



everychild.one voice.

# Alaska PTA News

August 2007

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## ALASKA PTA EXECUTIVE BOARD

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**Pat Blakney, Treasurer**

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**Amey Tamagni 1<sup>st</sup>- Vice**

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**Paula Pawlowski 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice**

**President Legislative**

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## ALASKA PTA REGION VICE PRESIDENTS

**Regions 1, 3 & 5 Vacant**

**Pending Volunteers**

**Georgia Sandgren, Region 2**

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## ALASKA PTA COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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## In This Issue

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## Welcome to a New Year and Great Things to Come

We wish to express our sincere appreciation to you, our leaders, who have stepped up to serve throughout our great state. As the Alaska PTA Board of Managers, we are looking forward to getting to know you better and invite you to get to know us, as well. We have had some changes in our board; many of our previous board members have taken on new positions with AKPTA. We also have some new members who have joined us. Each of us is here to serve you. Our desire is to have clear, meaningful communication with you, as communication is one of the foundation stones for an organization to go from good to great. We have changed the format of this newsletter so that it is your electronic link to all of our sights. We are moving forward in very dynamic ways. Let us be great as we work together this year!

Serving You,  
The AKPTA Board of Managers

### Julie Doll, Convention

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Vacant, Reflections

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Alaska PTA Home Page

www.alaskapta.org

National PTA

www.pta.org

Alaska PTA Blog

Look for updates, changes and announcements on the

**Alaska PTA Blog**

Need to get in touch with the Board of Managers? It's easy!!

Simply click on the link listed below on the net or enter the

online link into your computer and you will.... **Contact Us**

### LEADERSHIP SATURDAYS:

**10 AM TO 2 PM**

**The first Saturday of each month unless noted otherwise on our web!**

**This will help us meet your local levels training needs.**

**Each month will have a different focus point.**

## Leadership Saturday

### If your local unit Needs:

- Membership cards
- Information on how to run programs
- Handouts for members
- Boutique Items: gifts for those you may want to recognize
- Awards
- Training/Material for New Board Members

### Then SAVE THE DATE

- **Saturday, August 4<sup>th</sup>** stop by the;
- AKPTA Office

555 W. Northern Lights Blvd Suite 204 of the Valhalla Center

This is our second Leadership Saturday for this new board. We will focus on distributing membership cards, providing the resources you need to have a great year, and answering any questions you may have. AKPTA financial budget is tight this year so all that can come in to pick up your supplies it will be most appreciated. We hope to see many of you on Saturday and look forward to getting to know you better.

## Expanding Your Influence

AKPTA invites you to take on a greater role in advocating for not only your own child's education, but for all children within this state. By volunteering on the state level, you will enable AKPTA to better serve all of our members to a higher level.

- Take an Executive Board position with AKPTA
- Chair a committee on AKPTA Board of Managers
- Serve on a committee with Board of Managers
- Offer your professional services to AKPTA we are a 501c(3)
- Spend time to improve your leadership skills

If you can volunteer at a greater capacity please contact: Dee Parson, Immediate Past President and Nominations Chair at: [nominations@alaskapta.org](mailto:nominations@alaskapta.org)

## Membership Tips . . .

PTAs throughout our nation are made up of dynamic people who care about children and families. The work we do makes a powerful difference, and it takes many hands. How do we encourage more people to join us in this important work? As you promote membership this fall, try asking individuals to commit to donate just three hours of their time during the year to PTA. National PTA has adopted a program called "Three For Me" that has some great ideas along this line. You can find more information at <http://www.three4me.com/>

If you are interested in working with the Board of Managers letters of interest and applications for nomination can be found on the Alaska PTA website:

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

Or by contacting the Alaska PTA Office.

The following Committees need you: Without you our members serving at greater capacity we will be limited in what we can do for you.

Click on the links below to check each one out.

Nominations

Bylaws

Convention

Legislative

Advocacy

Lands Trust

Education

Environment Health and Safety

Grants

Membership

Parental Involvement

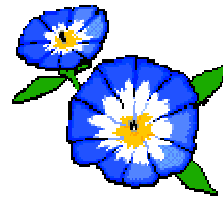
Reflections

Ways & Means

Go to [www.alaskapta.org](http://www.alaskapta.org) to get descriptions on the above committees.

## What AKPTA Is Working On And What Is New

- Inputting on NCLB rewrite
- Analyzing data and positions of the Educational Task Force
- Advocating for higher graduation rates
- Advocating for Meaningful Parent Involvement
- Advocating adequate education for ALL Students
- Changing over from mailings to electronic updates notify us if you need a hard copy instead
- Supporting & Training of our units so they can achieve greater results within their schools
- For a complete listing go to [www.alaskapta.org](http://www.alaskapta.org) and look at our Legislative Platform, Priorities, resources, training material and so much more
- Any additional information or support you might need contact the AKPTA office.



## Know the IRS Laws

WASHINGTON —Many tax-exempt organizations may be required to submit a new annual notice, Form 990-N, “Electronic Notice (e-Postcard) for Tax-Exempt Organizations Not Required to File Form 990 or 990-EZ.”

With the enactment of the Pension Protection Act of 2006 (PPA), **the majority of small tax-exempt organizations are now required to submit the e-Postcard.** Previously, tax-exempt organizations with gross receipts of \$25,000 or less were not required to submit information returns. **The first e-Postcards are due in calendar year 2008.** The IRS intends to have an option available for free electronic submission of the e-Postcard.

**Any organization that fails to meet its annual reporting requirement for three consecutive years automatically loses its tax-exempt status under the new law.** An organization that wants to regain its exempt status will then have to reapply for recognition as a tax-exempt organization.

### Short, Easy, Free and Electronic

Further details, including exceptions to the reporting requirement and a copy of the educational letter, are available in the charities and non-profits section of [www.IRS.gov](http://www.IRS.gov)

**H.U.G.S.  
Items to be sent to  
the Alaska PTA office  
that you will need to  
be a**

**HEALTHY UNIT IN GOOD  
STANDING:**

Current Officers List

Membership List

Membership Dues

Updated Bylaws (should  
be updated every 5 yrs)

Annual Audit for the  
2006-2007 school year

990EZ form filed note  
new IRS laws

## Get Your PTA Off to a Strong Beginning this Fall

Welcome to a new school year with PTA! As you get together with your board and members, one of the first things you can do to get your year off to a successful start is to assess the needs of your school/community group and your PTA. By determining your needs first, you can then prioritize those needs and set goals that relate to those needs. Those goals will help you in every decision you make throughout the year as a PTA. Each request that comes up can be answered based on your goals—"Does this program, event, request fit in with our goals?" After setting your goals and priorities, you will know what your needs are in terms of resources—people, programs, and funding. That will provide strength and focus to your fund raising efforts. You will have specific goals to share with your community, giving a solid reason for raising funds.

A brief assessment tool has been created to help you determine your school and PTA needs. In addition to the questions, there are resources listed that can help you fill the needs. National and Alaska State PTA have a great wealth of program ideas to give you support and direction in many areas as you work with the families in your communities. Hopefully this tool will be helpful as your PTA plans for the upcoming year. You can find this tool at [www.alaskapta.org](http://www.alaskapta.org) in the Programs section.

Continue to watch for more updates on Programs via the newsletter and the website throughout the year.

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