

Programs for PTA

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

The Mission of PTA

- To promote the welfare of children and youth in home, school, places of worship, and throughout the community
- To raise the standards of home life
- To advocate for laws that further the education, physical and mental health, welfare, and safety of children and youth
- To promote the collaboration and engagement of families and educators in the education of children and youth
- To engage the public in united efforts to secure the physical, mental, emotional, spiritual, and social well-being of all children and youth
- To advocate for fiscal responsibility regarding public tax dollars in public education funding

Purpose of PTA

What is a Program vs. Fundraiser

- Fundraising is never mentioned in the mission statement for PTA. Money can certainly provide the means to do great things for our schools and children. But the real heart of PTA is connecting with our families, teachers and communities through programs
- Programs - what your PTA provides for its members
- Programs - value in membership dues
- Programs - learning and growing together to advocate for all children

Pro Tip: Check out what other local units are doing by following their social media pages & networking at HCCPTA events.

The Golden Rule of PTA

- Local units should provide THREE programs for every one fundraiser

Pro Tip: Make sure your members are aware of all that PTA offers AND make sure your calendar is full of opportunities for your families and school community to come together.

National Standards for Family-School Partnerships

- Welcoming All Families
- Communicating Effectively
- Supporting Student Success
- Speaking up for Every Child
- Sharing Power
- Collaborating with Community

[NPTA National Standards Implementation Guide](#)

[NPTA National Standards for Family-School Partnerships](#)

NPTA Program Curriculum for PTA/PTSA

- School of Excellence
- Reflections
- Family Reading Experience (K-5)
- STEM+ Families
 1. STEM+ Science Festivals
 2. Engineering: Propelling Our World
 3. Math Nights
 4. STEM+ at Home
- Healthy Lifestyles
- Connect for Respect
- PTA Connected
 1. Be Internet Awesome
 2. Digital Families Community Events
 3. The Smart Talk
 4. Access from AT&T
 5. Create with Kindness

July/August-Beginnings

Elementary/Middle/High

- Host a get-to-know-each-other event for all new PTA officers and chairs. Keep it casual and fun. Brainstorm for the upcoming year
- Host a Back-to-School event where students & parents can meet the teacher & staff in a casual setting, i.e., ice cream social and have the teachers “serve”
- At your first Board meeting, define your focus for the year and set goals. Increase membership? Connect with more volunteers? Start one new program tradition? Launch the Reflection Arts program?

September-Why PTA/PTSA?

Elementary

- At the first PTA meeting/Open House, highlight events & volunteer opportunities offered by your PTA; spotlight national & local business partners & members discounts/offers; offer merchant coupons to PTA members only.
- Welcome Dads! Kick-off a Watch D.O.G.S. group or MEN-toring group.
- Host a Grandparents' Day event: Grits w/Grands, invitations for book fairs, lunch dates (think about sponsoring a Grandparents Club for volunteer opportunities, i.e., tutoring).
- Kick off your Reflection Arts program with National Arts in Education Week (2nd week in September).
- Host a voter registration drive; National Voter Registration Day, is September 22.
- Enroll your PTA in the National PTA School of Excellence program by October 1.

September-Why PTA/PTSA?

Middle/High School

- At the first PTSA meeting/Open House, highlight events & volunteer opportunities offered by your PTSA; spotlight national & local business partners & members discounts/offers; offer merchant coupons to PTSA members only; offer incentives for students who join (discounts on event admissions, school store discount)
- Welcome Dads! Kick-off a Watch D.O.G.S. group or MENtoring group
- Kick off your Reflection Arts program with National Arts in Education Week (2nd week in September).
- Host a voter registration drive; National Voter Registration Day, is September 22.
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October-All About Safety

Elementary

- Anti-Bullying Month: Host a parenting session lead by a psychiatrist/psychologist or counselor.
- Walk-to-School Day (1st Wednesday). Promote exercise, community and safe walkways to schools.
- Fire Prevention Month.: Partner with your local fire departments to bring in speakers, host smoke detector inspections, give away smoke detectors.
- Host Gun Safety events. Start a Be SMART campaign (to reduce child gun deaths).
- National Substance Abuse Month: & Drug Awareness (Red Ribbon Week). Host school-wide events for Red Ribbon week. Host parent sessions to discuss the dangers facing children today.
- Invite your school officials to your school: school board members, county & city councilmen, state representatives.

