

# COUNCIL CONNECTIONS

Newsletter of the RRISD Council of PTAs – April 2019 Edition  
Parents, Teachers, ALL of US!



FROM THE COUNCIL PTA PRESIDENT

THANK YOU TO OUR LUNCH  
SPONSOR!



**Otis Hamlett**

Dear RRISD School Community,

It's time to start wrapping up the school year. Hard to believe. As this years' officers and committee chairs transition off the board, take time to celebrate your successes and each other aka volunteers. *Treat our mistakes and flops as "learning opportunities"*. These last two years I have enjoyed my role as Council PTA President. **I've experienced lots of great things, met amazing parents, teachers and STUDENTS, ALL doing incredible work in this District!!** (There's been occasions when I wanted to pull my hair out... and I have a lotta hair - LOL! But you can't have one without the other. ☺)

Moving into next year and building out your respective 2019-20 PTA executive board, be inclusive. PTA is Parents, Teaches ALL of US! **We welcome ALL individuals who want to help "Make every child's potential a reality"**. *PTA executive board members should represent your school community and it isn't a PTA requirement to have a child at your school, or in the school district.* **Always remember the "A" in PTA... ALL of US!** April is the month of the growing season, when trees and flowers begin to "open". Each PTA should be warm, welcoming and "open" to new people and new ideas.

Enjoy this edition of the Council Connections Newsletter. It's full of need-to-know info and PTA updates!

Respectfully,  
*Dawn*

## In this edition...

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From National PTA  
Campus PTA Spotlights  
PTA Member Benefits Flyers

**Let us know if you'd like to sponsor our next Newsletter!**  
**Contact [rrisd.pta.councilnews@gmail.com](mailto:rrisd.pta.councilnews@gmail.com)**

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# 2018 - 19 Council PTA Local Officer Assignments

Have a question? Need some help? Reach out to us. We're here for you!

## **LAKISSA BRIGHT, 1st VP Membership**

[rrisd.pta.councilvpmem@gmail.com](mailto:rrisd.pta.councilvpmem@gmail.com), 303-827-1778

Brushy Creek  
Cedar Valley MS  
Deep Wood  
Hopewell MS

### **Joe Lee Johnson**

Mc Neil HS  
Robertson

## **(Interim Dawn Watson), 2nd VP Training**

[rrisd.pta.councilpres@gmail.com](mailto:rrisd.pta.councilpres@gmail.com), 512/415-7090

Blackland Prairie  
CD Fulkes MS  
Fern Bluff  
Great Oaks  
Kathy Caraway  
Old Town  
Wells Branch  
Westwood HS

## **JEN JOHNSON, 3rd VP Communications**

[rrisd.pta.vpcomm@gmail.com](mailto:rrisd.pta.vpcomm@gmail.com), 512/699-2014

Bluebonnet  
Chandler Oaks  
Deerpark  
Herrington  
Pond Springs  
Ridgeview MS  
Stony Point HS

## **JENN GRIFFITH, 4th VP Hospitality**

[rrisd.pta.councilhospitality@gmail.com](mailto:rrisd.pta.councilhospitality@gmail.com), 512/970-5130

Caldwell Heights  
Early College HS  
Double File Trail  
Chisholm Trail  
Gattis  
GOALS  
Laurel Mountain  
Spicewood

## **AMANDA BOTELLO, Treasurer**

[rrisd.pta.counciltreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:rrisd.pta.counciltreasurer@gmail.com), 512/560-1722

Berkman  
Cactus Ranch  
Canyon Vista  
Jollyville  
Patsy Sommer  
Round Rock HS  
Union Hill  
Walsh MS

## **MICHELLE CARSON, Secretary**

[rrisd.pta.councilsec@gmail.com](mailto:rrisd.pta.councilsec@gmail.com), 512/560-8575

Anderson Mill  
Canyon Creek  
Cedar Ridge HS  
Forest North  
Noel Grisham MS  
Pearson Ranch MS  
Purple Sage  
Voigt

## **ANGELA McGEE, Parliamentarian**

[rrisd.pta.councilparl@gmail.com](mailto:rrisd.pta.councilparl@gmail.com), 317/445-7725

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**

# Message from District Leadership

RRISD Superintendent



**From Dr. Steve Flores,  
Superintendent of Schools**

What a busy and exciting time of year!

We are less than six weeks from graduation, and I am sure that your calendar, like mine, is full of end-of-year celebrations, award ceremonies and graduations. As our students and many Round Rock ISD staff members anticipate a well-deserved summer break, I want you to know that many of us will be hard at work throughout the summer preparing for 2019-20 and beyond.

In November 2018, voters in Round Rock ISD approved a \$508.4 million bond to address growth; modernize schools; provide crucial upgrades to campus security; replace and upgrade aging and obsolete items and systems in older facilities; and replace out-of-date technology. In the intervening months, our Operations Department has been hard at work prioritizing projects and moving through the process for design and permitting, which will be followed by implementation and construction.

Among other progress, in February the Round Rock ISD Board of Trustees approved architects to develop master plans and designs for the rebuild of C.D. Fulkes Middle School and for the construction of the Aquatic Practice Facility. Just last week, the Board also approved an architect selection for a new elementary school planned to address explosive growth on the District's northeast side.

While many of these large, hallmark projects are multi-year endeavors, you will see work begin this summer as a result of the bond. Security upgrades are already taking place at our campuses, and parking lot and playground improvements will be launched at several campuses soon after the school year ends.

As more projects get underway, we'll be updating our bond web page (<https://bond.roundrockisd.org/>) and sending out e-newsletters to keep you up-to-date and informed.

We are a growing District and one of the largest districts in Texas to receive an A rating from the Texas Education Agency. We are proud of both of those facts—we know families move to Round Rock ISD for a great quality of life and world class public education. This bond is allowing us to make sure our facilities are ready to accommodate that growth and to continue to provide an education rich in innovation, creativity and 21st century skills.

Thank you for supporting our students and staff in so many ways and for all you do to make Round Rock ISD the best public school district in Texas.

I hope you soak up every remaining moment of this 2018-19 school year and have a wonderful, restful summer break.

**Be your kid's biggest fan.  
Be PTA.**

# Message from District Leadership

President, RRISD Board of Trustees



**From Steve Math,  
Secretary, RRISD Board of Trustees**

It's been a busy past couple of months for the RRISD Board of Trustees. Our three new trustees have "hit the ground running", as we've reviewed several important items ranging from the Legislature, to facilities, board policies, campus safety, projects emanating from the 2018 bond, and the District's budget, which will be adopted in June.

We have been watching intently as the 2019 Texas Legislature tackles the complex challenge of school funding. In recent years, RRISD has been required to contribute significant amounts toward the Chapter 41 (i.e., Robin Hood) recapture program. Additionally, the formulas used to determine campus funding have become woefully antiquated and inadequate. Fortunately, early indications from the Capital suggest that some relief is on the way! We are hopeful, if not optimistic, that favorable legislation will pass that enables RRISD to budget more money toward students and employees, ... a Win-Win for all in our District! Regardless of how the Legislature votes, it is critical that we spend the money that we do have prudently and efficiently.

