

Council Connections

Parents, Teachers, All of Us

Message from Our Council President

A new year of a new decade has just begun! Happy 2020!!

What will 2020 bring to us? We may not know that, but we know what WE will bring to 2020 - for our PTAs - our super awesome, unstoppable, loving, caring PTA spirit - which no matter the challenges, will **always deliver towards making EVERY child's potential a reality! We are after all our children's first heroes!** Our influence matters! And so does our hope and faith!

The same age-old magnificent PTA spirit which brought us till here! With our big dreams for the future, sometimes our successes may look smaller, but they are hard earned and worth every bit of celebration. So as we stand halfway in this school year, do take time to look back and give yourself a well deserved pat of your back! YOU ARE AWESOME! Know that your dedication and service is shaping the future!!

We know you all have the BEST plans for 2020! And we must!!! ALL of our children are counting on us!! It will not be quick and easy, but we are all in this together. Let us find opportunities to get together more often, share our experiences, join hands, and make things happen! Your Council Team is planning for events conducive for the same and we would love to hear from each of you!!

Our diverse community has each PTA equipped with their own unique strengths. So while the needs and weaknesses often scream the loudest, let us start with our strengths! Let us use our strengths to fill in the gaps. No matter how diverse, we are a PTA - an entire commYOUity - of parents, teachers, students, community members, all of us together!!! Let us identify, build, and reinforce partnerships that can make us all stronger, more equipped to ensure a brighter, safer and healthier future for all of our stakeholders!

Thank you so much for all you do!
Let us ROCK 2020!!

-Snehal Phirke
President, RRISD Council of PTAs

**THANK YOU TO OUR
DELEGATE
LUNCHEON MEETING
SPONSOR**

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Council PTA Executive Board Roster
Council PTA Officer Local Unit Assign-
Message from District Leadership
Council PTA Highlights
Local PTA/PTSA News & Spotlights
RRISD PTA Partnerships

RRISD Community Members
Texas PTA News & Tips
National PTA News & Tips
PTA Member Benefits

StDavid's | **ROUND ROCK
MEDICAL CENTER**

2019-20 Council PTA Executive Board Roster

President	Snehal Phirke	president@rrisdpta.org
1st VP of Membership	Shawn Dempsey	membership@rrisdpta.org
2nd VP of Training	Dawn Watson	training@rrisdpta.org
3rd VP of Communications	Jill Strode	communications@rrisdpta.org
4th VP of Hospitality	Melissa Schmalbach	hospitality@rrisdpta.org
Treasurer	Liz Cantrell	treasurer@rrisdpta.org
Secretary	LaKissa Bright	secretary@rrisdpta.org
Parliamentarian	Jenn Griffith	parliamentarian@rrisdpta.org
COMMITTEE CHAIRS		
Clothes Closet Chair	Cecelia Zapalac	clothescloset@rrisdpta.org
DADS (Dads of Amazing Daughters/Sons)	Randall Goltzman	DADS@rrisdpta.org
Diversity	Estevan Zarate	diversity@rrisdpta.org
Healthy Lifestyles	Kristen Hullum	healthylifestyles@rrisdpta.org
Parent Programs	Melissa Hoskins	parentprograms@rrisdpta.org
Philanthropy	Jerry Vasquez	philanthropy@rrisdpta.org
Reflections/Arts in Education	Monica Welch	reflections@rrisdpta.org
Senior Scholarships	Edward Hanna	scholarships@rrisdpta.org
COMMUNICATIONS		
Directory	Beth Fitzmaurice	directory@rrisdpta.org
Newsletter	Sara Gandaria-Escamilla	newsletter@rrisdpta.org
Webmaster	Michele Chan-Thomson	webmaster@rrisdpta.org
National PTA Liaison	Heidi Schoenberger-Cobert	PTALiaison@rrisdpta.org
HOSPITALITY		
Decorations Chair	Lori Cortez	decorations@rrisdpta.org
RRISD & PARTNERSHIPS		
Superintendent	Dr. Steve Flores	superintendent_rrisd@roundrockisd.org
Business Partner	Jessica Mosman	businesspartner@rrisdpta.org
Community Partnership Sup	Rachael Sefton	rachael_sefton@roundrockisd.org
Coordinator, Title 1 Parent Programs	Sibyl Lee	sibyl_lee@roundrockisd.org
PIE Foundation	Marianne Reap	marianne_reap@rriseducationfoundation.org
Legislative Chair	Sandi Bone	legislative@rrisdpta.org
Round Rock Chamber of Commerce	Amy Mizcles	amizcles@roundrockchamber.org

2019-20 Council PTA Officer Assignments

Have a question? Need Some help? We are here for you!

Shawn Dempsey, 1st VP Membership
membership@rrisdtpa.org 616-272-9783

[Anderson Mill](#)

Cedar Valley MS

Cedar Ridge HS

Deep Wood

Early College HS

Hopewell MS

[Joe Lee Johnson](#)

[Robertson](#)

Dawn Watson, 2nd VP Training
training@rrisdtpa.org 512/415-7090

Blackland Prairie

Pearson Ranch MS

[Double File Trail](#)

Great Oaks

Kathy Caraway

Old Town

[Union Hill](#)

Westwood HS

Jill Strode, 3rd VP Communications
communications@rrisdtpa.org, 512/423-4741

[Bluebonnet](#)

Chandler Oaks

[Deerpark](#)

Herrington

Pond Springs

Round Rock HS

Walsh MS

[Wells Branch](#)

Melissa Schmalbach , 4th VP Hospitality
hospitality@rrisdtpa.org

[Caldwell Heights](#)

Chisholm Trail

[Gattis](#)

GOALS

Laurel Mountain

Spicewood

Liz Cantrell, Treasurer
treasurer@rrisdtpa.org 512-809-6282

[Berkman](#)

Cactus Ranch

Canyon Vista

[CD Fulkes MS](#)

Jollyville

Noel Grisham MS

Patsy Sommer

Stony Point HS

Lakissa Bright, Secretary
secretary@rrisdtpa.org , 303-827-1778

Brushy Creek

Canyon Creek

Fern Bluff

[Forest North](#)

McNeil HS

Purple Sage

Ridgeview MS

[Voigt](#)

Jenn Griffith, Parliamentarian
parliamentarian@rrisdtpa.org , 512-970-5130

[Callison](#)

Elsa England

Forest Creek

[Hernandez MS](#)

[Live Oak](#)

SUCCESS HS

Teravista

RROC



COUNCIL PTA PRIORITIES

1 Support Local PTA Leaders

#2 Conduct Business of the Council PTA

#3 Promote PTA

[BLUE](#) = Title 1 Campus

Message from District Leadership

RRISD Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Steve Flores



New. Year. Think about it, we can all do something about the “new” but nothing about the “year!” For each of us, it’s 2020. So what’s new with you? A resolution? A word? A relationship? A friend? My hope is that each has experienced a renewed start! And, if you haven’t yet, I challenge you to do so by the end of this month. Grabbing hold of those who lift your spirit is a chance for an amazing renewal. So is releasing, or letting go, of those who may be keeping you from your best self. One is easier than the other, however, both might be necessary. A new year affords us the luxury of now, rather than someday. (Remember that Someday is not a day of the week!)