October-All About Safety

Middle/High School

- Anti-Bullying Month: Host a parenting session lead by a psychiatrist/psychologist or counselor; local law enforcement & school district personnel can provide speakers on cyber bullying.
- Walk-to-School Day (1st Wednesday). Promote exercise, community and safe walkways to schools.
- Host Gun Safety events. Start a Be SMART campaign (to reduce child gun deaths).
- Work with your school library to host Teen Read Week events.
- National Substance Abuse Month: & Drug Awareness (Red Ribbon Week). Host school-wide events for Red Ribbon week. Host parent sessions to discuss dangerous trends, signs to look for in your child, ways to direct your child to alternative and where to go for help.
- Invite your school officials to your school: school board trustees, county & city councilmen, state representatives.

November-Gratitude

Elementary

- Healthy Lifestyles Month: Host a health fair including flu shots, blood pressure screenings, 10 minute massage tables, exercise classes of Zumba, yoga, etc. Host a Family Run. Use Lysol's Healthy Habits resources available from National PTA to promote good hygiene habits.
- Host a Veteran's Day patriotic celebration.
- Celebrate American Education Week (week prior to Thanksgiving week)-celebrate public education. Host a luncheon for teachers and include support staff & substitute teachers.
- Thank a teacher with a "thanksgiving" pie: parent volunteers send in pies to distribute to staff.
- Sponsor an "Eat at Home Spirit Night". Celebrate families eating healthy together. Have families send in photos and winners receive grocery store gift cards.
- Remember to recognize and publicize your Reflections Arts school winners.
- Host "get out the Vote" drives.
- **Great American Teach-In** - This is a great opportunity for parents, business leaders and members of our community to share something special with our students. This day will provide parents many opportunities to help.

November-Gratitude

Middle/High

- Healthy Lifestyles Month: Host a health fair including flu shots, blood pressure screenings, 10 minute massage tables, exercise classes of Zumba, yoga for your teachers and families. Use Lysol's Healthy Habits resources available from National PTA to promote good hygiene habits.
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December-Giving

Elementary/Middle/High

- Partner with community groups, i.e., Metropolitan Ministries, Toys for Tots, churches, etc.) and host a drive.
- Plant trees at your school for Arbor Day (1st Friday). Plant in honor of special volunteers, classes, loved ones.
- Organize a winter clothing drive. Either a pre-holidays or later-winter drop-off will be welcome and appreciated by local organizations.
- Mid-year school supply drive for teachers to get them through the rest of the school year.
- Organize a “drop-off” event to give parents an afternoon to shop for gifts without kids in tow. Recruit plenty of volunteers—middle school and high school students are ideal—and take over the school gymnasium on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon. Organize party games, put out craft materials, prepare an area where kids can kick back and watch a video.
- Host a Make It & Take It Event: help bring a smile to parents’ faces and show their feelings of pride in their children by hosting a “make it and take it” craft event. Book the school cafeteria for a few hours on a weekend. Choose a craft that kids can make and take home that day. You might even put out supplies for kids to make their own wrapping paper using newsprint or butcher paper and markers, crayons, and stickers.

January-Bright Into the New Year

Elementary

- In honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day host a day of service in your community.
- Host a Storytelling Night & Pancake Supper. Guests readers share different books or genres.
- Host a recycled book drive.
- Host a student Talent Show.
- Sponsor an Arts in Residence for your school.

January-Bright Into the New Year

Middle/High

- In honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day host a day of service in your community and host workshops on non-violence & tolerance.
- Host a student Talent Show. Open it up to faculty and support staff as well.
- Host a recycled book drive.
- Sponsor an Arts in Residence for your school.
- Host a Poetry Jam-winners move on to county competition.