And, speaking of "spending money", our November 2018 bond passed, which will ultimately raise over \$508 million for much needed RRISD projects. Now comes the fun part -- spending the money! In early April we sold \$200 million of bonds representing the first installment of the \$508 million. We have already begun several projects focused on improving campus safety, technology, and the general learning environment. There are also many "boring" but much needed items, such as replacing old roofs, HVAC systems, replacing old school busses, and renovating playgrounds, athletic fields, etc. As a Board, we are committed to being responsible stewards of spending bond money, providing effective oversight, as needed.

Yet another very important item that the Board is discussing relates to campus safety and security. A task force has been meeting for several months, with the charge of providing options to the Board on how to most effectively create a safe and secure environment for students and district employees. Students and teachers **MUST** feel safe in order to provide an optimal learning environment. The Board anxiously awaits the task force recommendations in the coming months.

Last but not least, the most rewarding part of my service as a trustee is happening next month -- Graduation! Whether we're talking about an elementary school, a middle school, or a high school, Graduation Day represents the culmination of countless hours and effort put forward by parents, teachers, and students that reflect not only profound student achievement, but also an exciting preview of what's next to come from our young leaders of tomorrow. This year, Graduation Day is especially personal for me as I will have the opportunity (and honor) to hand my son Jason his diploma as he walks across the stage at Westwood High School's graduation ceremony.

Like any business or family, RRISD has many challenges ahead. And, we will collectively tackle those challenges head-on. However, there are so many great things happening across our District. Just walk into any school and you will see and feel the energy, joy and excitement of effective learning.

Our community is strong and committed to providing a first-class education to ALL 50,000+ students that are part of RRISD.

We are grateful for the strong support flooding in from thousands of dedicated parents and teachers, and the awesome contributions from the PTA.

A huge thanks for all that you do!

# Council PTA Highlights

## CLOTHES CLOSET

We have served over 450 students at our Voigt location and over 100 at our Anderson Mill location. That's a lot of socks and underwear!

Our drop off day for all washed and gone through lost and found will be **Tuesday June 4th** at the **Voigt Clothes Closet** location.

**Reid's cleaners is offering pick up again this year.** They will pick up lost and found clothes, wash and dry for \$1 per pound and deliver to Clothes Closet.

Make sure you go through the lost and found to pull out any unusable items. Please use these last open days to come by to see all we have done at the clothes closets! **We will be closed the last day of school.**

We would like to say an extra special thank you to Melissa Rachal and Michelle Ellinor for everything extra they do for our Clothes Closet!

Angela Thibeault, Council PTA Clothes Closet Chair,  
401/862-7718

## WEBMASTER

Webmasters, as we near the end of the year, think about housekeeping on your website to help the next webmaster succeed.

If you use the [my-pta.org](http://my-pta.org) system, you have plenty of storage for documents and pictures, but do you need to keep last year's Spirit Night flyers or old spirit wear pictures? I've found that changing the names of files to include the date makes it easier to purge old files. And fewer files in the website library makes it faster to find the picture or flyer that you need today.

Also, as your PTA elects next year's officers, make sure to give webmaster or admin privileges to your new president and treasurer so that they can become familiar with the system and so that access to your page is uninterrupted.

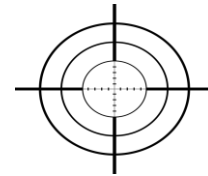
Shawn Dempsey, Council PTA Webmaster,  
[writeshawnd@gmail.com](mailto:writeshawnd@gmail.com)

## FACULTY APPRECIATION FOR THE ALTERNATIVE CAMPUSES

The Faculty Appreciation of Alternative Campuses is looking forward to treating the wonderful staff at the RROC, GOALS and Success to a yummy lunch for Teacher Appreciation Week!

Teacher Appreciation Week is May 6-10, but we appreciate them every day!

Sandi Bone, Council PTA FA for RROC, Success and GOALS, [bone.sandi@gmail.com](mailto:bone.sandi@gmail.com)



## CRASE

### Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events

The RRISD Council of PTAs has partnered with RRISD and the Williamson County Sheriff's Office to bring another C.R.A.S.E. event to you!

This course is an extended version for parents and community members.

Topics include the history and prevalence of active shooter events, the role of professional guardians, civilian response options, and demonstrates examples of things to do in case of an active shooter event.

**April 30, 6:30pm to 8:30pm**  
**OLD Round Rock High School**  
**Board Room**

**AVOID - DENY - DEFEND**

**Come and ARM YOURSELF with KNOWLEDGE!**



# Council PTA Highlights

## FINANCIAL RECONCILIATION

### PREPARING FOR THE FINANCIAL RECONCILIATION

The outgoing treasurer presents the following financial records to be reviewed by the committee:

- most recent financial reconciliation report
- all checks for all accounts, both cancelled and unused
- bank statements and deposit receipts
- treasurer's books and ledgers
- annual financial report
- all receipts for expenditures
- minutes from membership and executive board meetings
- adopted budget as amended
- sales tax returns filed
- Form 990
- all correspondence with any taxing authority
- all financial reports for the period to be evaluated
- report of all fundraising events since the last sales tax return was filed. Include dates held, tax-free day designations, total sales, taxable sales and sales tax collected.
- roster of all dues-paying members and the executive board
- current bylaws and standing rules
- any other information requested by the Financial Reconciliation Committee.

### DURING THE FINANCIAL RECONCILIATION

- Checks should only be written in the case of an emergency and cannot be signed by the outgoing treasurer.
- Committee information and discussions are confidential; therefore, meetings should be conducted in a private location and only include appointed committee members. The committee may contact the outgoing treasurer for any clarification required.
- The committee should adhere to the Financial Reconciliation Checklist as provided below.

### FINANCIAL RECONCILIATION CHECKLIST

PTAs can visit [txpta.org/governance](https://www.txpta.org/governance) to download the current Financial Reconciliation Checklist and Report.

### IRREGULARITIES IN THE RECORDS

If the Financial Reconciliation Committee finds irregularities in the records of the treasurer, follow the steps listed below:

- Contact the treasurer to secure additional records or information.
- If the matter cannot be settled to the committee's satisfaction, contact the Local PTA president to determine what additional steps need to be taken.
- The Local PTA president can request additional guidance from the Council PTA or the Field Service Representative.
- A Council PTA can request additional assistance from the Field Service Representative if the matter cannot be resolved by the Council PTA.

## REPORTING THE RESULTS

- A member of the committee should present a report for adoption at the first membership meeting held after the conclusion of the review.
- A copy of the annual report should be attached to the financial reconciliation report and maintained permanently by the treasurer and placed in the minutes.
- In the event a complete financial reconciliation cannot be done due to the inadequacy or unavailability of the records, the membership should be notified, and the report should include recommendations to correct the situation.