Each year at this time, I choose and share with others my “one word” for the year. The “one word” movement encourages us to select a word as a theme for the year, instead of setting a new year’s resolution which is often about breaking a bad habit or changing a single behavior. Selecting a word to govern us day-to-day provides more of a focus on character and can permeate every action we take.

This year, my word is “stretch.” It first came to mind in the most literal sense. I work out every morning. My time at the gym, early before the sun is up, is good for my body, mind and soul. I gather my thoughts for the day as I exercise and enjoy the opportunity to do something just for me before the demands of the day begin. But one thing I don’t do is stretch. Not before. Not after. As a former athlete and coach, I know as well as anyone that stretching helps warm your body up for exercise and prevents injuries. And stretching after exercise helps you improve your flexibility long term and lower your heart rate as your body cools down from activity. But because of my impatient nature, I HATE to stop and stretch. I want to dive right in and get to the “good” part, get it done and get out! But, as my wife likes to remind me, I’m not getting any younger. If I want to stay healthy and injury-free, able to get on the floor and play with my new granddaughter (due any minute now!) stretching is important.



Message from District Leadership

RRISD Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Steve Flores



ROUND ROCK
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

(Continued)

But it's not only our muscles and ligaments we should be stretching. What about our minds? Our experiences? Literally, the word stretch means to "be made or be capable of being made longer or wider without tearing or breaking." As I work this year to stretch my body, I also want to find ways to expand my mind. How? By feeding it a steady diet of great literature, interesting nonfiction, and time for meditation. By seeking new adventures and discovering new places. I also want to stretch my capacity for helping others. For walking a mile in their shoes. For getting out of my comfort zone.

As PTA leaders, you all do that every day and I can't thank you enough for it. Your dedication to ALL students is an important component in making Round Rock ISD the world-class, destination district it is.

As we all work to continuously improve Round Rock ISD, I hope you will help spread the word about our upcoming boundary hearings across the District. The Board of Trustees will be considering boundary adjustments to create a boundary for our newest elementary school, scheduled to open in Fall 2021, and to help balance population at crowded campuses, as well as create feeder patterns that allow students to stay with their peers as they progress from elementary to middle to high schools. The boundary hearings will begin at 6 p.m. at the following locations:

England Elementary: Tuesday, January 21
Herrington Elementary: Wednesday, January 22
C.D. Fulkes Middle: Thursday, January 23
Caraway Elementary: Monday, January 27
Joe Lee Johnson Elementary: Tuesday, January 28

The Board will hold a workshop in early February for discussion and more public input and are scheduled to vote on the changes at its February 20 regular meeting. Please help us spread the word so we can benefit from the voice of the community.

Thanks for all you do and Happy New Year!



Message from District Leadership

RRISD Board of Trustees

Amy Weir, Board President, Place 5



Happy 2020! I feel so very privileged to be elected President of the RRISD Board of Trustees this past December. I am excited to serve alongside Steve Math, as Vice President and Amber Feller, as Secretary.

The board has a very busy Spring ahead. The first major order of business is discussing boundaries. We have several schools facing severe overcrowding. Some overcrowding will be alleviated by the opening of elementary #35 for the 2021-22 school year. But other overcrowding issues require that we consider new boundaries. To that end, we will be having public forums in the coming weeks. The Board is aware that there are other areas and schools that need to be reviewed to ease overcrowding. I hope this will be the first round as we start to better utilize the facilities around the district. More information can be found here: <https://news.roundrockisd.org/2020/01/08/board-of-trustees-establishes-plan-to-review-boundaries/>

The board will also be working on safety and security for the district. Our current contracts for School Resource Officer (SRO) providers are coming to an end next school year. The board had requested that Williamson County take over all the SRO responsibilities for the district, but the Williamson County Commissioners declined to discuss or consider an extension of our contract with the Sheriff's office. The district is now pursuing our own options for safety and security based on the recommendations of the Safety Task Force. That presentation was September 9th and is online for review. <https://roundrockisdtx.swagit.com/play/09092019-1013>

The board is continuing to implement the Lone Star Governance recommendations and work with our TEA coach to improve student outcomes. We are excited to implement 2-way forums this Spring to promote better communication. Currently, the public and parents have limited ability to engage in a 2-way dialogue with the board, only emails or public testimony for 3 minutes at board meetings. Starting in 2020, the board and staff will have town hall style public meetings. These meetings will enable real 2-way, back and forth, dialogue between parents/public and the board/district staff. We are excited about this change and are hopeful that being able to dialogue with the community on our district goals and implementation strategies will improve outcomes for all our students.

Thank you to all the PTAs for your support and commitment to our students and community.

Council PTA News

The 2019-20 RRISD Council of PTAs Delegate Luncheon Meetings

Mar. 24, 2020

Apr. 23, 2020

11:00am-1:00pm

**Round Rock Sports Complex
400 Chisholm Trail, Round Rock, TX 78681**

**Questions? Contact Council VP of Hospitality at hospitality@rrisdpta.org,
or Council President, at president@rrisdpta.org.**

COUNCIL CONNECTIONS NEWSLETTER

PTA leaders, Principals, District Leadership, District Partners, Business and Community PTA members, are all encouraged to submit a written contribution to our Council Connections Newsletter.

If you would like to be included, email a brief, 1/4 page length, article to the Council Connections PTA Newsletter Editor, Sara Gandaría-Escamilla at newsletter@rrisdpta.org

A hard copy of the newsletter is distributed at each Delegate Luncheon Meeting and sent electronically to all executive board members whose names have been uploaded to Texas PTA Two Step. During the months when we do not have a Delegate Luncheon Meeting, a digital edition will be published and distributed by email.

Next submission deadline is: Friday, March 6th, 2020

Stay Connected with your RRISD Council of PTAs



Website: <http://rrisdpta.org>



Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/RRISDPTA>



Twitter: <https://twitter.com/RRISDPTA>



Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/rrisdpta/>

Council PTA Highlights

Stop the Bleed in Schools

By Kristen Hullum, MSN, RN

Healthy Lifestyles Chair

RRISD Council of PTAs

As we watch the news every day, there always seems to be another mass casualty incident – another episode of violence in schools. But, did you know that your child is much more likely to sustain an injury completely unrelated to violence? Injuries are more likely to be caused by the accident on the playground, a broken arm or leg in sports, a child hit by a car while walking or biking to school, or a slip-up in woodshop, culinary arts, or automotive class. Regardless of the cause, the most common cause of death due to traumatic injuries is uncontrolled blood loss.

In the most severe injury with hemorrhage, it only takes a victim about 2-3 minutes to bleed out and significantly decrease their chances of survival. The average response time of EMS to arrive on scene is approximately 6-10 minutes, depending on location and whether the scene is safe for them to render aid to victims. It's easy to see the gap – EMS could potentially arrive on scene after a victim has already lost too much blood to save. BUT, what if bystanders were trained to provide life-saving skills and bridge the gap until EMS could get to the patient?

Bleeding control programs, like Stop the Bleed, teach laypeople how to apply tourniquets, pack wounds, perform direct pressure, and apply chest seals – all with the goal of saving lives until EMS can arrive and provide professional healthcare services.

Texas recently passed HB 496, which requires that every public school and public charter school create a Trauma Response Protocol, train staff, as well as students in 7th-12th grade, and install bleeding control stations with proper equipment. St. David's Healthcare and local EMS organizations have been working closely with school district health professionals to train them on this program. Everyone who completes the program will have the opportunity to practice these hands-on skills.

