

COUNCIL TALKS

Garland ISD Council of PTAs Newsletter • October 2012

DATES TO REMEMBER

SEPTEMBER

- 29 **Officer & Chairman Training**
8:30-10 A.M. for a variety of key positions on your Board
FREE! Come one, come all!
- Leadership Orientation Training**
10:30-12:30 for all new Board Members
Registration Required!

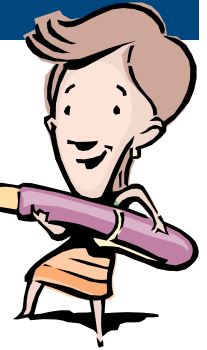
OCTOBER

- 3 **GISD Council PTA Meeting**
9:00 A.M., Harris Hill Annex
Presenter: Dr. Ron Perkins
- 9 **Work Session**
Garland ISD Board of Trustees
6:00 P.M. - Board Room
Harris Hill Administration Building
- 15 **Last Day to Submit Dues & Membership Rosters**
to Texas PTA in order for your local PTA to remain in good standing*
- Last Day to Submit Council Dues**
to treasurer Shellie Terrazas.

* *When a PTA is not in good standing, they are not permitted to submit entries into state/national competitions like Reflections and Environmental. Please don't cheat your students out of their opportunity to shine.*

The President's Pen

Suellen Atteberry, Council President
seatteberry@yahoo.com • 214-536-8498



INSPIRATION:

I recently realized that I had a fantastic opportunity to work out some frustration. As of today, all of the shrubbery in the front of my house has been trimmed, pruned, pulled, plucked, leveled and formed into what will eventually be my masterpiece. Now granted, some of this work was a tad bit overdue but nonetheless – it is done & all I have to do is maintain it. I can look at it now and marvel at my handiwork.

It just so happens that PTA can be a lot like yardwork. You work and work and work at it until it gets to be just right. Don't let the work become tedious or leave it for the next person to handle – embrace it and watch what happens! (*But take my advice: Don't overdo it, or your arms end up feeling like silly putty...*)

SEPTEMBER recap:

We had a great visit from our 3 mayors at our last meeting! What an inspiration they can be to each of us. Each of these gentlemen had something great to say about PTA and the memories they have. PTA is so much more than just getting membership or fundraising. If you have a great PTA memory please let me know - great memories are part of the foundation for building great future PTA experiences for our own children.

See President's Pen, page 2

OCTOBER PROGRAM

Cari Murray, VP-Programs

DR. RONALD C. PERKINS OF TEAM PERKINS ORTHODONTICS

Dr. Perkins specializes in treating sleep disorders in children and adults. As a sleep apnea sufferer himself, this choice was a particularly personal one.

WHAT??? a DENTIST? TREATING SLEEP APNEA?

After graduating from dental school at the top of his class, Dr. Perkins earned a master's degree in orthodontics. He went on to serve as an orthodontist for midshipment (students) at the U.S. Naval Academy. During this

see October Program, page 2

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

Topic	Page
Arts in Education	3
Basket Auction Results.....	9
Calendar of Events	1
Leadership.....	5
Legislative	4
Membership	2
Outstanding PTA.....	3, 6-7
Parent Ed	9
President's Pen.....	1-2
Programs	1-2
Service Project.....	5
Treasurer.....	8

OCTOBER PROGRAM

Continued from page 1

assignment, he gained extensive experience in surgically assisted orthodontic treatment.

Eventually, he started his own practice specializing in surgical orthodontic cases and became an expert in the field.

His experience in surgical orthodontia led him to realize how much the need for such surgery could be eliminated via appropriate treatment in children aged 6-10, preventing snoring and other sleep problems. Through his research, he modified one of the best adult oral appliances for sleep disorders, treat TMD dysfunction and prevent bite changes.

Dr. Perkins was named one of the "Best Dentists in Dallas" by *D Magazine* in 2007, and subsequently featured in the Best of Big D in 2008, 2009, and 2010. Likewise, *Texas Monthly* magazine named Dr. Perkins one of the "Texas Super Dentists" in 2007, 2010, and 2011.

PRESIDENT'S PEN

continued from page 1

RESOLUTIONS:

Our state PTA would like all local PTAs to adopt their legislative resolution. This can be downloaded from the state PTA website as a MS Word document from this page:

<http://www.txpta.org/legislative/resolutions-and-positions/>

Council has already passed a resolution similar to this, and we urge all local PTAs to do the same. There will be a copy of the resolution wording included in this newsletter on page 4.

MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGE:

Once again – the membership challenge is still 3%. What a fantastic response the state PTA had from PTAs all over the state calling, texting, emailing in their current membership numbers. Expectations had been exceeded!! I am particularly impressed with our own numbers! GREAT JOB – KEEP IT UP! Deadlines for reporting membership are October 15th. Applicable forms are on the state website. As always – If you have a question or are unable to find something, ask & we will help you!

COUNCIL TRIVIA: WHO AM I???

In each newsletter there will be a question/s about one or more of the Council Board Members. Some of the trivia questions will be obvious and others a bit more challenging. The April issue will have the last question/s. You will have until one week before the spring luncheon to turn in your answers. The winner will be announced at the luncheon & yes Virginia – there will be a prize – trivial but none the less – a prize!

Here is wishing you good luck – get to know your Council Board!!

1. Who has served in every PTA position except treasurer?
2. How many Council board members will have graduating seniors this year?
3. Who is the Arts in Education chairperson?

SEE YOU WEDNESDAY!



MEMBERSHIP DRIVE CONTINUES

THE 2012-13 STATE THEME IS
"GET CONNECTED."

OUR GOAL:

INCREASE PTA MEMBERSHIP DISTRICTWIDE BY 3%.

The Magic of a Moment

Sharon Wainscott, Council Arts in Education Chairman

A local PTA must be in good standing with Texas PTA and their Council to participate in the Reflections program. What does it mean to be in good standing? To be in good standing a local must have at least 20 members submitted to Texas PTA by October 15th. The local PTA must also have paid their council dues by October 15th. Garland Council dues are \$50 per local per year. There is a dues form in this newsletter. As Reflections chair please verify with your Membership Chair and/or Treasurer to make sure the membership dues have been paid to Texas PTA. We do not want a student to be disqualified because their PTA has not paid dues to state or council.

State will be conducting webinars on October 1 with information regarding the Reflections program. The webinars will be at 10 am and 7 pm. If you are unable to attend the webinar, state usually films the webinars having them available to view on the website later.

The guidelines for the program are on the Texas PTA website. Unfortunately, National wants all advancing entries to be registered online but have not implemented that link as of today. Below is the link to Texas PTA to view the guidelines, changes for this year and to register for the webinars.

[HTTP://WWW.TXPTA.ORG/PROGRAMS/REFLECTIONS/](http://www.txpta.org/programs/reflections/)

REFLECTIONS DATES TO REMEMBER:

Council Level Judging of Reflections entries:

Where:

- Harris Hill Administration Building Annex
Garland, Rowlett & Sachse Rooms on second floor
- Drop off for judging will be available on:
 - December 7th from 3 - 6:30 P.M., and
December 8th from 8:30 - 10:30 A.M.
 - Judging from 10:30 A.M. - 5:30 P.M.
 - Pick up from 5:30 P.M. - 7 P.M.

Annual reception honoring the artists

- January 10th at the Curtis Culwell Center.



GISD COUNCIL OF PTAs MONTHLY OUTSTANDING PTA ACTIVITY

Kathy Parks

Council Outstanding PTA Chairman
garlandoutstandingpta@gmail.com

During the school year, the Council PTA sponsors a monthly "Outstanding PTA" awards program. The program not only allows local PTAs to let their light shine and earn recognition for their work, but it also allows us to share successful strategies and ideas with the other local PTAs in the school district.

THE GUIDELINES ARE PRETTY SIMPLE:

- Complete the **Entry Cover Form**
- Write a description, with a maximum of 300 words, handwritten or typed will be accepted.

Tips:

- Do not use your PTA name within the text.
- If you have copies of flyers, programs, photos, etc. to support your entry, please feel free to include. However, do not send "one of a kind" items, as they will not be returned.
- Only one entry per month.

Judges will consider the originality of idea, participation, as well as community involvement. Keep the **Objects of PTA** in mind as you plan the entry.

You must submit an entry at least three times during the year to be eligible to submit an entry for the **Outstanding PTA of the Year**.

See pages 5-6 for forms

PTA RESOLUTION

CONCERNING HIGH STAKES, STANDARDIZED TESTING OF TEXAS PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS

Courtesy of Texas PTA

WHEREAS, the over reliance on standardized, high stakes testing is strangling our public schools and undermining educators' ability to transform a traditional system of schooling into a broad range of learning experiences that better prepares our children to live successfully and be competitive on a global stage; and

WHEREAS, we commend Robert Scott, former Commissioner of Education, for his concern about the overemphasis on high stakes testing that has become "a perversion of its original intent" and for his continuing support of high standards and local accountability; and

WHEREAS, we believe our state's future prosperity relies on a high-quality education system that prepares students for college and careers, and without such a system Texas' economic competitiveness and ability and to attract new business will falter; and