More questions: Please refer to the FAQ section at [https://www.txpta.org/uploads/filemanager/Resource\\_Guides/2018\\_Treasurer\\_Resource\\_Guide\\_Web.pdf](https://www.txpta.org/uploads/filemanager/Resource_Guides/2018_Treasurer_Resource_Guide_Web.pdf)

## COUNCIL CONNECTIONS NEWSLETTER

### WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

PTA leaders, Principals, District Leadership, District Partners, business and community PTA members, are all encouraged to make a written contribution to this product. Write a brief article (1/4 page) about what's going on with in your school community. The 200 guests who attend our Council PTA Delegate Luncheon Meetings (including representatives from the respective Chambers of Commerce, Texas State PTA, State Legislature and everyone that visits our RRISD Council of PTAs website) will be able to read about all the incredible happenings our local units do daily.

Newsletters are available in hard copy format at each Delegate Meeting. Shortly after the meetings it will be sent electronically to all executive board members whose names have been uploaded to PTave. During the months when we do not have a Delegate Luncheon Meeting, a DIGITAL monthly edition will be published. RRISD Council of PTAs is very large with lots of fantastic things going on at the local PTA units every day! *Our goal is to share more often, rather than just five times a year. It is also our hope to increase communication across the District that we serve. Please share this information with everyone in your network, especially the school community.*

If you'd like to include an article, know a business or individual who would like to sponsor this newsletter, please email the Council Connections PTA Newsletter Editor, Snehal Phirke at [rrisd.pta.councilnews@gmail.com](mailto:rrisd.pta.councilnews@gmail.com)

# Council PTA Highlights

## Congratulations to our PTA Reflections winners

Advancing to National Level!

**Morgan Alexa Go, Hopewell Middle School**  
Film Production  
**Yunoo Kim, Westwood High School**  
Literature

## Make plans to attend LAUNCH July 19-21, 2019

[The Gaylord Texan Resort & Convention Center,](#)  
Grapevine, Texas

Whether you're a first-time PTA Leader or a veteran attendee, LAUNCH has something for you! With more than 150 workshops offered and 200 booths in the exhibit hall, your weekend will be filled with valuable information, networking opportunities, and priceless experiences with passionate Leaders!

**Registration opens late April 2019.**



## The Caterer for the April Delegate Luncheon Meeting is...



103 E. Main Street Round Rock, TX  
512/619-0437



Join us **JUNE 20-23**  
in **COLUMBUS, OHIO!**



## PTA PRESIDENT'S CHECKLIST: MAY/JUNE

- ☐ Present at the annual (last) meeting a preliminary Annual report, which is a year-to-date summary report of the year's activities.
- ☐ Adopt budget at the annual meeting for the next year.
- ☐ Appoint Financial Reconciliation Committee, subject to the approval of the executive board if not already done.
- ☐ Appoint a committee to approve the minutes of the last meetings so the documents can be filed at the end of the term.
- ☐ Coordinate installation of new officers. Thank this year's PTA executive board and school volunteers.
- ☐ Submit your Local Officer contact information to Texas PTA.
- ☐ Register newly-elected/appointed executive board members for Texas PTA LAUNCH, if budget allows.
- ☐ Remind outgoing officers and committee chairs that their procedure books and materials must be submitted within 15 days after their successors assume their duties. Consider a transition meeting/ event.
- ☐ Pass all information along to the newly elected president to ensure a smooth transition.
- ☐ Coordinate with the newly elected President to change signers on the bank account.
- ☐ Pat yourself on the back for a job well done!



# Council PTA Highlights

## RRISD PTA COMMUNITY MEMBERS

On behalf of the RRISD Council of PTAs, we would like to recognize the following PTA Com**YOU**nity Members.

Platinum individuals and/or businesses joined EVERY PTA in RRISD! They are:

### PLATINUM PREMIER



### PLATINUM PLUS



### PLATINUM BASIC



Dawn Watson, RRISD Council PTA President  
Steve Flores, RRISD Superintendent

### SILVER LEVEL

**MA+thnasium**

Please share their name and logo on your local unit PTA website. As members, please include them in your PTA emails and keep them in the loop on what's happening on your campus. They'd love to partner with you!! Remember to "Pay it Forward". Help those that help us to achieve "A Voice for Every Child".

# RRISD PTA PARTNERSHIPS



**ROUND ROCK**  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

## RRISD Community Education Future Readiness Parent Seminars

Future Readiness Parent Seminars provide valuable information focused on the needs of students as they move through their academic careers and help guide parents and guardians as they consider the important choices that make students future ready.

\* Pre-registration is required.

**For more info, visit:**

[communityeducation.roundrockisd.org/future-readiness-parent-seminars](http://communityeducation.roundrockisd.org/future-readiness-parent-seminars)

**Location:** Round Rock High School  
[300 Lake Creek Drive, Round Rock](#)

700 Cafeteria/Tool Box #200 Building (enter from Lake Creek Drive south of student pickup/drop off area, turn in behind the 700 building across from Round Rock Christian Academy)

**Time:** 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

### Upcoming Seminars:

**Apr 24, 2019**

**College Admissions Officer Panel**

For Parents/Guardians and their 8th-12th grade student(s)

[Register now](#)

(<https://roundrockisd.facilitywerks.com/eventDetail.html?id=1033166&=&>)

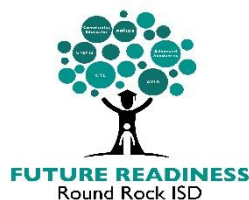
**Apr 24, 2019**

**Mindfulness: Learn How to Manage Stress and Recharge Yourself Throughout Your Day**

For Parents/Guardians and their 8th-12th grade student(s)

[Register now](#)

(<https://roundrockisd.facilitywerks.com/eventDetail.html?id=1043228&=&>)



## Register Now for Round Rock ISD Community Education 2019 Summer Camps!

### Weekly Camps for All Ages

Monday-Thursday

9 am-12 pm or 9 am - 3:30 pm

June 3rd - August 1st

(No camps June 24 - July 4)

### 3 Campus Locations:

Deerpark, Great Oaks, Teravista

### Topics Include:

Academics, Art, Music,  
Coding / Programming,  
Kinder & Pre-K Readiness,  
Creative Writing, Drones,  
Lego®, Engineering / Tech,  
Personal Enrichment,  
Robotics, Science,  
Sports / Fitness,  
Theater / Film, Test Prep,  
Study Skills, and more!

*You don't have to be a resident of RRISD to attend. Camp prices start at \$95 per week.*

Visit [CommunityEducation.roundrockisd.org](http://CommunityEducation.roundrockisd.org) for more information and to register online!

# RRISD PTA PARTNERSHIPS

## THANK YOU

to all who participated in the Round Rock ISD  
Campus Walk hosted by

### Round Rock ISD SHAC

on March 9. It was a fantastic day with almost 200  
walkers and the walk raising close to \$5000.