(Kristen is the Trauma Injury Prevention Coordinator at St. David's Round Rock Medical Center)

Because Family Engagement Makes a Difference!

By Randall Goltzman

D.A.D.S Chair

RRISD Council of PTAs

It's time for your Watch D.O.G.s Spring Launch Event. This is your chance to give your D.O.G.S. a chance to sign up for a day! It will be the first time for some and a second day for many.

Be creative and relentless when promoting your launch event. The school marquee, group phone messaging (voice and text), social media, teacher's newsletter, flyers, posters, and emails are just a few ideas. Heck, use skywriting if you have an airplane.

Utilize the launch event materials provided in your Implementation Guide. Email me if you have questions about your Spring Launch Event materials or where to locate them.

Play this video:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/17nGshxo4BoPDQLNE9BYx5IaRy74NKM1I/view> during your Spring Launch Event or pick one or two awesome videos from here: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQvDaxI71yZz_Wbaq2SkOSw

Be sure you have the necessary resources: Master Calendar, Line Up Sign Up Stickers, Dog Tags, Great Student Stickers, Pencils, Bookmarks, etc. which can all be found at the DOGSTORE:

<https://dadsofgreatstudents.com/schools>

Encourage your D.O.G.S. to order their shirts in time to serve, or you can order a few Shirt Packs and have plenty on hand for them to purchase.

For questions or help getting started email me at: DADS@rrisdpta.org



Council PTA Highlights

Reflections Awards Ceremony

By Monica Welch,
Reflections Chair, RRISD Council of PTAS

Congratulations to the students from across the district who created 444 entries for the Council Level Reflections event!

Every student with an entry at the Council level and their support teams (parents, principals, art teachers, etc) - are invited to the:

**Council Awards Ceremony
Cedar Ridge PAC
Monday, February 10th
7pm**

Each student will walk across the stage and receive their award. Light refreshments will follow the ceremony. We look forward to honoring you and your creative hard work!

Scholarship Opportunity Available

By Edward Hanna
Scholarship Chair, RRISD Council of PTAS

As we move into the second half of the year let's not forget to encourage our seniors to apply for the Noel Grisham Scholarship. The scholarship will be available on multiple sites including but not limited to the Round Rock Council of PTA's and Round Rock Partners In Education



websites. The deadline to apply is March 30, 2020. Please be sure to share the following link:

<http://rrisd.council.my-pta.org/Content.asp?PageID=2&ContentIndex=53>

Are you Registered to Vote?

By Sandi Bone
Legislative Chair, RRISD Council of PTAS

Election Day is coming up fast and the last day to register to vote in the March 3 Primary Election is Monday, February 3. Please make sure you are registered to vote!

The Texas Legislature isn't in session this year but Bills passed last year continue to come into effect. Part of House Bill 3 regarding the state's registry cataloging people who are not eligible to be hired by a Texas public school is now live. The 86th Texas Legislature passed House Bill 3 in order to "further protect the safety and welfare of Texas students." The registry, which is available to both public and private schools, will list individuals who are not eligible for hire in a Texas public school based on misconduct or criminal history. The bill also requires schools to report certain allegations of misconduct against non-certified employees. The registry will be available to schools at first, with public access coming in April from the Texas Education Agency.

Thank you to the following businesses for being a part of the Health and Wellness Vendor Fair at the January Delegate Luncheon

American Foundation for Suicide Prevention

Andrew's Choice

Bliss Kid Yoga

Colin's Hope

Día de los Niños Spanish Enrichment

EPIC Entertainment

Girl Scouts of Central Texas

Neurobehavioral Institute of Austin

One of the Kids

VELA

Wonders & Worries

...and more

Council PTA Highlights

Training Events Coming Soon

FINANCIAL RECONCILIATION SPOTLIGHT

Monday, January 27, 11:30am to 1:00pm,
District Admin - OLD HOPEWELL BLDG

NOMINATING COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHT

Date TBD (early February)

This training will help you get a head start on being prepared on the formation of your PTAs Nominating Committee. Presidents and parliamentarians are encouraged to attend. We will review the Nominating Committee packet, learn about what you can and cannot do, the importance of this committee charter in searching for your PTAs future leaders and how you as the President run the election.

FLO II

Date TBD (late February)

Stay tuned for an upcoming FLO II training date in late February. Check in with your board members to see who still has to take this Texas PTA required training.

We are currently working on a spreadsheet that lists by PTA, which training/s your executive board members have taken. Currently the records go back to 2017. Please keep a copy for your training records that are pertinent to your PTA and give a copy to your PTA Secretary.

As always, should you have any questions or concerns, or have recommendations for a workshop, lunch & learn, training or roundtable, please Council VP Training Dawn Watson at training@rrisdpta.org



School Board
Recognition Month 2020

**Thank you to our
RRISD School Board
for all that they do for our district!**

It's PTA Election Season Time

Schedule your membership meetings appropriately and nominate an Election Nominating Committee in compliance with your bylaws. Any

member of your PTA may be nominated and elected to this committee, excluding the current president.

No one automatically serves as a committee member or alternate because of their position or title, including the principal.

No person can serve on the nominating committee for two consecutive years.

Select a Chair: A chair is selected by the committee immediately following the Membership Meeting.

Nominating Committee Meeting: The meeting may be conducted if a majority of the committee is present. (If a committee member cannot attend the meeting, notify the alternate. If another committee meeting is called, that alternate member will continue to serve on the committee and the original member does not return.)

Responsibilities of Committee: Treat all candidates in a fair and consistent manner and make all decisions by ballot or majority vote. For questions about the process please email Jenn Griffith at Parliamentarian@rrisdpta.org



Suggested Qualifications to Serve on a PTA Board

- ✓ Knowledgeable about and adheres to the Vision, Mission, Purposes and basic policies of PTA.
- ✓ Willing to attend continuing training for PTA.
- ✓ Willing to make PTA a high priority in his or her schedule.
- ✓ Prior experience in either PTA or other organizational work.
- ✓ Is ethical and has a sense of justice and fairness.
- ✓ Exhibits enthusiasm for PTA.

Council PTA Highlights

New Year, New Members

By Shawn Dempsey
VP of Membership, RRISD Council of PTAs

Welcome to the new decade, friends! It's time to bring in the new.



This month, Texas PTA challenges

you to add 10 new members and submit your roster by Jan. 31 to win the Welcome Back Award. It's a lot tougher to add members as the school year goes on. Please make sure that when your PTA offers a program or supports a school activity that you include your PTA branding. It's never too late in the year to show the value your PTA brings and to use that value to attract new members.

As you all know, PTave has been retired. The new free membership tracking system offered by Texas PTA is PTAEZ. Watch for emails soon on how to set up your account if you haven't already. Also, think about signing your PTA up with JoinPTA.org. It's free, and instead of you sending names and money to Texas PTA, Texas PTA will send names and money to you! Plus, if you plan to use the free PTAEZ, names will go directly to your roster.

PTA research shows that the top reason people don't join PTA is because they weren't asked. I hope you resolve this year to remember to ask people to join and help Back the Future on your campus!

Have you joined the private
RRISD PTA Facebook
Group?

Find it by searching:
RRISD Local PTA
Board Q&A

It's a great place to share
ideas and ask questions.

