PTA	IV Lamping PTA	V Cottonwood PTA
IV Cannon Jr. High PTSA	IV Lummis PTA	V East Valley PTA
IV Kay Carl PTA	IV Sandy Miller PTA	V Fernley Elementary PTA
IV Cartwright PTA	IV Piggott PTA	V Fernley High School PTSA
IV David Cox PTA	IV Priest PTA	V Silverland Middle School PTA
IV Cozine PTA		VI Mark Twain PTA

Real Men Join PTA - ABCs of Male Involvement

(Continued from page 1)

coming months and use the ad to help promote membership. Nevada PTA is very excited about this \$25,000 ad campaign that Parents Guide has donated.

What can local PTAs do to get more men to join and be involved in PTA?

National PTA recommends the "ABC's of Male Involvement":

Studies show students perform better when BOTH parents are involved in education. Men and women think differently and bring different perspectives to parenting and to PTA. PTAs are more vibrant and more appealing to all when both men and women help run them.

A = Ask

Understand that sending a form through the "backpack express" or having a flier on the PTA table at a school open house is not a very effective "ask." A real "ask" is personal and powerful. Show enthusiasm and draw on your experiences. Don't apologize for asking, and be prepared to say what your PTA is doing to

help their children. Most important, make the message meaningful to men. The overall message should be, "Your child benefits when you join PTA."

B = Bend

One size does not fit all in meeting the needs of PTA members, particularly men. Unless your unit is brimming with male PTA members, what you are doing is not working. Therefore, it is essential that you bend, that is, be flexible in your actions and thinking.

The top reason men give for not joining PTA is time. But what does time have to do with signing up as a member, paying dues, and carrying a membership card? The fact is that most people think that to belong to PTA means they have to volunteer.

Be flexible when signing up new

members by differentiating member from volunteer. Members who do not volunteer show support for PTA's work, increase the morale of volunteers, add strength to PTA's voice at local school board meetings, provide funds to help PTA do its work, and so forth. Members can and

do emerge as volunteers. But members and volunteers are two different groups of people.

Create activities that appeal to men. Suggestions for such activities included family events and volunteering at

events for students. These types of events could include bike rodeos, lunch buddies, career days, and father/daughter dances. Fun family events include barbecues, carnivals and fairs, family movie nights, entertainment assemblies, and attending athletic

events (see page 9).

C = Communicate

"C" stands for communication—the centerpiece of any effort to attract new members. What needs to be communicated? At every opportunity, communicate the value of PTA, the value of membership, the need for members, and the need for men.

National PTA asked men how to communicate effectively with them. Their #1 answer was male-oriented advertising. Highlight opportunities and activities specifically for men.

Finally, let moms, dads, and all family members know that the biggest payoff of PTA membership and involvement is the success of their children in school and in life. There is no greater gift children can get than to know that their parents and family care enough about them to get involved.

Portions of this article are excerpted from "ABC's of Male Involvement," www.pta.org, by Deborah Walsh and Marilyn Ferdinand.



Need to Increase Revenue? JBF Can Help!

Your PTA can earn revenue for each school semester from Just Between Friends' family-friendly sponsors.

To be eligible, your PTA must have one adult in at least 20% of the households in your PTA go through the Just Between Friends Household Startup Wizard. You can start communicating with households by email as soon as you enter their

email address into the system. Then, when parents go through the Household Startup Wizard, they'll have a Just Between Friends household account, begin to enjoy the system's tools to manage their hectic lives and count towards the

20% for your PTA to be eligible for revenue share.

Communicate with the households in your group at least 10 times during the semester to enjoy revenue share. If you communicate at least 10 times in the semester to 50% of the

households in your community, you double your revenue share. The number of dollars depends on how much revenue is derived from Just Between Friends' family-friendly sponsors.

Please contact your PTA – Just Between Friends liaison with your questions about revenue share. Call (412) 561-0500,



justbetweenfriends™
Simplify your life. Strengthen your group.

Do You Know What Your Children are Supposed to be Learning in School?

Are you confused about what your child is supposed to be learning in school?

Do you feel your child is being taught different methods and the requirements are different than when you were in school?

Are you unsure about whether your child will be prepared to go on to college?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions . . . you are not alone.