February-Celebrate PTA Founders' Day- February 17th

Elementary

- Mental Health Awareness: Host parenting sessions to help students cope with stress & anxiety. Mental Health America (MHA) & National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) and local guidance counselors are wonderful resources.
- Launch a month-long Read Across America reading challenge: build up to Read Across America Day on March 2.
- Host any of the following: Take Your Family to School week, Career Day, Culture Day, Families for Lunch Day, Donuts with Dudes, School Dance, Pottery Night, Spaghetti Dinner Night.
- Participate in the Annual HCCPTA Clothing Drive for Oasis Network.
- Host a Day of Service.

February-Celebrate PTA Founders' Day- February 17th

Middle/High

- Mental Health Awareness: Host parenting sessions to help students cope with stress & anxiety coping strategies; how to identify & help your teen with depression; learn about new practices guidance counselors must follow with potentially suicidal students; and resources to turn to for help. Host sessions with guest speakers and counselors (work with your guidance department)
- Host any of the following: Take Your Family to School week, Career Day, Culture Day, Families for Lunch Day.
- Participate in the Annual HCCPTA Clothing Drive for Oasis Network.
- Host a Day of Service

March-Great Potentials

Elementary

- National Reading Month: Host a Read Across America Day, March 2 with a guest reader & birthday cake.
- Host a nightly book reading on social media with your administrators & teachers reading bedtime stories.
- Celebrate National Pi Day, March 14. Host a Math Night with hands-on games for families to play together and take home; serve pizza.
- Go Green for St. Patrick's Day: Host recycling events to collect batteries, printer cartridges, newspapers.

March-Great Potentials

Middle/High

- National Reading Month: Host a Book Club
- Celebrate National Pi Day, March 14
- Go Green for St. Patrick's Day: Host recycling events to collect batteries, printer cartridges, newspapers, old cell phones.
- In anticipation of Prom Season, host speakers and assemblies to discuss drunk driving prevention (local law enforcement and MADD resources) and pledge to keep safe.
- Work with your guidance departments to host "Soft Skills" workshops for students.

April-Renewal

Elementary

- Drop Everything and Read Month (R.E.A.D.). Celebrate Earth Day, April 22. Host a Grounds Clean Up day, sponsor a walk-a-thon or family run, start a campus garden
- Host a pet drive for a local shelter
- Help a food bank restock shelves with a canned food drive.
- Host a Blood Drive.
- Attend HCCPTA Spring Training!

April-Renewal

Middle/High

- Celebrate Earth Day on April 22. Host a Grounds Clean Up day on campus.
- Host a pet drive for a local shelter
- Help a food bank restock shelves with a canned food drive.
- Host a Blood Drive.
- Attend HCCPTA Spring Training!

May-CELEBRATE!

Elementary/Middle/High

- Teacher Appreciation Week, 1st week of May
- Host a Screen Free Week (May 2-8). Unplug from digital screens!
- Host an End-of-the Year Celebration. Choose from these or think up your own: Introduce your new PTA officers for next school year, highlight all that your PTA has accomplished this year & share awards earned. Spotlight any students who won State an/or National honors in Reflections Arts Program, provide a meal, present gifts to teachers for Teacher Appreciation Week, recognize outstanding Volunteers, consider a lifetime PTA membership to a volunteer, support staff, teacher or administrator, have a fun “draw”-faculty tug-of-war, guesstimation jars, raffles, reveal next year’s school theme or summer reading program.
- Distribute a survey of interests to your parents and teachers to learn what programs to offer next year.
- Host officer transition workshops, have the outgoing PTA board pass on notebooks to the incoming board.
- Have one overlapping board meeting with both outgoing and in- coming boards.
- Register for FLPTA Leadership Convention in July.

Resources

HCCPTA

[HCCPTA Program Resources](#)

Florida PTA

[FLPTA Local Unit Program Ideas](#)

National PTA

[National PTA Programs Resources](#)