Congratulations to

*Blackland Prairie Elementary
Canyon Creek Elementary
Round Rock Opportunity Center*

**For earning the
Voice for Every Child Award**



Clothes Closet

Anderson Mill Elementary
Tuesdays
10AM-noon.

Voigt Elementary
Tuesdays and Wednesdays
9:30-11:30AM.

Volunteers are always welcome and donations of clean, gently used clothes are always appreciated and needed.

If you would like more information about volunteering at or donating to the Clothes Closet, please contact Cecelia Zapalac at clothescloset@rrisdpta.org

Council PTA Highlights



CALLING ALL STUDENTS

Help us teach others about poison prevention!

1st (\$150), 2nd (\$100) and 3rd (\$50) place gift card.
Prizes will be awarded during National Poison
Prevention Week March 15-21, 2020.

To find out more, be sure to read the contest rules at
<http://www.poisoncontrol.org/videocontest/>

Your finished video must be uploaded to Facebook
with the tag @TexasPoisonCenterNetwork no later
than Monday, February 17th, 2020.

Have a question?
Email poisoneducation@phhs.org
or call 214.590.9016.



**Noel Grisham
Middle School
PTA**



Please Consider Becoming a PTA CommYOUunity Member



As a PTA Community Member, your generosity and dedication to education sets you apart through your significant commitment to RRISD and more than 51,000 students.

Partner with us in achieving PTA's mission to *"make each child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children!"*

As a RRISD Community Member, you will be recognized with a certificate to proudly hang in your home, office or business; a window decal for your car or business window, and acknowledgement on our [RRISD Council of PTAs website](http://www.rrisd.org/PTAs).

Local PTA News/Spotlights

Caldwell Heights PTA

- In November we provided a full sized dessert to every staff member on campus to enjoy over Thanksgiving Break.
- In December we hosted our own Holiday Store, every student got to shop. We also designed and sold school shirts for the 2019-20 school year. On January 6th we welcomed our teachers and staff back to campus with a Soup and Pizza Lunch in a combination of homemade soups and a Partnership with Pizza Delight.
- We have continued to work towards our goal of having a stocked snack pantry for teachers to get snacks for kids who don't bring them to school. We received donations from two area churches over the last couple of months.

Callison PTA

- We will be hosting a "Soup for you Soul" for our teachers in January.
- Our VP of Events is in full swing starting to plan our Family Sweetheart Dance in February

Canyon Creek PTA

- Our PTA participated in the Operation Turkey donation drive to provide Thanksgiving meals to Austin families. Our CCE community raised \$2,375, providing meals to feed 950 families. According to the PTA lead for this service project, we surpassed our donations for the 4th year in a row,.
- CCE PTA participated in the Travis County Brown Santa community service program. Brown Santa provides assistance to underprivileged children and their families and senior residents of local retirement centers in Travis County. We collected 2 barrels of new, unwrapped toys and unopened perishable food donations.
- We participated in Coats for Kids to benefit the district Clothes Closet. Our Service Project Chair facilitated the request, pickup and delivery of over

250 coats from the Junior League of Austin. The coats were delivered to the Clothes Closet on Anderson Mill. We also collected gently used coats from our CCE community and delivered to the Clothes Closet.

- In December our CCE Parents provided a wide variety of cookies, pastries and baked goodies for our Teachers and Staff to take home and enjoy for the holidays.
- During the Fall Semester we also hosted 2 themed luncheons for our Faculty and Staff. This January we will host a Super Bowl theme luncheon
- CCE PTA participated in the Reflections program, with 7 entries submitted to Regional level. 3 Received Award of Excellence, 2 Award of Merit, and 2 Honorable Mention
- We look forward to all that we will be doing this Spring semester. Chess Club and Mandarin Club classes begins in January along with the Science Fair and Geography Bee competitions. The Multicultural Fair will be in February. Our Family Fun night in March will be a Magic Show. We will also be hosting a Family Work out Day in March
- Our PTA will continue to sponsor: Math Pentathlon, Runners Club, Watch Dogs, Library Support, Sponsorship Drive, Bi-weekly CCE PTA Newsletter, Website updates, Destination Imagination, Watch D.O.G.S., and more. We will also continue to support our Faculty and Staff with classroom enrichment and other needs.



Local PTA News/Spotlights

Chandler Oaks PTA

- Chandler Oaks PTA is ready for another fun and successful semester.
- COE PTA kicked off our Spring Teacher Mini Grant program this week. We are excited to purchase innovative and unique items for our amazing teachers and students. We will announce our winners next month.
- We are looking forward to our exciting events we have planned this semester including our family movie night, talent show, school carnival, and so much more.

Cedar Ridge PTSA

- We started off the semester by hosting an appreciation breakfast for teachers and staff from Cedar Ridge, C.D. Fulkes and Ridgeview during staff development.
- We are excited about our upcoming New Year, New You Wellness Event on January 22. Families from our learning community have been invited to attend this meaningful event. We will have local businesses and organizations providing tips on how to make healthier choices. Some will offer health screenings and exams and others will provide demonstrations. We will also have a farmers market with a variety of vendors. There will be something for everyone.
- We will form our scholarship committee and send out the online application to seniors this week. We will give at least two \$500 scholarships to seniors who display qualities of leadership and excellence through academics, athletics, community service and/or volunteerism.
- We are looking forward to meeting and welcoming our incoming freshman Raiders in February.
- We will form our nominating committee in February and hold our election April.
- We are looking forward to the remaining half of the school year - we know it will fly by.

January-March Observances

January

1/20 MLK Day- No School
1/23 Handwriting Day
1/30 Thank Your Mentor Day
1/31 100 Days of School
National School Board Member Month
Blood Donor Month
National Mentoring Month

February

2/11 Safer Internet Day
2/17- President's Day- No School
2/18- Staff Development Day- No School
2/2-2/8 National Burn Awareness Week
2/3-2/7 National School Counseling Week
2/10-2/14 National School Crossing Guard Appreciation Week
2/16-2/21 Random Acts of Kindness Week
2/16-2/23 National PTA's Take Your Family to School Week
2/23-3/1 National Eating Disorder Week
2/24-2/28 Public Schools Week
American Heart Association Month
Black History Month
Financial Aid Awareness Month
Career and Technical Education Month

March

3/2 Read Across America Day
3/3 Election Day
3/8 International Women's Day
3/8 Daylight Savings Time Begins
3/13 Good Samaritan Day
3/14 Pi Day
3/16-3/20 Spring Break- No School
3/16-3/22 National Poison Prevention Week
3/30-4/5 National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week
Brain Injury Awareness Month



Local PTA News/Spotlights

Stony Point HS PTSA

- Stony Point PTSA continued to emphasize student volunteerism, fundraising and showing appreciation for our students and teachers/administration/staff.
- Isabel Johns led the Tiger in Service Clinic/Update with the student body in the SPHS cafeteria
- In early December, we hosted a successful fundraising night at Chipotle in Round Rock in the University Oaks shopping center
- We participated in the annual Teacher Gala which is designed to show continued appreciation for the great work the teachers/ administration/support functional groups provide the Round Rock Community
- Lastly, we awarded a grant for IB students to participate in a Field Trip to National Museum of the Pacific War
- In late January or early February, we will hold a General meeting with the PTA membership
- We look forward to participating in "Future Tiger Night" in which 8th grade middle school students make the first visit to Stony Point.