You can continue to raise funds and donate  
online ([afsp.org/roundrockisd](http://afsp.org/roundrockisd))

through June 30.

Remember funds raised through the walk are  
reinvested back into the district through mental health  
education and programming for staff, parents, and  
students.

If you would like a "Hope Walks Here" t-shirt, we are  
selling the extras for \$5 each. All money will be  
donated to the walk.

Interested in being on the walk committee  
for next year?

Contact Amy Grosso:  
[amy\\_grosso@roundrockisd.org](mailto:amy_grosso@roundrockisd.org), 512-464-5976.



## RRISD MENTOR PROGRAM



### Round Rock ISD Mentor Program

Mentoring programs are highly beneficial to students of all ages. Statistics show that students in mentoring relationships are more likely to do better in school and less likely to begin using drugs and/or alcohol.

The Round Rock ISD S.T.A.R.S. (Supporting, Teaching and Reaching Students) Mentor program is a school-based program for students in grades K-12 who would benefit from the positive influence a mentor can bring to their life.

Mentoring a child is a way for community members and businesses to volunteer. Mentors have the opportunity to impact a child's life, share life experiences and help build a more educated community.

When you volunteer as a mentor you not only discover new things about yourself, but you provide a friendship to a child who needs and wants the positive influence. With just a few hours of an individual's time you can help change the life of a child!

It takes **less than 24 hours** of your time in a school year to help change the life of a child! Sign up today and help change a child's life!

Becoming a mentor is easy! Complete an online volunteer application, attend a one-hour training class provided by the district and begin meeting with a child!

Contact Dawn Steele at [dawn\\_steele@roundrockisd.org](mailto:dawn_steele@roundrockisd.org) or 512-464-5108.





# PTA COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

## FROM ROUND ROCK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Please join us for Breakfast Club on **Friday, May 17 from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.** at the **Round Rock Chamber boardroom**. Our Friday morning breakfast event provides an opportunity to connect and promote your business to fellow investors in a relaxed and energetic setting.

Your admission fee includes a light breakfast, coffee, and business networking. Be sure to bring plenty of business cards! Ticket prices at the door go up by an additional \$5.00.

Interested in donating a door prize for additional business exposure? Please contact Scotti Woolery-Price at 512.255.5805.

Click [here](#) to register.

(<http://web.roundrockchamber.org/events/BreakfastClub%20Morning%20Networking%20Event-8420/details>)



Please join us for Power Lunch on

**Tuesday, May 21**

**11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

at the

**Williamson Conference Center in Round Rock.**

Our speaker will be

**Dr. Steve Flores, Superintendent of Schools,**  
Round Rock Independent School District.

Dr. Flores will give an update on the state of the district and the progress of the bond projects.

Click [here](#) to register.

(<http://web.roundrockchamber.org/events/PowerLunch-8425/details>)



### 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/>

### Top 3 killers of the Immune System

1. Sugar
2. Lack of natural sunlight (vitamin D) with decreased exercise
3. Imbalanced nervous system

**The nervous system regulates our body's immunity and inflammation**



512-726-2120 [www.myimpactchiro.com](http://www.myimpactchiro.com)

# PTA COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



## The Importance of Personalized SAT/ACT Test Prep.

When it comes to teens preparing for success on the SAT or ACT, here's something parents need to know: Not all test prep programs are created equal. And one of the most important things parents should look for when evaluating companies that deliver test prep courses is whether the program meets students' distinct needs. There are several reasons why parents should seek out personalized SAT/ACT test prep for their college-bound teens:

- **Every student has different strengths and weaknesses.**
- **Every student learns at a different pace.**
- **Not all SAT/ACT tutors have the same qualifications.**
- **A personalized SAT/ACT test prep program begins with a practice test.**

Huntington's excellent track record with college entrance test prep is due to the learning center's individualized approach, but parents should rest assured that Huntington SAT/ACT test prep is both specific and thorough.

[www.huntingtonhelps.com](http://www.huntingtonhelps.com).



## Laundry versus Dry Clean Shirts

Many people do not understand why we dry clean some shirts as oppose to "launder" others. If you review the care label you may see "cool iron" which means we cannot use the equipment for laundered shirts. The temperature on the laundry side of the business is much higher than the equipment used to finish an item on the dry clean side of the business. You may also see a symbol with an iron. One dot represents a cool iron (i.e. dry cleaned) while two or more dots represent a warm iron can be used or laundered.

There are certain materials including buttons that cannot take the higher temperature. The pricing difference between the two options is based on the time it takes us to process.

[Reid's Cleaners & Laundry](#) offers [concierge services](#) and will have your clothes picked up, dry cleaned, and delivered at your convenience! Reid's offers wash and fold services to make your life easier! Drop at the stores or we offer home delivery.



'Beautiful weather is back and Kona Ice wants to visit you before school ends!

We would like to thank Brushy Creek elementary, Old Town elementary, Sommer elementary, Laurel Mountain elementary, and Spicewood elementary PTAs for having Kona Ice out to their school carnivals. Five carnivals and almost \$2,000 donated! In addition, Kona Ice has donated over \$2,000 to another group of RRISD schools for Kona day visits (over the past 10 days)! We are SUPER excited for the last 5 weeks of school.

If you haven't scheduled already, Kona Ice is a great fit to school field day, end of year parties and/or teacher appreciation week. Lastly, it is not too early to schedule your 2019-2020 Kona days and other visits.

Reach out today!

[konaiceaustin@yahoo.com](mailto:konaiceaustin@yahoo.com)



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](mailto: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](http://www.dartemup.com)

# PTA PROGRAMS



Even though it may not feel like it, it's that time of year to de-stress! During National Stress Awareness Month, try to set stress-busting goals by moving more (grab a friend and try [yoga](#) or other relaxation techniques), eating healthier (try calming your mind with a soothing cup of black tea or other [stress-busting foods](#)), or by simply practicing other healthy habits (go to bed a little earlier to get a [good night's sleep](#)). Your kids are not immune to stress either! Test anxiety can cause extreme nervousness and memory lapses among other symptoms. So, don't forget to talk to your child about the importance of reducing stress – not just during tests – but all the time!

Karen Burnell, Texas PTA Healthy Lifestyle Liaison  
[healthylifestyles@txpta.org](mailto:healthylifestyles@txpta.org)

## Who, What, When?

One effective strategy identified in the [Healthy Lifestyles BASICS Resource Guide](#) is offering programs and services. There are numerous programs that can help make your Healthy Lifestyles initiative easier.

Check out what's going on:

### [Every Kid Healthy Week](#) (April 22-26)

Presented by Action For Healthy Kids, brings focus on school wellness achievements and highlights spring events. Download a [toolkit](#) with social media posts, newsletter copy, and information to share through your Local PTA. Register by March 31 for possible prizes!