With the ever changing educational system, parents can get lost in the process.

That is why National PTA® created the **Parents' Guide to Student Success**. It was developed in response to the [Common Core State Standards](#)

in English language arts and mathematics that more than 40 states have adopted including Nevada. Created by teachers, parents, education experts, and others from across the country, the standards provide clear, consistent expectations for what students should be learning at each grade in order to be prepared for college and career.

National PTA® created the Parents' guides for grades K-8 and two for grades 9-12 (one for English language arts/literacy and one for mathematics).

The *Guides* include:

- Key items that children should be learning in English

language arts and mathematics in each grade once the standards are fully implemented.

- Activities that parents can do at home to support their child's learning.
- Methods for helping parents build stronger relationships with their child's teacher.
- Tips for planning for college and career (high school only).

Implementation of the Common Core Standards is in its early stages in Nevada. Each school and school district is working on developing its own timeline and plans to implement the standards.

PTAs can play a pivotal role in

how the standards are put in place in their district. PTA® leaders are encouraged to meet with their school and district administrators to discuss their plans to implement the standards and how their PTA can support that work. Ultimately, the aim is for the *Guides* to be a tool for parents to build relationships with their children's teachers once the standards are fully in place.

You can find the *Guides* on the National PTA Website. Go to http://www.pta.org/topic_parent_involvement.asp then click on the **Parents' Guide to Student Success** tab.

Learn How You Can Help Shape the Future for Nevada's Youth

You can help shape the future for Nevada's Youth with RESOLUTIONS!

Resolutions are an important way for local PTAs and councils to shape the work of the PTA. The passage of a resolution at the Nevada PTA Convention directs the state Board of Managers, Councils and local PTAs in areas of advocacy, legislative priority, and program development.

Do you have an issue that really concerns you and other

members of your local PTA or council?

Do you want to bring your concerns to the attention of other PTA members in Nevada?

Then get started now and have your resolution presented for consideration at Nevada PTA Convention, April 26-28, 2012.

What is a resolution?

A *resolution* is a call for action by Nevada PTA or its constituent bodies (councils or local PTAs). Resolutions seek to address problems, situations or

concerns which affect children and youth and which require action for solution.

Why submit a resolution or legislative position?

Nevada PTA resolutions and legislative positions address problems, situations or concerns that affect children and youth statewide and that require statewide action to be resolved. Positions and resolutions that receive approval from the delegates at Nevada PTA convention each year become

part of the Nevada PTA's legislative agenda. Board members, volunteers and staff use this agenda - the voice of our membership - to persuade legislators and government officials to enact PTA's positions into law.

To get started on your resolution, click [here](#) or copy and paste this link into your web browser: <http://nevadapta.org/dev/nevada-pta-guidelines-for-developing-resolutions-and-legislative-positions/>.

Volunteers Needed - Reclaim Your Future, Saturday, January 21, 2012

Nevada PTA and Clark County School District are looking for volunteers for their second Reclaim Your Future community outreach on Saturday,

January 21, 2012.

Volunteers will meet at designated schools, receive training, and will go out in teams of two to three. These teams will go

door-to-door to reach out to students to encourage them to reclaim their future by returning to the classroom.

Volunteers will meet early in the

day and most will be finished before noon.

To volunteer, please contact the CCSD Partnership Office at 799-6560.

Important Reminders From AIM

Association Insurance Management Inc. (AIM), provides the insurance for Nevada PTA and all PTAs in Nevada. A portion of the insurance covers local PTAs in case of financial loss due to embezzlement.

AIM has specific rules that **must** be followed in order for your PTA to be covered in case of this type of loss. If your PTA makes a claim and cannot prove that these rules have been followed, this could result in a denial of coverage.

1. Monthly bank statements are reviewed and signed each month by an individual that does not have authorization to sign checks. This person is looking for things like checks made out to cash, cash withdrawals, checks written to non-approved vendors or non-approved expenses.

2. Annual audits of your PTA's accounting records or books are conducted by an audit committee or qualified accountant.

3. Signed monthly bank statements and annual audits will be retained on file and be available for review.

Other recommendations to protect your PTA against embezzlement:

Money should never be kept at a treasurer's home.