WHEREAS, the real work of designing more engaging student learning experiences requires changes in the culture and structure of the systems in which teachers and students work and that parents enhance; and

WHEREAS, what occurs in classrooms every day should be student-centered and result in students learning at a deep and meaningful level, as opposed to the superficial level of learning that results from the current over-emphasis on that which can be easily tested by standardized tests; and

WHEREAS, Our vision is for all students to be engaged in more meaningful learning activities that cultivate their unique individual talents, to provide for student choice in work that is designed to respect how they learn best, and to embrace the concept that students can be both consumers and creators of knowledge; and

WHEREAS, only by developing new capacities and conditions in districts and schools, and the communities in which they are embedded, and by engaging parents in meaningful ways as partners in this effort, will we ensure that all learning spaces foster and celebrate innovation, creativity, problem solving, collaboration, communication and critical thinking; and

WHEREAS, these are the very skills that business leaders desire in a rising workforce and the very attitudes that are essential to the survival of our democracy; and

WHEREAS, imposing relentless test preparation and memorization of facts to enhance test performance is stealing the love of learning from our students; and

WHEREAS, we do not oppose accountability in public schools and we point with pride to the performance of our students, but believe that the system of the past will not prepare our students to lead in the future and neither will the standardized tests that so dominate their instructional time and limit educators' ability to make progress toward a world-class education system of student-centered schools and future-ready students; therefore be it

RESOLVED that the (*name of your local PTA here*) calls on the Texas Legislature to reexamine the public school accountability system in Texas and to develop a system that encompasses multiple assessments; reflects greater validity; uses more cost efficient sampling techniques and other external evaluation arrangements; more accurately reflects what students know, appreciate and can do in terms of the rigorous standards essential to their success; enhances the role of teachers as designers, guides to instruction and leaders; embraces an environment of collaboration between parents and school personnel; and nurtures the sense of inquiry and love of learning in all students.

2012-13 Council PTA Service Project

Coloring Books & Crayons



Remember when you were a kid and the worst part of going to the doctor's office (well, other than getting a shot) was the endless *waiting*? The *Highlights for Children* magazine was a special treat, but really... How many hidden pictures are there to find? Especially if some kid had already circled all the hidden stuff?

With that in mind, our objective this year is to collect coloring books and crayons that we can distribute to local medical clinics, so that kids waiting in the lobby can have something to do.

Vice President-Aide, Cheryl Verret, will have a big box available at every meeting for you to drop your donations into. *(Keep your eyes open at those school supply sales for crayons for the cause!)*



LAST CHANCE FOR LEADERSHIP TRAINING!

LAKEVIEW CENTENNIAL HIGH SCHOOL

OFFICER & CHAIRMAN TRAINING - 8:30-10 a.m.

Topics Covered:

- Arts in Education
- Awards/Outstanding PTA
- Environmental
- Historian
- Membership
- Money Matters
- Parliamentarian/Bylaws
- President
- Programs
- Secretary
- Volunteers/Parent Ed
- Youth Protection

Free! Free! Free!

LEADERSHIP ORIENTATION TRAINING

10:30 a.m. - 12:30 P.M. -

All first-time Board Members are required to complete this training. It is a condensed introduction to parliamentary procedure, the structure of the PTA organization, and more!

\$6.00/PERSON

Contact Cheryl Verret for more info:
cheaglamour@yahoo.com

GISD COUNCIL OF PTAs MONTHLY OUTSTANDING PTA ACTIVITY

ENTRY COVER FORM

Email entries to:
garlandoutstandingpta@gmail.com

OR

Mail to:
Kathy Parks
1105 High Hill Pl
Garland TX 75041

Date Submitted:	Date of Activity:
Title of Activity:	
School Name:	
School Principal's Name:	
PTA Name:	
Name of PTA President:	
President Phone:	President Email:
Submitted By:	
Submitter's Phone:	Submitter's Email:
Name(s) of Person(s) Organizing Event:	

GISD COUNCIL OF PTAs

MONTHLY OUTSTANDING PTA activity entry

(ATTACH TO ENTRY COVER FORM!)

Award Application for Month of:	
Title of Activity :	
Date of Activity:	
Number of Participants:	
<p>Description of Activity: 300 word maximum (Use additional sheet if necessary)</p> <p><i>Please include copies of invitations, photos, drawings, etc., that will help others visualize your event!</i></p>	
Name of Speaker(s), if any	
What did you like best about activity?	
What would you change?	
Comments from students, parents, staff:	

Dues And Donation Reminder

Garland ISD Council of PTAs Dues:

Garland ISD Council dues are **\$50 for each unit**, payable no later than October 15 as stated in Council By-laws. These dues help provide services for all the locals. These services include (but are not limited to) training, awards and recognitions, newsletter, and other services as may be needed. Since all GISD locals are located within a council area it is required to pay dues to be eligible for participation in any Council, Area, or National PTA programs.