### [Marathon Kids Home](#) is back!

Register between April 1-30 to receive a \$5 discount per family as part of [Texas PTA Member Perks](#). If your school is unable to participate, you can still take advantage of all the resources and Nike Rewards with the Home Program.

## APRIL OBSERVANCES

- National Stress Awareness Month
- Distracted Driving Awareness Month
- Earth Day (4/22)
- Every Kid Healthy Week (4/22-4/26)
- National Child Abuse Awareness Month
- National Volunteer Month

## MAY OBSERVANCES

- Children's Book Week (4/29 – 5/5)
- National Bike Month
- Teacher Appreciation Week (5/5 – 5/11)
- National High Blood Pressure Education Month

## FUNDING AND FREEBIES!

[Good Sports Equipment Grant](#) – Rolling deadline. Grants vary. Awards sporting equipment, footwear, and apparel up to six times over a two-year period.

## Health-e-Learning

[Award-winning SHAC models](#). (Previously recorded.) Hosted by It's Time Texas.

[How Increasing Student Voice Creates Safer Schools](#). (Previously recorded.) Hosted by Community Matters. Health and Human Services, Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion.

[Texas School Safety Center's Digital Threat Assessment Workshop](#) – May 2-3, 2019. Texas School Safety Center, in collaboration with Safer Schools Together (SST), is hosting this FREE workshop to discuss online activity, threat-related behavior, and conduct hands-on searching exercises.

## Whole Child Coordination Tip

Consider coordinating with your school's counselor to plan events that can help de-stress students and families while also benefitting the earth! Stress can be combatted with physical activity, such as gardening or picking up trash, and eating healthy, like shopping at your local farmer's market.



# FROM TEXAS PTA

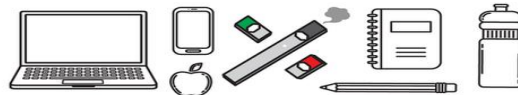
www.txpta.org

## Senate Passes T21 Bill

Last week, the Senate passed SB 21 authored by Senator Joan Huffman. SB 21 would raise the legal age to purchase tobacco products, including e-cigarettes and Juuling devices, from 18 to 21. The bill would hinder teen smoking by reducing the likelihood that a legal purchaser would still be enrolled in high school and among the social circles of younger peers. Raising the age will also make it harder for teens to purchase these products as they will have to pass themselves off as 21. Texas PTA is particularly concerned with the popularity of Juuling and believe this bill will decrease use among students.

SB 21 now moves to the House where a similar measure has been voted out of committee and is awaiting debate by the full House.

**#TobaccoFreeKids**



## Texas PTA Backs STAAR Reform

On April 9, PTA President-Elect Suzi Kennon testified in favor of HB 4242, authored by Representative Diego Bernal, to authorize an audit on the STAAR test. The bill would direct the Texas Education Agency (TEA) to conduct an independent readability study on the test questions while suspending the use of 2019-2020 STAAR data in student/campus accountability while the audit is being conducted.

Several independent studies have already been conducted on the readability of the test prompting HB 4242, HB 3237 by Representative Mary Gonzalez, and at least three other bills to be filed: SB 2297 by Senator Beverly Powell and SB 2400 and SB 2401 by Senator Jose Menendez (which have yet to be heard in committee).

Watch Suzi's testimony [here](#) (hour 5:11:42).

**#FixTheTest**



## Legislation on the Move

### State Budget

A few days after the House passed its version of the state budget for the next two years, the Senate passed its version of the budget and sent the bill to the House. The House will reject the Senate's version and a Budget Conference Committee will be formed, composed of five senators and five House members who will work toward a compromise. Once they agree upon a budget, the bill will return to each chamber for a final vote.

### School Finance Reform

The House recently passed HB 3, authored by Representative Dan Huberty, for school finance reform. HB 3 would invest \$6.3 billion in new funding for Texas public schools and students, with an additional \$2.7 billion for property tax compression. Debate on the bill was congenial and took just over three hours.

HB 3 allocates the bulk of new funding through an increase in the basic allotment from \$5,140 to \$6,030 and creates a new early childhood allotment to fund full-day pre-kindergarten for eligible students. HB 3 reduces recapture by almost 40% by reducing district payments from \$7.7 billion to \$4.7 billion. Amendments to the bill include requiring 25% of any basic allotment increase going forward to be spent on equal pay raises for full-time, non-administrative staff.

**#FundTheFuture**



**DON'T NICKEL AND DIME THE FUTURE  
EDUCATE THE WHOLE CHILD**

### Individual Graduation Committee

SB 213, authored by Senator Kel Seliger, which would extend the life of the Individual Graduation Committee Program, has been placed on the Senate's Local Calendar, a process where non-controversial bills that do not cost the state any money can be considered and voted on in an expedited manner.

The House's version of this bill, HB 851 by Representative Dan Huberty, was voted on favorably by the House Committee on Public Education earlier this month. Next stop is the House Committee on Calendars where it could move on to the House floor for debate.

# FROM TEXAS PTA

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## School Safety

HB 17, authored by Representative Greg Bonnen, relating to public school safety measures and procedures, has been heard in the House Committee on Public Education, but not yet voted on.

HB 1754 by Representative Greg Bonnen, relating to creating a school safety allotment under the Foundation School Program, has been heard in the House Committee on Public Education, but not yet voted on.

SB 994 by Senator Beverly Powell, an identical companion bill to HB 1754, has not yet been heard by the Senate Committee on Education.

SB 11 by Senator Larry Taylor, relating to policies, procedures, and measures for school safety and mental health promotion in public schools, has not yet been heard by the Senate Committee on Education.

**#SafeAndSound**



**SCHOOL SAFETY**  
THE FIRST **BUILDING** BLOCK  
OF SUPPORTED LEARNING.

## Student Mental Health

HB 1335, authored by Representative Four Price, relating to the establishment of school-based behavioral health centers and a grant program for the operation of those centers, was heard recently by the House Committee on Public Health. SB 2003 by Senator John Whitmire has not yet been heard in committee.

SB 10 by Senator Jane Nelson, relating to the creation of the Texas Mental Health Care Consortium, has been passed from the Senate and referred to the House Committee on Public Health for consideration.

SB 10 companion legislation, HB 1448 by Representative John Zerwas, has not yet been heard in committee.

HB 3718 by Representative Tan Parker, relating to a trauma-informed care policy for school districts and open-enrollment charter schools and training regarding the policy for district and school employees, has been heard in the House Committee on Public Education.

## Human Trafficking

HB 1216, authored by Representative Senfronia Thompson, relating to orders of nondisclosure for victims of human trafficking, has been voted from the House Committee on Criminal Jurisprudence. Next stop is the House Committee on Calendars where it could move on to the House floor for debate.

SB 72 by Senator Jane Nelson, relating to establishment and duties of the Human Trafficking Prevention Coordinating Council, has passed out of the Senate and been referred to the House Committee on State Affairs. It is more than halfway through the process.