Two signatures are required on all checks.

Never sign a blank check or a check made out to "cash".

The treasurer should make arrangements to deposit money in the bank daily, with no exceptions..

All bills should be paid by check, never cash.

New Safety Laws in Effect Now

Effective October 2, 2011, three new traffic laws that benefit safety for bicyclists and pedestrians went into effect, including the cell phone ban, the 3 foot passing law, and vulnerable user law.

Cell Phone Use:

The use of a hand-held cellular telephone or other wireless communication device is prohibited when operating a motor vehicle. Simply, it is prohibited to use a communication device for texting or talking while driving.

3 Foot Passing Law:

Vehicles must provide a mini-

mum of 3 feet of space when passing bicyclists. On a multi-lane roadway, vehicles must move to a lane left of the right hand lane (if safe and available) when passing a bicyclist.



Vulnerable User Law:

Vehicle drivers that are found to be the proximate cause of an injury to a bicyclist or pedestrian will be subject to the penalties set forth under reckless driving.

For more information about these new traffic laws, please visit the Nevada Law Library at www.leg.state.nv.us.

Pedestrian Tips for Parents, Caregivers, and Safe Routes to School Volunteers

Keep in mind that all children develop differently but young children always need supervision when they walk in or near traffic. Help your child between the ages of **four to six** become a safe pedestrian by practicing these skills.

Help your child safely cross the street

1. Stop at the edge of the road.

Say: We stop here at the edge of the road to look for cars before we cross. We only cross where we can see if cars are coming and we don't cross until the coast is clear.

2. Look in all directions for traffic.

Say: Before we cross, we look for cars. We look left, right, left again and behind us. Let's look together. When a vehicle stops at a crosswalk, teach your child to make eye contact with the driver.

3. Cross only when no cars are coming.

Say: Do you see any cars coming?

4. Hold hands when crossing. Walk across the road when no cars are coming.

Say: Now we can walk across the road because no cars are coming. We're going to keep watching for cars as we cross.

Help your child understand the

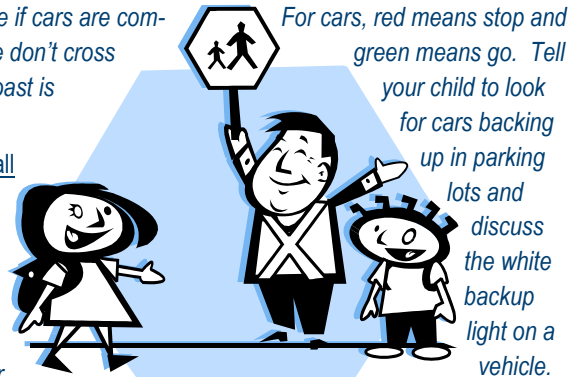
traffic environment

1. Walk with your child and hold hands.

Say: We always hold hands when we walk to stay safe.

2. Explain stop signs, crosswalks, traffic lights and other pedestrian signs that you see along your walk.

Say: Stop signs are red, they tell cars to stop. Crosswalks are where people walk across the road. Traffic lights tell cars when to stop and when to go.



For cars, red means stop and green means go. Tell your child to look for cars backing up in parking lots and discuss the white backup light on a vehicle.

3. Show your child the safest place to cross.

Say: This is where we cross the road because we can see when cars are coming and they can see us. We cross at a crosswalk or intersection when we can because that is where drivers expect to see walkers.

For more information about Nevada's Safe Routes to School Program please contact the State Coordinator, Rebecca Kapuler, at 775-888-7357 or e-mail rkapuler@dot.state.nv.us. Stay tuned for pedestrian tips for children ages seven to nine in our next newsletter.

How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world. ~Anne Frank

UNLV Athletics - Family Engagement

Nevada PTA has teamed with UNLV Athletics to invite parents and loved ones to spend time with the children in their lives.

Through a Group Sales Experience with UNLV Athletics, local PTAs can offer discounted game tickets to families and staff and a portion of the proceeds from each ticket will be donated back to the PTA. For more information or to book

your PTA's UNLV game date, please contact UNLV Athletics' Community Relations Department at 702-895-1633 or by email at bridget.byrne@unlv.edu.