Donations to Dedicated Fund Accounts

• **SCHOLARSHIP FUND:**

Through local scholarship donations, the Council is able to award college scholarships to deserving seniors at each GISD high school

who plan to enter the teaching profession.

We ask that each local include a donation of at least \$25 for the scholarship fund.

• **SCHOOL SUPPLY FUND:**

Each year there are many students in Garland ISD who start school without the necessary supplies to perform their required tasks. The school Supply Fund was established to help purchase school supplies for these students. This year, we have partnered with the school district staff member who maintains a supply closet for our schools. This will ensure that supplies are getting to the students who need them most.

We ask that each local include a donation of at least \$25 for the school Supply Fund.

• **MEDICAL EMERGENCY FUND:**

The Medical Emergency Fund was established to assist students whose parents or guardians cannot provide professional health care. All medical referrals are made through the school nurse and approved by the Garland ISD Coordinator of Health Services. Examples of the needs for which the fund is designated are prescriptions, doctor's visits and prescription eyeglasses.

We continue to have a healthy balance in this fund, and as a result, ask that your PTA redirect the money you would have contributed to this fund in 2012-13 into larger contributions to one or both of the other two funds.

Please send TWO (2) separate checks; one for dues and one for total donations.

If you have any questions regarding dues and/or donations, please contact Shellie Terrazas at shellieterrazas@verizon.net

Dues & Donations Form

Make each check payable to: **Garland ISD Council of PTAs**

Mail this form and BOTH checks to:

Garland ISD Council of PTAs

c/o Shellie Terrazas

3317 Oxford Street

Rowlett, TX 75088

PTA Name:

Date:

Check #1 **COUNCIL DUES:** \$50 Check # _____

Check #2 **DONATIONS:** Total Enclosed: \$ _____ Check # _____

Please distribute our donations as follows:

Scholarship Fund: \$ _____

School Supply Fund: \$ _____

OCTOBER

40 DEVELOPMENTAL ASSET CATEGORY = SUPPORT

Dr. Pat Mullins, Parent Ed & Volunteers

WHAT IS SUPPORT?

Young people need to experience the presence, care, help, and love of their families and many others. They need organizations and institutions that provide positive, nurturing environments.

THE SIX SUPPORT ASSETS

- 1 Family Support**
family life provides high levels of love and support.
- 2 Positive Family Communication**
Young person and her/his parent(s) communicate positively, and young person is willing to seek advice and counsel from parent(s).
- 3 Other Adult Relationships**
Young person receives support from three or more non-parent adults.
- 4 Caring Neighborhood**
Young person experiences caring neighbors.
- 5 Caring School Climate**
School provides a caring, encouraging environment.
- 6 Parent Involvement in Schooling**
Parent(s) is (are) actively involved in helping young person succeed in school.

The framework of 40 Developmental Assets includes six Support assets that have a significant impact on the way young people grow up. While most people understand the important role that families have in supporting young people, some overlook the positive power of friends, neighbors, teachers, coaching, volunteers, grandparents, bus drivers, babysitters, aunts and uncles, store clerks, and other people who are part of children's and teenager's lives. Even simple actions and gestures can help to create an atmosphere of support.



BASKET AUCTION RESULTS

Remember the fundraising basket auction the Council hosted at the Spring Luncheon last May? We have been remiss by not sharing the results!

As a whole, the auction raised \$1807.00 for Council. Yay!!!!

It was tough deciding on a winner, because several contributions brought in significant sums. For example:

- Webb Middle School's basket, "Summertime Fun," at a final price of \$65, brought in 30% over the estimated value.
- Cisneros Prekindergarten PTA donated a "Pamper Yourself" basket that brought in \$105.
- Sachse HS PTSA contributed a HUGE wheelbarrow loaded with gardening goodies that raised \$150.

However, we are honoring the local that had Texas Rangers-themed basket that sold for a whopping \$165.00!

Thank you Rowlett High School PTSA!

Overall, RHS' contributions brought in \$626.00 - raised through the auction of 19 different baskets. All told, their basket sales amounted to approximately 34% of the total auction profits!

a HUGE THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR AUCTION DONATIONS AND (JUST AS IMPORTANTLY) OUR BIDDERS!