HB 1232 by Representative Ryan Guillen, the companion bill for SB 72, has been recommended for the Local and Consent Calendar in the House.

## Healthy Lifestyles

SB 364, authored by Senator Kirk Watson, relating to policies on the recess period in public schools, has been set on the Local Calendar in the Senate.

SB 364 companion legislation, HB 455 by Representative Alma Allen, has been reported from House Committee on Public Education. Next stop is the House Committee on Calendars where it could move on to the House floor for debate.

## Childhood Immunization Reporting

HB 3551, authored by Representative J.D. Sheffield, and SB 329 by Senator Kel Seliger, relating to requirements for and the transparency of epidemiological reports and certain immunization exemption information and reports, have been referred to committee but not yet heard.

**#SafetyInNumbers**



**CAMPUS IMMUNIZATION  
REPORTING**  
**THERE'S SAFETY IN  
NUMBERS.**



**Stay informed!** If you would like to continue to receive Under the Dome and other advocacy communications through the 86th legislative session, click [here](https://www.txpta.org/take-action)\* (<https://www.txpta.org/take-action>) to register. \*Navigate to "Quick Sign-up" (top right) and follow the cues.

# FROM NATIONAL PTA

[www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org)

## TAKE ACTION

### Proposed ED Budget Would Cut Funding to Public Schools



The President submitted his [Fiscal Year \(FY\) 2020 budget request for the U.S. Department of Education to Congress](#) March 11, suggesting a \$7.1 billion or a 10% cut with the hope of reducing the Federal role in education. The Statewide Family Engagement Centers Program—a

legislative priority for National PTA in the 116th Congress—has been proposed for elimination. This budget also coincides with [potential automatic spending cuts established by the 2011 Budget Control Act](#). Without an increase in the FY 2020 caps, domestic spending will endure a \$55 billion cut, which will translate into a nearly \$20 billion cut in education, health and workforce funding. [Take Action—Contact your federal lawmakers and urge them to STOP cuts to classrooms.](#)

### New! From Report to Results



Did you know that every year, your school district and state must release a school report card? We are excited to announce our new campaign, From Report to Results, which will work to ensure that parents and families are

empowered to read, interpret and take action with school report card data. [Check out our new fact sheet!](#)

### National PTA Endorses the Equality Act



National PTA endorsed both the [House](#) and [Senate](#) versions of the Equality Act introduced by Representative David N. Cicilline (D-RI-1) and Senator Jeff Merkley (D-OR) respectively. This act will prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, gender identity, sexual orientation and other purposes. Presently, Federal law does not provide complete protection for individuals facing

discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity. [Learn more.](#)

### National PTA Endorses the IDEA Full Funding Act

National PTA has [endorsed and expressed strong support](#) for the [House](#) and [Senate](#) versions of the IDEA Full Funding Act introduced by Representative Jared Huffman (D-CA-2) and Senator Chris Van Hollen (D-MD).

The bill would pave the way for full IDEA funding by requiring regular increases in IDEA spending to meet the Federal government's commitment to pay 40% of the average per pupil expenditure for special education—a commitment that has never been met. [Learn more.](#)

## 4 WAYS TO KEEP KIDS SAFE ONLINE

The principals of our digital families initiative PTA Connected was recently featured in an article. Find out how to teach your children that ethical behavior is just as important online as it is in the real world. [Learn more.](#)

## NEW GRANTS FOR STATE AND LOCAL PTAS!

The Center for Family Engagement is now accepting applications for two grant opportunities for state and local PTA members! [Apply today!](#)

- State PTA Family Engagement Challenge
- Transformative Family Engagement & Whole Child Learning grant

## Mary Lou Anderson Reflections Arts Enhancement Grant is Open!

The grant awards two local PTAs \$1,000 in matching funds for arts education programs that increase access to high quality arts learning experiences. In line with Mary Lou Anderson's belief in the importance of the arts for all students, this grant opportunity places special emphasis on increasing access to arts education among at-risk and underserved students. [Apply Today!](#)

### Save the Date: Reflections Winners

**Announcement!** Tune in to [PTA Live](#) May 1 at 1:00 p.m. EDT, where we will announce the [2018-2019 national-level Reflections winners!](#) Additionally, registration for the 2019-2020 Reflections program is now open! [Register today!](#)

**Teacher Appreciation Week is coming up!** Celebrate Teacher Appreciation Week with us May 5-11! Check out our [#ThankaTeacher Toolkit](#) to help you get started!

**Are you registered for #PTACon19?** The National PTA Convention & Expo is June 20-23 in Columbus, Ohio. Don't miss out, [register today!](#)

# Campus PTA/PTSA Spotlights

## Blackland Prairie PTA

- Blackland Prairie Elementary is excited to share the news that our school had a successful Spring Carnival fundraiser the last weekend of March! We raised a whopping \$26,950 with the many activities the event had to offer like an online silent auction, homeroom raffles baskets, aqua blaster, inflatables, games, cake decorating contest and more!
- Our "new" walk/bike-to-school days initiative has been growing! We decided this year to gather at two neighborhood pools and walk together as a group and make it a fun experience for all and each student receives a walk/bike-to-school charm from the PTA.
- Also new this year, we are hosting two additional "spring" "Kinder Playdates" to help our new incoming kindergartners meet new friends before school starts!
- As we wrap up this 2018-2019 school year, we look forward to celebrating in May our teachers with "Teacher Appreciation Week", thanking our wonderful Mom's with hosting our annual "Muffins & Moms" breakfast and Volunteer luncheon!

## Brushy Creek PTA

- The Brushy Creek PTA had our Carnival & Silent Auction on April 5th. The event was a lot of work but a HUGE success!
- Families came out in full force and had a great time playing games, jumping on inflatables, and bidding on our Silent Auction items. This event requires volunteers of all kind.
- From class representatives donating Silent Auction baskets and cakes, to parents, students, and teachers working the booths, WATCH D.O.G.S setting everything up all day, to most importantly the Carnival and Silent Auction committees led by Tara Miller and Lareina Stainthorpe who work for months getting everything ready for the day.
- We believe the hard work pays off by providing a FUN night for families while earning our school over \$35K. It's one of our best traditions!

## Cactus Ranch PTA

- We've had a fun year at Cactus Ranch and we are so thankful for our Longhorn community.
- We celebrated the many and varied talents of our fifth graders at our first-ever Fifth Grade Follies in April and had a great Spirit Night with Kona Ice. We celebrated our teachers and staff throughout Staff Appreciation Week, April 1 -5!

- We will close out our year while welcoming incoming kindergartners at Kinder Peek and playing games at our Family Game Night in May!