Westwood HS PTSA

- Before the holidays, the Westwood PTSA sponsored a gingerbread house making period for students as a way to take a break from the rigor of their studies.
- Our PTSA also provided cookies, hot cocoa and coffee for the teachers and staff after finals ended. During the cookies, cocoa and coffee, the Westwood choir surprised us with a performance.
- On January 7, before the return of students, we provided cookies and snacks to the teachers doing district training at Westwood.
- On February 6 at 6pm, we will be hosting a showing of the documentary "Angst" (thanks to a grant from the PIE Foundation). The public is welcome to attend. The movie begins at 6:30 and is followed by discussions by two experts on anxiety.
- On March 2 at 7pm, the Westwood PTSA in partnership with our feeder PTAs will be showing Screenagers.



Movie Screening Followed by Discussion

Westwood HS

Thursday, February 6, 2020

6:30 pm

Suitable for anyone 10 and up

Angst is a 56-minute film that explores anxiety, its causes, effects and what we can do about it. The filmmakers' goal is to have a global conversation and raise awareness around anxiety. Angst features candid interviews with kids and young adults who suffer, or have suffered, from anxiety and what they've learned about it. The film includes discussions with mental health experts about the causes of anxiety and its sociological effects, as well as help, resources and tools. We hope through this screening we can bring kids, parents, and educators together to talk about this universal issue, share personal stories, and provide resources and tools. Following the film we will have Dr. Whitney Wheeler and Dr. Diana Damer of Anxiety Treatment Center of Austin speak to the audience.

RRISD PTA Partners

School Health Advisory Board:

Hosts 2nd Annual Walk

By Amy Grosso, PhD

Coordinator of Future Readiness

Two years ago, the Student Advisory Board held the first every AFSP Campus Walk. They wanted to bring awareness to mental health and suicide. It was a great event reflecting hope and community. The money raised from the walk was reinvested back in the district through professional development, specifically Mental Health First Aid – Youth.

For the second year, the School Health Advisory Council will host the walk. Join us at Stony Point High School on April 18 9:00 am. There is no cost to register, but you can fundraise. Walk as an individual, or form a team and recruit others to join! All information can be found at: <https://afsp.org/roundrockisd>. If you have questions please contact Amy Grosso, amy_grosso@roundrockisd.org or 512-464-5976.



Prevent suicide at Round Rock ISD

4/18/2020
Stony Point High School
Register at afsp.org/roundrockisd



WIN CASH FOR YOUR PTA/CAMPUS

HOW: Build the **BEST** Gift Basket to auction off at the 2020 Partners in Education Foundation Gala presented by St. David's Round Rock Medical Center. A panel of judges will determine which campus built the best basket based on **Creativity & Appearance**.

WHEN: Entries must be delivered to the RRISD PIEF office by **Friday, January 31, 2020**. Please include the form with the delivery of your basket so we know the items included and value.

595 Round Rock West Dr, Suite 404

Round Rock, TX 78681

Contact Melissa Schmalbach at (512) 464-5600 or Melissa_Schmalbach@rrisdeducationfoundation.org with any questions. Thank you for your support!



RRISD PTA Partners



Attention all Round Rock ISD teachers and staff, RRISD Partners in Education Foundation Excellence in Education Grants are now open. There is \$125,000 available to enhance education in the classroom on your campus or department.

Apply here:

<https://www.rrisdeducationfoundation.org/excellence-in-education-grants>

Deadline is June 5th, and more details available to you on the link above.



2020 Summer Enrichment Fair

Saturday, February 1, 2020 12-2pm

Walsh Middle School Cafeteria

3895 Walsh Ranch Boulevard, Round Rock, TX

Enjoy hands-on fun from academic and fine arts vendors who will be on hand to share information about their local and regional summer camp programs. For more information contact Katharine Riedlinger, RRISD Enrichment Coordinator at 512-464-5081 or katharine_reidlinger@roundrockisd.org

How to Improve PSAT/SAT Scores

Tuesday, January 21, 6-7pm

Deerpark Middle School

8849 Anderson Mill Rd, Austin, TX

Learn how to access and analyze results, link our student's College Board account with Khan Academy for personalized practice targeting areas for improvement, and access other support tools and services. Registration is required. <https://roundrockisd.revtrak.net/> For more information contact Michelle Swain, Director of Advanced Academics michelle_swain@roundrockisd.org

Our January Delegate Luncheon was catered by



RRISD Parent Programs Family Engagement Working Together for Student Success

Partnering with families to strengthen the home-school connection through intentional opportunities linked to learning to support student learning.

512.464.5614
parent_programs@roundrockisd.org

Offering interactive learning for parents

English Conversation Classes
Parenting Book Studies
Early Literacy
GED
Celebration of Families - Family Resource Fair

PARENT PROGRAMS
parentprograms.roundrockisd.org

Study Skills: Organization and Notetaking

Tuesday, January 28, 6-7pm

Deerpark Middle School

8849 Anderson Mill Rd, Austin, TX

Discover the key to effective note-taking. . At this workshop, students and parents learn together. Students gain proficiency in the essential skills of organization and note-taking while parents/guardians learn how to support their students in the practice of applying these newly acquired skills. Registration is required. <https://roundrockisd.revtrak.net/> presented by Angelica Ross, RRISD Early College HS.

RRISD PTA COMMUNITY MEMBERS

On behalf of the RRISD Council of PTAs, we would like to recognize the following PTA ComYOUunity Members.

Platinum individuals and/or businesses joined EVERY PTA in RRISD.

PLATINUM PREMIER



PLATINUM PLUS



PLATINUM BASIC



Dr. Steve Flores
Superintendent, RRISD

Gold individuals or businesses joined 22 PTAs in RRISD

GOLD PREMIER

GOLD PLUS

GOLD BASIC



Silver Individuals or businesses joined 7 PTAS in RRISD

SILVER



GRADE LEVEL HS

GRADE LEVEL MS

GRADE LEVEL ELEM

Peppermint Village Gifts

FEEDER PATTERN MEMBERS

Soap Box Carwash

RRISD PTA Community Members

YOU make a DIFFERENCE in what we DO <i>Over the past 18 years, \$4.8 million has been given back to Round Rock ISD</i>	 PARTNERS IN EDUCATION FOUNDATION ROUND ROCK ISD	PROGRAMS <ul style="list-style-type: none">ScholarshipsTeacher of the YearEmployee Giving CampaignExcellence in Education Grants
	MISSION <p>The Round Rock ISD Partners in Education Foundation develops and allocates resources to the Round Rock Independent School District to enrich, enhance and maximize the quality of education for all students.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Providing Funds for innovative academic programsAcknowledging and rewarding exemplary teachingProviding an avenue for business and community members to enhance the education processPromoting public awareness and celebrating successful programs and achievement of excellence	EVENTS <ul style="list-style-type: none">Shining Stars GalaGolf TournamentBack to School Celebration ACADEMICS <ul style="list-style-type: none">STEMFestPre K Rodeo & RROCK ReadyProfessional Development
 We are ONE family.		



Host your PTA's next Spirit Night with Mr. Gatti's Pizza or at Gatti-Town!

Your Fundraiser will Receive:

- 15% of sales when you bring in \$1-\$499
- 20% of sales when you bring in \$500-\$999
- 25% of sales when you bring in \$1,000+

Gatti-town offers **food** and **fun** for your next Spirit Night!