Not in Las Vegas? Nevada PTA is working on a similar arrangement with UNR; more information will be available soon!



Lamping Elementary School PTA won a visit from the UNLV Runnin' Rebels, including Coach Rice, the UNLV Cheerleaders and Hey Reb!

Nominating Committee

(Continued from page 5)

dues to your PTA is eligible to serve on the Nominating Committee. The principal may serve on the committee if elected as any other member.

The current PTA President may not serve on the Nominating Committee.

Upon completion of the election of the Nominating Committee, the presiding officer assigns a temporary chair until the committee meets to make its choice for a chair.

Nominating committee members will need to seek out potential nominees, do some information-gathering, seek acceptances of nominations and have vigorous discussion. It's okay if committee members don't have prior knowledge of details regarding necessary qualifications and responsibilities of the elected positions as long as this information can be provided to committee members. They will need to use good judgment, objectivity, tact, discretion and confidentiality. The nominating committee is never chosen by

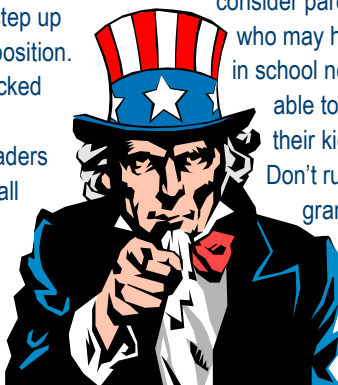
the current PTA president.

Now What?

What would be the easiest way to identify nominees? In the past, your PTA's leaders might have looked at the current officers, determined who is eligible to return for another term and asked someone else at the table to step up to fill a vacant position. Maybe they tracked down only experienced leaders or pounced on all those new parents with little kids who haven't had a turn yet and then said "Done!"

Instead, consider what might result if you elect a Nominating committee at least two months, or more, prior to elections. This allows time for the committee to observe and put the word out that they are looking for nominees. They should look everywhere, consider experienced leaders and also consider those who are inexperienced.

Running a PTA is done as a team and inexperienced officers can be trained in the ways of PTA and will have full support of your PTA's Region Director and Nevada PTA. The committee should consider parents who are new and have little kids and also should consider parents of older kids who may have all their kids in school now and weren't able to help out when their kids were younger. Don't rule out grandparents, school volunteers, staff or teachers. Everyone can be a potential leader.



WE NEED YOU!

An exhaustive search can be a huge task but it will serve you well as it will result in the best possible officers for your PTA.

Nominating Committee Duties

It is the duty of the Nominating Committee to select one best-qualified candidate possible for each office to be filled. The offices to be filled are specified

in the bylaws. **Verify that each nominee is a member of your PTA.**

The committee must give careful consideration to qualifications of candidates and check the PTA's bylaws for duties of each office. Be prepared to fully outline the duties of office when contacting potential nominees and give them a clear understanding of responsibilities and time commitment of that office. Allow time for each nominee to consider the position before asking for a decision. You do not have to ask the person currently serving in an office to serve another term if there are other candidates for the position.

The nominating committee presents their report submitting the nominees at the membership meeting at least one month prior to your PTA's elections.

For details about all of the duties of nominating committees, go to www.nevadapta.org or contact your Region Director (page 2) or Nevada PTA.

Real men join **PTA**.



Do you recognize any of these Real PTA Men? Pictured from top to bottom and left to right are the following:

Dwight Jones, Superintendent of Schools, Clark County School District; Steve Schorr, Vice President of Public and Government Affairs, Cox Communications; Dave Rice, Head Basketball Coach, UNLV; Pedro Martinez, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Clark County School District ; Mark Sherwood, State Assemblymen, Nevada; Bobby Hauck, Head Football Coach, UNLV; Javier Trujillo, Government Affairs Chairman ,Latin Chamber of Commerce; Nate Tannenbaum, Television and Radio Personality; Jovon Kirtley and John Kirtley, Vice President of Leadership, Nevada PTA and his son; Scott Kelley, School Board Trustee, Washoe County School District; Neal McIntyre, School Board Trustee, Lyon County School District; Keith Rheault , Superintendent of Schools, State of Nevada; Moises Denis, State Senator, Nevada; Dave Flatt, Vice President Membership & Marketing, Nevada PTA.