## Caldwell Heights PTA

- Caldwell Heights Elementary hosted a Family Game Night in March.
- We offered a variety of board and cards games, Giant Jenga and Dominoes and many other "Minute to Win It" type games with lots of prizes. We partnered with Marco's Pizza for a Spirit Night and Kona Ice for our fun run.
- We are providing the rentals for Field Day coming up on April 26th, and we currently have applications out for our CHE Alumni scholarship and teacher mini grants.

## Callison PTA

- In April Callison PTA reached an all-time membership high with 305 members.
- At our last Membership Meeting of the year we will be hosting a Membership Appreciation Event.
- After the meeting we will be hosting an Easter Egg hunt for our members.
- In May we will be celebrating our teachers and staff with a Travel Themed Teacher Appreciation Week. Every day our teachers will "travel" to a different country and be treated to tea in England, lunch in India, Breakfast in Paris, and a Nacho Bar in Mexico.

## Canyon Creek PTA

- It is an exciting time to be a Comet as we head into the last few weeks of school!
- As a PTA we had our last membership meeting last week and have already voted on a Budget for the 2019-2020 year as well as elected our officers for the coming year. We are so excited to see new parents stepping up into PTA leadership positions at CCE!
- To celebrate, all of our old and new Board members will have a potluck brunch in May.
- Our Yearbook committee has finished our yearbook, and our School Supplies program lead is already busy selling school supply sets for the coming fall.
- We are looking forward to spoiling our teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week in May as well as hosting our last Friday Feast for them. Also coming up is our last Book Fair of the year. We are so happy to be able help fund some end of the year events like Field Day and our 5th grade Awards Ceremony. Go Comets!

# Campus PTA/PTSA Spotlights

## Canyon Vista PTA

- The CVMS PTA 1st Annual Mustang Hustle occurred on Saturday, April 13 and was a huge success. Despite the high threat of thunderstorms, the weather held off long enough for us to complete the run and give away some wonderful raffle prizes-Including a pair of Air Pods! This fun morning of fitness for the whole family raised over \$4000 for physical and emotional/mental health programs and equipment for CVMS students.
- Thursday, April 18 gave us an opportunity to say "Thanks!" to our volunteers for all of their assistance this school year. Volunteers met in the library for food and fellowship as everyone remembered highlights from this year at CVMS.
- CVMS Global Fest will take place on Monday, May 6. Activities will include displays from student countries, live music from CVMS students and a Master Chef contest hosted by the CVMS Band.

## Cedar Ridge PTSA

- We are excited for our upcoming Healthy Lifestyles Fair on April 23. We are inviting families from our learning community to attend this wonderful event. We have well over 30 organizations/vendors/clubs offering lots of health-related information and activities for encouraging healthier habits.
- We earned the Golden Apple and the XOXO membership awards and our memberships are at a Three-Year High!
- We elected our 2019-20 officers and we are looking forward to continuing our momentum next year.
- Our Scholarship Committee is working on the scholarship applications and we will be announcing the winners soon.
- We are getting ready for our last student appreciation event on Apr 26th where we will be distributing a small token gift to Student PTSA Members during lunch.
- We are looking forward to celebrating Teacher Appreciation Week during the week of Apr 29-May 3, as another opportunity to say Thank-You to all our wonderful faculty and staff for all their hard work this year.
- Our last S.N.A.C.K donation drive for our students in transition will be the week of May 6th. This is very important drive as we ask for enough supplies to help each student at the start of summer break.

## Chandler Oaks PTA

- Our COE school calendar is filled with many activities as our school year begins to wrap up.

- The COE PTA hosted a breakfast for our amazing teachers in April, and we look forward to a fun filled teacher appreciation week in May.
- COE PTA celebrated our second year of COE alumni graduating high school as seniors. We awarded two graduating seniors with a college scholarship. We were so impressed with all the wonderful applications we received.
- Our PTA is excited to sponsor a day of fun at Main Event for our graduating fifth graders and last day of school parties for all our wonderful COE Cheetahs.
- We will finish up our PTA school year with our annual silent auction and carnival. We are excited for a successful spring event. We are looking forward to a night of games, activities, food and fun.
- We are so thankful for a wonderful and successful PTA year at Chandler Oaks Elementary.

## England PTA

- PTA sponsored two Ocean Adventures Assemblies at our school right after Spring Break. What a great way to get back into school mode.
- England Elementary PTA hosted their first ever Volunteer Appreciation Celebration at the final meeting of the year. We used this opportunity to thank all of our volunteers with free food, goodies, and raffle prizes. We also used this time to recruit chairs and committees for next year. We have been brainstorming about the best ways to show appreciation for our volunteers all year and we think we are doing more to show our appreciation to get more people involved and to keep those already involved coming back to help out.
- We are having an online flash sale next week where we are hoping to sell yearbooks in conjunction with some spirit wear overstock.
- Then to finish off the year we will be supporting the school during Gallery Night and on Field Day by coordinating food trucks, sponsor tables with activities, etc.

## Forest North PTA

- Forest North Elementary PTA is celebrating a year of increased enthusiasm.
- Free movie nights have been very successful in bringing families together to relax, meet friends and make new friends.
- Along with supporting academic efforts through classroom grants, we have been able to provide a desk lift for our custodial staff, board and card games for our mentors, new PE equipment, art supplies and

# Campus PTA/PTSA Spotlights

helped encourage participation in the school choir that was re-established this year.

- FNE PTA is in the process of working with the school to install a much-needed washer and dryer on campus. We are also gearing up to celebrate our teachers and staff April 29-May 3 because, "There's No Place Like Forest North".
- Our small but committed volunteer group overcame many challenges and is excited about the opportunities to serve our students, teachers and families as we finish this year strong!

## Gattis PTA

- Gattis Elementary PTA has made huge strides on our membership team. We've exceeded the last 3 years in membership and even won a couple of awards.
- Our Watch D.O.G has done an outstanding job reaching out to our dads and male role models and has on average about 50 men show up on the Dad's and Donuts days to have a treat with their student and talk about updates.
- Our Fun Run fundraiser through Boosterthon was the biggest fundraiser we've ever had and that's 100% dedicated to our community.
- As our PTA grows, our community becomes stronger and more vibrant.
- We are so proud of our accomplishments and teamwork this year between our parents, teachers, administration and our community partners. We have a beautiful working relationship within our PTA and we're able to tackle topics big and small to improve our student and teacher experiences. We've got game and it's showing.

## Great Oaks PTA

- PTA and Student Lighthouse are partnering on a marker recycling program (via Crayola)
- Hosted Spirit Nights at Dairy Queen and Chick-fil-A
- Provided funding for all grade level fields trips
- Hosted STEAM night event with great turnout from students and families
- Provided the NED Show which promotes positive behavior and academic achievement
- Celebration of Cultures event doubled in size from last year with booths and stage performances
- Spring Carnival and Auction drew many Great Oaks families and included implementation of wristbands and family friendly band. Event was successful in raising nearly \$15k
- Our hospitality committee provided sweet treats for staff during the month of March.