As a proud member of the RRISD Community where our restaurants are located, Gatti's is committed to supporting neighborhood groups such as PTAs, schools, youth sports programs, religious groups and other non-profit organizations. One of our favorite ways to support the local community is through our fundraiser program.



When you host your fundraising event with your local Gatti's restaurant, we will provide you with customized digital marketing materials that can be printed or used through a digital campaign.

Contact Alicia Drewe, Director of Operations & Marketing Coordinator, to learn more or to schedule an event.
512.630.7363 cell --- 512.255.2820 office --- alicia@gattismgmtgroup.com

RRISD PTA Community Members

**Inspiring
STUDENTS
to learn.
Empowering
STUDENTS
for life.**

**ONE
FAMILY
ONE
FUTURE**



**PARTNERS IN EDUCATION
FOUNDATION**
ROUND ROCK ISD

595 Round Rock West Dr, Suite 404
Round Rock, TX 78681
(512) 464-5600
rrisdpie@rrisdeducationfoundation.org
www.rrisdeducationfoundation.org



RRISD PIE Foundation

GET INVOLVED

- Friend of the Foundation
- Partnerships
- Donate
- Volunteer

Your donation (time, treasure and talent) given to the Round Rock ISD Partners In Education Foundation provides the students, teachers and RRISD the opportunity to implement new and creative learning ideas to increase our students' knowledge!



ridiculously effective fundraising



What Sets Us Apart:

- ▶ Fitness Focus
- ▶ Leadership Development
- ▶ All Students Included
- ▶ Hassle-Free
- ▶ Local Teams
- ▶ Raises More

"In 24 years of being in education and doing EVERY SINGLE POSSIBLE fundraiser,
APEX is by far the best on so many levels!!!!

--easy for teachers, staff and PTO, and we raise significantly more with Apex--

--character education piece is invaluable and very well done--

--the physical activity aspect of it is great for this generation--

--the APEX team members are AMAZING, EMPOWERING, ENERGETIC AND WONDERFUL role models--

--the APEX team members go above and beyond for EVERYONE!"

WCHE Principal

Contact: Nathan Hesselgrave - nathanh@apexfunrun.com - 817.688.8436

RRISD PTA Community Members



KONA ICE

All across the country, Kona Ice LOVES to give back to schools, sports teams and organizations. Since our first Kona was shaved in 2007, we're proud to say we've raised over \$40 MILLION for local communities in 47 states.

And it was easy. For you. For us. Why? ...because everybody loves to experience Kona Ice almost anytime, anywhere.

We can do Fundraising, Festivals, School, Athletic Events, Corporate Events, & so much more!

This has been a Kona Ice experience. To get the full experience, ask us to come to your next event.

p. 512.850.1777
e. jhuskisson@kona-ice.com
www.kona-ice.com



Partial Hospitalization and Intensive Outpatient Programs for children and adolescents, ages 8-18 suffering from mental health and substance use issues

Call **737.215.4391** to schedule a confidential assessment or to make a referral.

We Are Available To Help 24/7.

ADULT, CHILDREN & ADOLESCENTS
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1335 East Whitestone Blvd., Suite Z200
Cedar Park, TX 78613
737.215.4397
changescedarpark.com

ADULTS
Rock Springs
700 Southeast Inner Loop
Georgetown, TX 78626
512.598.1063

RRISD PTA Community Members



Make This Their Best School Year Yet.

Give them the Mathnasium advantage

Does your child have the skills and confidence they need to succeed in school? We make it happen. Our expert instructors teach each child individually, using customized learning plans to help students thrive in the classroom and in everything they do! Contact us today to schedule a risk-free assessment.

Find your nearest center from Mathnasium.com

Centers participating: Round Rock, East Round Rock, Georgetown,
North Austin and Cedar Park

Changing Lives Through Math.™

MATHNASIUM
The Math Learning Center



Spirit Night Opportunity from CodeWizardsHQ

Student, teachers, and parents are the true essence of a school. Being an active part of your educational community creates cohesiveness and fosters student growth and development!

CodeWizardsHQ is an immediate catalyst for innovative, empowering and positive individual learner growth at each of our partner schools. This is why we love to bring Coding Spirit Night to schools. As the Language of the Future, we believe that coding should be accessible to every student in the world. Computing jobs are the #1 source of new wages in the United States, with a projected growth rate double that of all other jobs. Consider the opportunities it would create for your students when they graduate!! We are excited to currently be partnering with Walsh Middle school to host a 1-hour live, online coding workshop in which students:

Learn to Code in the Popular Programming Language Python

Get an Introduction to Real, Text Coding (no drag & drop)

Do Hands-on Coding Exercises

Evaluate whether he/she will Enjoy Learning to Code

CodeWizardsHQ nurtures curiosity and builds confidence while promoting computational thinking.

Let's get your students started today!

Sign up for your own Coding Spirit Night by visiting:
<https://codewizardshq.com/pta/>



BOOSTER THON

- ★ New pricing! Keep up to 90% of funds raised
- ★ Round Rock Schools raising more year over year
- ★ Highly customized & personalized to your school
- ★ 5 different run day experiences, 4 different pricing levels
- ★ No classroom interruptions
- ★ Most innovative pledging website in the industry

Austin GM, Cameron Sparks | camsparks@boostertthon.com | 214-406-3714 | chooseboostertthon.com





Prepackaged School Supply Programs

Custom Apparel



#1 Prepackaged School Supply Company in the U.S.

Founded & Based in Texas Since 1979.

Quality custom imprinted & embroidered apparel at great prices.

Your EPI Contact for RRISD
Yarecy Guerrero
yguerrero@educationalproducts.com
832-327-6316

www.EducationalProducts.com

RRISD PTA Community Members



Dart'em Up is the perfect solution for fundraisers, too! We give back 50% of proceeds from fundraising events. Dart'em Up has hosted dozens of fundraising Spirit Nights for PTAs across the city. Whether you're raising money for a class trip or much needed school supplies and equipment, our team will help you get closer to your goal while building stronger school and team spirit as a group.

Set up your Spirit Night today! Call us at 512-735-1919 or email me at richard@dartemup.com.

Dart'em Up is Austin's original indoor foam dart sports arena – a family-friendly place for kids and adults of all ages (5 and up) to get some exercise and battle it out! We host all kinds of gatherings – Nerf battles, parties, team building days, family fun outings, company events, and more. Our 2 large arenas are perfect for all types of Nerf battle fun – Team Elimination, Freeze Tag, Capture the Flag, and Humans vs. Zombies. Don't worry – safety is our #1 priority and we keep trained referees on staff to ensure the fun doesn't get out of hand.

Thank you, Richard McVay Owner/Director of Fun
www.dartemup.com



PARTNERS IN EDUCATION
FOUNDATION
ROUND ROCK ISD

ROUND ROCK ISD
FAMILIES IN TRANSITION
Item needed for students:
AIRBEDS

Scan the QR code to fulfill the
RRISD PIE Foundation wish list for FIT



SCAN ME

What should you say when your kid is experiencing anxiety?



Quit being dramatic
Come on, it's easy
You are being lazy
You need to toughen up
Pull yourself together
Grow up
You're crazy
Just try harder
Just wait for the real world



I see this is hard for you.
Take some time, breathe.
How can I help?
What do you need right now?
Want to talk?
I am here to listen.
I can't imagine what it is like.
You are more than your anxiety.
I will sit with you
I believe in you.

