



Nassau Region E-Leader

September 2019 Issue - Emily Schreiber, Editor

Nassau Region
PTA[®]
everychild.onevoice.[®]

PTA's MISSION is to make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children.

A Message From Lynn Petrofsky

The Region Director

I cannot believe the summer is almost over. Before you realize it, your children will be back in school and the hustle and bustle of all the activities will begin. Be sure to enjoy every last second with your families.

I look forward to meeting each and every one of you and welcoming you into our extended Nassau Region Family. I truly appreciate all you do for the children and I want you to know just how important the work that you do is.

Please be sure to take advantage of all of the training opportunities that Nassau Region PTA, New York State PTA, and National PTA have to offer. Visit the websites regularly www.nassauppta.org, www.nyspta.org, www.pta.org. You will find a wealth of information to assist you in operating your unit or council. Share the information you receive from all of these sources with your executive committee, executive board, and general members, and encourage them to attend trainings and workshops, as well. Your future leaders come from these groups and the more informed they are, the more willing they will be to take on leadership roles in the future. Don't forget, your first order of business is to find the person that will replace you upon the conclusion of your term.

Nassau Region is committed to assisting the units and councils we serve. We have dedicated and knowledgeable chairmen and Assistant Directors who are available to assist you and the members of your board to carry out the mission and purposes of PTA. Please do not hesitate to contact us for any reason. Reach out to your Assistant Director, your first point of contact, if you have any questions, concerns or are struggling to manage your role as president or to just let us know about a great accomplishment or program. We would really love to hear about the work that you are doing for the children.

Working together we will all have a successful PTA year!

Nassau Region Director regiondirector@nassauppta.org

Need help running your PTA? This link will take you to NYS PTA's helpful information: [<https://nyspta.org/home/pta-leaders/run-your-pta/>](https://nyspta.org/home/pta-leaders/run-your-pta/)

Legislation Resolutions *June Innella*

As we enter a new school year, let us not forget the reason we are involved in PTA. Advocacy! PTA members advocate for the best possible education and the care and protection of children and youth. How do we do this? by adopting resolutions and developing policies at the National PTA level and having state, region, and local PTAs' voices in what is needed for our children and youth.

What is a resolution? It is an affirmation of a position. There are two documents that help every PTA member become familiar with NYS PTA policies and resolutions. They are [NYS PTA Basic Policy](#) and [Where We Stand](#).

Resolutions at the state PTA level are voted upon by member delegates. They are confirmed, updated, retained, or rescinded each year at the annual convention. At the [123rd NYS PTA Annual Convention](#), to be held in Tarrytown, NY, twenty-two resolutions will be presented for consideration.

As we await the information on resolutions for the 2019-2020 school year, let us keep this date in mind — Thursday, September 26, 2019. It is the date for the Nassau Region PTA Resolutions Advocacy Workshop where we discuss the proposed resolutions.

Ask questions, gain knowledge, and find out how we can advocate for our children and youth.



Arts-in Education, Kathy Paulis

Our 2020 Arts-in-Education Showcase to be presented next spring is an opportunity to connect artists with PTAs and expand quality arts programs for the children in our schools. The purpose is to encourage the creative behavior and conceptual development of children through the arts to emphasize the value of visual learning in all curricular areas, to provide the support for classroom teachers, art teachers, librarians, school administrators and arts advocates.

Is your school arts program (music, art, drama, dance, etc.) as strong as it can be? Consider meeting with your principal or teachers of the arts to see what PTA can do to support an effective arts curriculum.

Please watch for our Save the Date flyer in the near future.

Membership, Andrea Giattini

Welcome to the 2019 2020 school year! Membership kicks off its year with the Early Bird Award and the chance to win one of three PTA tablecloths personalized with your PTA name. The NYS PTA Early Bird award requires Units to achieve 60% of their Membership Goal by September 30, 2019. Make sure you promote membership in your Units and enter your members and payments by September 30th to be eligible. Good luck!

The second Membership contest from October to December is the New Region Membership Olympics. The Region with the highest membership to overall region goal percentage will achieve a Gold Medal. There will also be monthly scholarship awards to winning Regions. Let us make Nassau Region a Gold Medal Region!

Here are some helpful links to promote Membership:

- NYS PTA Membership Toolkit: <https://nyspta.org/home/membership/membershiptoolkit/>
- National PTA Membership Toolkit: <http://www.ptakit.org/>

Plan to attend Fall Conference

The tentative date is Nov. 28.

The location is to be announced

The workshops will include:

PARP

Bylaws

MemberHub

Secretary 101

Filing Your 990

Reflections: Soup to Nuts

Reinstatement (by invitation only)



- **Sept. 26 - Resolutions Advocacy Workshop**
- **Oct. 3 - Presidents' Rap**
- **Oct. 7 - LINY AIP Parliamentary Conference Dinner**
- **Nov. 8-10 - 123rd NYS PTA Convention in Tarrytown, NY. Do you plan to attend?**
- **<https://nyspta.org/home/events/convention/>**
- **Tentative Date Oct. 28 Fall Conference**
- **Nov. 19 - Presidents/Principals Dinner**
- **Dec. 2-3 - Reflections Drop Off**

Family Engagement and Partnerships. Krista Taormina

When looking at the big picture, what is family engagement and are we all engaged? As a community, are we working together? This is where family engagement and partnerships come into play. Family engagement should not be confused solely with involvement.

Family engagement is a critical part of all units. What can we do to keep everyone connected? What steps can we take to make ALL MEANS ALL become a reality? There are so many ways to engage our units; here are just a few. Welcome your members with a smile.

- Ask all members their opinions, and let them know that they matter.
- Solicit how your unit helps improve your child's life.

While on my own journey of learning about family engagement, I was told a story about cup cakes. There were two moms who always made cupcakes for events. One mom spends her time fussing over the cupcakes. Making them by herself, she buys the ingredients, bakes the cupcakes, and tops them with decadent fondant decor. The other mom finds herself racing down the aisles to grab the eggs and boxed cake mix as the store is closing. Panicked and short on time, she asks the entire family to chip in. Finally, by 11:00 p.m., the cupcakes are mediocre -- the frosting is everywhere and the bottoms are a little burnt, but she did it. Both moms were involved in helping the PTA by making cupcakes, but only one demonstrates engaging others. There is no sure way to being perfectly engaged. Think of how much you can really learn by understanding ways to engage families in your very own PTA community.



**2019 STEM + Families Science Festival Grant,
Sponsored by Bayer**

July 10 - September 11, 2019

Apply now through Sept. 8 for the National PTA STEM + Families Science Festival Grant, sponsored by Bayer.

Your PTA could be:

- One of 30 local PTAs to receive \$1,000 plus \$250 for supplies to host a STEM + Families Science Festival
- One of five State/District/Council/Region PTAs to receive \$3,000 plus \$500 for supplies to host two STEM + Families Science Festivals
- One of 10 elementary and middle school Renewal PTAs to receive \$500 to host a STEM + Families Science Festival\

**2019 STEM + Families Math Night Grant,
Sponsored by Mathnasium**

July 10 - September 11, 2019

Apply now through Sept. 8 for a National PTA STEM + Families Math Night grant, sponsored by Mathnasium.

You could be one of 35 local PTAs to receive \$1,000 to host a STEM + Families Math Night, plus a connection to your local Mathnasium franchise, who will help you run the event. This program is best suited for elementary school students. (Pre-K through sixth-grade).

This is the link to available **Grant Opportunities** <https://www.pta.org/home/programs/stem/STEM-Families-Grant-Opportunities>

f Find us on FaceBook—Nassau Region PTA
www.nassaupta.org

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