## Grisham PTA

- Along with Hernandez MS, Grisham's IB Community Project is to support Well Aware to rebuild a sustainable water well in Mbawala, Tanzania. PTA organized volunteers and donations for the Water Walk where students got to experience what it's like for Tanzanian youth to carry water long distances. This week, both schools are doing a Shower Strike to raise money. Each student and staff member can't shower until they've raised \$5. The House with the most participation gets a Kona Ice party.
- PTA contributed over \$8700 to aid the school in purchasing new stage curtains after finding out it was not included in the November 2018 bond. However, we are grateful for approved 2018 bond projects such as the Weight Room improvement and better drainage to address "Lake Grisham" in the parking lot.
- Teacher Hospitality kicked off Spring by bringing in Kona Ice to provide teacher treats on the last day of STAAR testing. May will be an end-of-year potluck luncheon with a catered entree, and PTA will be feeding teachers breakfast tacos during Teacher Appreciation Week.
- PTA is hosting "An Evening in Paris" 8th Grade Dance with free admission and free food. Thank you to the PIE Foundation for lending us the gala decorations. We hear it is a popular theme in RRISD this year. We partnered with last month's RRockstar, Ms. Charmange Speaks, and a team of 8th Grade students to provide a Free Fancy Dress Giveaway Boutique with almost 100 donated dresses to select from.
- Grisham is hosting a free 5th grade mixer along with our feeder schools, Canyon Creek PTA, Anderson Mill PTA and Purple Sage PTA, to start building community before our newest class of students arrives next school year.
- PTA is working with our SRO and parents to equip classrooms with active threat, shelter-in-place kits starting with collecting 5-gallon buckets.
- Our last schoolwide dance was fun for all who attended. Bush's Chicken, pizza and Sour Straws continue to be a big hit at the concession stand.

## Hopewell PTA

- We are happy to keep our Hornets hydrated during our annual FUN Run. We will provide water bottles and snacks to all!!
- The annual T-Shirt design contest is underway. Our lucky will have their design on next year's spirit wear.



# Campus PTA/PTSA Spotlights

- We all know “the big tests” take a toll on staff so our PTA will provide snacks on all testing dates.
- Of course, with snacks, you need drinks! Our teachers will enjoy a fully stocked coffee bar every day.

## McNeil PTSA

- It's hard to believe, but we are at the end of the year. Our PTSA provided STAAR Snacks for TEACHERS! We know those STAAR test days are long!
- We also have one more Teacher Appreciation Luncheon in May. We love our teachers and staff.
- McNeil PTSA has narrowed down it's choices for our two recipients for the McNeil PTSA Scholarships. Those are hard choices when we have so many students that are qualified and deserving.
- Lastly, our McNeil High School has a part of construction complete! Our new SPED wing is finished! We are so excited to see the beautiful new portion of our school. McNeil is transforming and it is great to see it happen....it will also be great to have a parking lot and to have traffic back to normal.
- This was a wonderful year for our PTSA. Anita Frey has served her two terms and will move onto another position. McNeil and the McNeil PTSA would like to thank her for two years of outstanding leadership!

## Old Town PTA

- Old Town Elementary PTA has been very busy this Spring! We recently hosted our annual PTA Spring Carnival and the parents and kids are still talking about it. We had a great turn out and we have already started the planning for next year!
- In early March, we hosted our annual OTE PTA Variety Show and it was a fantastic night that showcased all of the talents of our students in grades 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>.
- Old Town PTA also hosted Spirit Nights at both Freddy's and Bush's Chicken and had record breaking turnouts from our staff and students!
- We love our teachers and staff and the Hospitality committee is busy planning for teacher appreciation week!

## Purple Sage PTA

- Purple Sage PTA is hosting its annual Spring Carnival & Silent Auction on April 26 from 5-8pm. The PTA has collected over \$10,000 worth of auction donations from area businesses--restaurants, entertainment,

sports--there's something for everyone! It is our biggest fundraising event of the year, and we're working hard to make it a fun event for the whole family. If you are in our neck of the woods on the 26th, come on by!

## Walsh PTA

- Walsh PTA is busy preparing to give our 8th-graders a big sendoff. Traditionally, PTA hosts an end-of-year Celebration for 8th-graders, and we expect most of our students to attend this free and fun event. Students can dance the night away or play games. Door prizes will be given away, and all students will get a bag of goodies.
- Spirit nights continue with a series of Kona Ice after school visits and at Chik-fil-A. CFA is sharing a portion off all orders placed through their app. We recently had a dinner and dessert event with Freebirds World Burrito and The Yogurt Experience.
- We combined our general election meeting with a brown bag lunch with our school resource officer, who spoke about phone use, phone problems and social media safety. Parents learned many tips on monitoring phone use and what to look for, and supported PTA by electing new officers.
- School supplies are on sale now. EPI has agreed to make a contribution to the 2019-'20 staff welcome-back breakfast.

## Westwood PTSA

- The Westwood PTSA had a successful Flea Market in the parking lot of the school on March 30. We invited school clubs to participate in a school wide event to allow clubs to raise money for their organizations.
- The PTSA hosted three well-attended CRASE seminars over the last two months.
- Our PTSA student representatives, with the assistance of school counselors, have been working to identify areas of interest and/or need in the Westwood community and on April 4 we had our first seminar to address teen anxiety and stress. The presentation was followed by a student panel.
- Our student representatives will be hosting their second meeting of the "Treat Yo'Self" organization and will have a presentation on how stress affects the body and offer exercises and stretches to combat the effects.
- Our PTSA will be providing blinds so that the remaining windows in the classrooms without blinds have coverings.

# ROUND ROCK ISD PTA

## MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

The #1 reason to join your PTA is to support your school and your students. As a BONUS, through your RRISD PTA membership you can also receive exclusive LOCAL offers and discounts!

**Must show your PTA membership card and picture ID.** ALL MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS VALID UNTIL July 31, 2019.



RRISD PTA Members will receive a **10% discount** towards Reid's Cleaners services. Show PTA member card and photo ID. Valid at 9 locations in Round Rock, Georgetown, Cedar Park, Lakeway, Austin and Steiner Ranch.



RRISD PTA Members will receive a **Free Game-Building & Coding Session plus a Parent's Night Out Voucher** (\$35 value) for their child for PTA members only. Valid at Round Rock location. Contact 512-710-7864 or email [roundrocktx@codeninjas.com](mailto:roundrocktx@codeninjas.com)



RRISD PTA members will receive:

1. Complete Consultation
2. Nerve and Muscle Scans
3. Report of Findings

\$20 Individual/\$50 Family (\$100 value/ person)



**SPECIAL FOR RRISD PTAs:**

\$150 includes up to 100 KONAs for all school parties and reward programs. (\$200 value)



**MATHNASIUM - 1 FREE TRIAL**

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# TEXAS PTA MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

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Visit [www.txpta.org](http://www.txpta.org) for details – Go to Local PTA Leaders, click on Membership, then Member Benefits.



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