Get your Business Logo here when you Become a Business PTA Member

Contact membership@rrisdpta.org

PLATINUM	Includes all Platinum PTA Benefits AND:	Includes all Platinum Benefits AND:	Includes:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 Pg Ad in all Council Connections PTA newsletters & 10th grade ad in 3 selected RRISD PTA newsletters Logo on Council PTA Official website 8 business on desktop Advertising Agency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 Pg Ad in all Council Connections PTA newsletters Logo on all 3 Council PTA Websites Logo on all relevant Council PTA events Logo on desktop, 8th of 10th grade ad in 3 selected RRISD PTA newsletters Logo on 10th grade ad in 3 selected RRISD PTA newsletters Logo on 10th grade ad in 3 selected RRISD PTA newsletters Logo on 10th grade ad in 3 selected RRISD PTA newsletters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community membership at all 33 RRISD PTA/PTAs 5 Pg Ad in all Council Connections PTA newsletters Logo on all relevant Council PTA events Logo on desktop, 8th of 10th grade ad in 3 selected RRISD PTA newsletters Logo on 10th grade ad in 3 selected RRISD PTA newsletters Logo on 10th grade ad in 3 selected RRISD PTA newsletters Logo on 10th grade ad in 3 selected RRISD PTA newsletters
GOLD	Includes all Gold PTA Benefits AND:	Includes all Gold Benefits AND:	Includes:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 Pg Ad in all Council Connections PTA newsletters Logo on all relevant Council PTA events Logo on all relevant Council PTA events Logo on all relevant Council PTA events 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 Pg Ad in all Council Connections PTA newsletters Logo on all 3 Council PTA Websites Logo on all relevant Council PTA events Logo on desktop, 8th of 10th grade ad in 3 selected RRISD PTA newsletters Logo on 10th grade ad in 3 selected RRISD PTA newsletters Logo on 10th grade ad in 3 selected RRISD PTA newsletters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Membership at 10 RRISD PTA/PTAs that need community membership assistance 5 Pg in 3 Council Connections PTA newsletters Logo on desktop page of Council PTA website
SILVER	Choose Your Own Package	Includes:	Grade Level packages include 1 of the following:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Membership at 7 RRISD PTA/PTAs that need assistance 5 Pg Ad in 3 Council Connections PTA newsletters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Membership at 7 RRISD PTA/PTAs that need assistance 5 Pg Ad in 3 Council Connections PTA newsletters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Membership at 10 RRISD PTA/PTAs that need community membership assistance 5 Pg in 3 Council Connections PTA newsletters Logo on desktop page of Council PTA website
FEEDER PATTERN			
<p>Feeder Pattern Packages include 1 of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Membership at all PTA/PTAs in selected RRISD High School Feeder Patterns, OR Community Membership at all PTA/PTAs in selected RRISD Middle School Feeder Patterns <p>PLUS: 5 Pg Ad in 3 Council Connections PTA newsletters AND Logo on Sponsor Page of Council PTA website</p> <p>High Schools: Grade 1 of the following</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wichers: Westwood + 33 schools Tigert: Skunk Point + 13 schools Wichers: Cedar Ridge + 9 schools Mavericks: Murrell + 14 schools Dragons: Round Rock + 34 schools 			

BUSINESS PARTNERS, would you consider offering a PTA MEMBER ONLY benefit or like to reach Local PTAs through our Resource Guide? Talk to us about this opportunity!

Texas PTA News/Highlights

Stay in Touch with Texas PTA

Sign up for one or more of Texas PTA Newsletters Here:
<https://signup.e2ma.net/signup/1768473/1715664/>

- √ General Interest Texas PTA
- √ Healthy Lifestyles Newsletter
- √ The Review (Arts in Education Newsletter)
- √ Under the Dome (Legislative Newsletter)

Keep up with Texas PTA online Magazine



<https://thevoice.txpta.org/>

Two Ways to Share Your Ideas with Texas PTA

Did you know that you can share your successes with Texas PTA?

Texas PTA is proud of the amazing programs and services offered by our Local and Council PTAs throughout the state!

One of the most important benefits of PTA is access to a strong network of innovative and successful PTA Leaders, and we're excited to collect and share some of the best success stories out there.

They're all the *Talk of Texas!*

Submit Here:

<https://fs1.formsite.com/txpta/form615/index.ht>



Texas PTA News & Tips

Treasurer Tips for the New Year

By Heidi PeCoy

Treasurer, Texas PTA

If one of your New Year's resolutions is to be better organized, I recommend you keep the Local PTA Roster bookmarked on your browser <https://t.e2ma.net/click/amsuec/aeihntb/y4mptg>. It's a one-stop-shop for your PTA's stats, from Standards of Continuing Affiliation to membership awards. Be sure to check your membership totals about a week after you submit your roster and dues to Texas PTA.

Does your PTA wish to be listed on JoinPTA.org in 2020? Check out the new JoinPTA.org FAQs page for answers to your many burning questions. For your PTA to be listed on JoinPTA.org, you must complete the secure ACH Authorization Agreement with Texas PTA. Treasurers are charged with completing this form.

Not sure if your PTA has submitted the ACH form? Visit the Local PTA Roster (column AT) to verify. A checkmark means your PTA will be listed on JoinPTA.org when the website comes back online. Keep in mind this report is updated manually after Texas PTA verifies it is correct and complete. It may take 7-10 business days after your submission to see a checkmark.

It's sales tax filing season for most PTAs. The annual (January-December) and 2019 4th quarter (October-December) sales tax returns are due on January 21, 2020, to the Texas State Comptroller if your PTA holds a sales and use tax permit. When the permit was issued, the PTA was assigned a reporting period. This could be annually, quarterly, or monthly. Texas PTA does not have this information on file. You will need to contact the Comptroller's Office directly if you do not know your filing period. If you hold a sales and use tax permit, you must file a return even if you had no taxable sales during the reporting period. The Texas State Comptroller's Office does charge a penalty for filing late. The BASICS Treasurer Resource Guide has additional information about completing the sales tax return.

Please do not hesitate to email me at: treasurer@txpta.org with any questions.

Influx of Vaping Related Illness Prompts Official Naming

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has given a name to vaping-related illness: EVALI, which stands for e-cigarette or vaping product use-associated lung injury, according to new healthcare recommendations the agency released October 11, 2019.



Forty-nine states, the District of Columbia, and one U.S. territory have reported more than 1,299 cases of lung injury associated with the use of e-cigarettes or vaping products. As of October 11, 2019, 26 deaths have been reported from 21 states.

The CDC recommends individuals not use e-cigarettes or vaping products -

- containing THC
- outside of their described labeled use
- if not already using

For more information and updates on EVALI, read the CDC's recently released MMWR report. https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/68/wr/mm6841e3.htm?s_cid=mm6841e3_w

Tag, You're It!

Next time you post on Facebook or twitter about a policy issue, consider tagging your elected officials to get their attention. Tagging them not only lets them know your stance on an issue but also helps boost your views. For more information and tips for using social media to bring attention to a policy issue go to:

https://www.pta.org/home/advocacy/advocacy-resources/Advocacy-Toolkit/Where-Social-Media-and-PTA-Advocacy-Colide?utm_source=Informz&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=PTA&_zs=cSoGX&_zl=5olt1



National PTA News & Tips



Safer Internet Day is an international education and awareness-raising effort, celebrated in over 100 countries on Feb. 11, 2020. The day brings communities together to address online issues such as cyberbullying and social networking for a safer and better internet.

Hosted by Connect Safely, Safer Internet Day features events for parents, students and educators to discuss trending digital issues and empower them to use technology responsibly, respectfully, critically and creatively.

National PTA is proud to continue the conversation throughout the month of February, by connecting PTA members, parents, students and educators from across the country to discuss top concerns about raising kids in the digital age.

Interested in hosting an event for #SID2020? We have event planning guides and promotional materials you can use! Programming is highly-vetted, and always free. Learn more at https://www.pta.org/home/events/safer-internet-day?utm_source=Informz&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=PTA&_zs=LPgRW&_zl=6cDt1



Google is encouraging families to set #DigitalWellbeingResolutions!

Join the movement by sharing yours online using the hashtag and explore tools to help here: https://wellbeing.google/?utm_source=pta&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=resolutions

PTA Family Reading Experience



Engage families in reading fun at your school by hosting a PTA Family Reading Experience using our Experience Guide. This guide is organized into 5 steps with links to materials and sample templates you can customize for your own PTA and school.

Step 1: Plan your Family Reading Experience

Step 2 : Recruit Volunteers

Step 3: Promote Your Family Reading Experience

Step 4: Host your Event

Step 5: Wrap Up

For more information visit:

https://www.pta.org/home/programs/family-reading?utm_source=Informz&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=PTA&_zs=LPgRW&_zl=XcDt1



Online Resources from RRISD Library Services

United for Literacy

<https://www.uniteforliteracy.com/>

Free picture book resource with narration available in many different languages, for early readers 8 months – 8 years.

Story Online

<https://www.storyonline.net/>

Screen Actors' Guild members reading children's books

Read Kiddo Read

<https://kids.jamespatterson.com/landing-page/read-kiddo-read/>

National PTA News & Tips



Real Experts. Real Parents. Real Conversations.

We are excited to introduce—*Notes from the Backpack: A PTA Podcast* for busy parents (like you!) who have a lot to keep up with at home and throughout the school year.

Each 30-minute podcast will give you the inside scoop on how to help your child succeed in and out of school. You'll hear unique perspectives from experts, parents and educator guests who will give you real-life advice and ideas you can use!

Just search for "Notes from the Backpack" on your favorite podcast app and subscribe!

For more information visit: <https://www.pta.org/center-for-family-engagement/notes-from-the-backpack>



Health & Safety Event: It's simple—healthy kids just learn better. Families play a key role in their child's education and health priorities. Host family engagement events around health & safety that are relevant and speak to the needs of your specific school community. Topics could include: nutrition/healthy eating, emotional/mental health, bullying prevention, and more! Try out one of our Healthy Hydration Stations at your Healthy Lifestyles event! Learn more at [PTA.org/CelebrateHealthyLifestyles](https://www.pta.org/CelebrateHealthyLifestyles).

Literacy Event: Reading together as a family is one of the best ways to bond while improving children's competencies. National PTA is partnered with Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) to provide an abundance of resources for hosting engaging and fun Read-Alouds. Learn more at [PTA.org/Reading](https://www.pta.org/Reading).

Digital Learning Event: Invite families to learn together about the safest ways to use technology together. Digital learning can provide opportunities for learning anytime and anywhere. Host an event

(with or without the support of an Instructional Technology Coordinator) on topics like digital safety, cyber-bullying and equity in access. Learn more at [PTA.org/Connected](https://www.pta.org/Connected).

STEM Event: Encourage families to see the value in the STEM fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. As these fields continue to rapidly become a leading part of our global workforce, it is important to get kids from all backgrounds engaged in these topics at an early age—and it can be fun! Host an event focused on math games, science experiments, tech invention nights and more! Learn more at [PTA.org/STEM](https://www.pta.org/STEM).

PTA Member Benefits

Round Rock ISD PTA Membership Benefits

The No. 1 reason to join PTA is to support your students and your school. As a bonus, through your RRISD membership you also can receive exclusive local offers and discounts. **You must show your PTA membership card and picture ID.** Membership benefits are valid until July 31, 2020.



Soapbox Car Wash will offer a discount of 10% off ANY single car wash purchase to all RRISD PTA members with your PTA card! Soapbox is located at 2000 Round Rock Ave, Round Rock, between St. David's Hospital and Round Rock High School.

Reid's Cleaners will offer a 10% discount to all RRISD PTA members with your PTA card! Valid at 9 locations in Round Rock, Georgetown, Cedar Park, Lakeway, Austin, and Steiner Ranch.



YOUR TEXAS PTA MEMBER PERKS

Gain access to discounts and benefits through your membership with Texas PTA! For details and discount codes, visit txpta.org/member-perks. Some restrictions may apply. For questions, contact Member Services at memberservices@txpta.org.

Last Updated: August 6, 2019

1-800-flowers

There's no better place to order flowers online than 1-800-Flowers.com. We have the highest quality blooms and the most talented florists who can create exactly what you order.

AVIS

With special employee discounts and the highest levels of service, there's never been a better reason to rent with Avis! Save up to 25% off.

Better World Club

Better World Club is the country's only 24/7 pro-environmental club for autos, bikes, RVs, and motorcycles. Join for emergency roadside assistance and get a 15% discount!

Budget

Budget-Rent-A-Car is one of the leading, most trusted providers of affordable and reliable car rental for the value-minded consumer. Get up to 25% off!

COSTCO WHOLESALE

Join Costco as a new member and receive exclusive coupons valued at \$60 including three FREE items.

DELL

Purchase monthly specials at a members-only price, or customize a system and save 7% on top of advertised prices.

enterprise

Enterprise rent-a-car extends a 5-10% discount to all Texas PTA members on all rentals across the nation.



With Great Wolf Perks, Texas PTA members will receive up to 30% off room bookings.

Hertz

Hertz offers savings and benefits whenever you rent — with 1,000 airport locations and over 1,000 locations across the country. Save up to 25% off.

Hotels.com

Hotels.com has over 145,000 hotels in more than 80 countries. Whether you are traveling last minute as a family or need a hotel for business, we have the right hotel deal for you.



The HP Employee Purchase Program (EPP) offers HP consumer products at discounts, instant rebates, coupons, and HP Home & Home Office sales promotions!

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Healthy habits start at home and Marathon Kids makes it simple, fun, and effective!

Orlando Employee Discounts

Save up to 36% on your Orlando vacation! Orlando Employee Discounts offers exclusive pricing on hotels and vacation homes in or nearby Disney World and Universal Studios Orlando. Discounts on other parks are also available. Visit txpta.org/member-perks for a full list!



Discounts are available for admission, season passes, retail, food and beverage items, accommodations, and more.

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Receive a substantial discount to Six Flags Over Texas! When you purchase your tickets online, you will have the chance to immediately access them.



Receive a discount on Texas Rangers tickets throughout the season!

WYNDHAM HOTELS & RESORTS

Enjoy a discount at locations within Texas, flat rate for single or double occupancy rooms.

More discounts available through National PTA. Visit PTA.org and navigate to Member Benefits under the "About PTA" tab.