

THE Councilor



Shawnee Mission
Area Council

PTA[®]

every child. one voice.

President's Message

The start of school and the rush of PTA activities can be a very stressful time for PTA presidents. Many of you may feel overwhelmed right now.

Be sure to make time to relax and find satisfaction in a job well done. Each of our schools got off to a smooth start this year and your PTA team played a critical role in making that happen. Congratulations!

This newsletter contains information to assist you in your work as a PTA leader. It is important that you share this information with the appropriate leaders in your individual PTA unit. Please encourage your officers and committee chairs to attend the workshops offered by SMAC. These workshops will keep you informed of current PTA policies, offer new ideas and different methods of

achieving the same goal, as well as provide opportunities to share successes and failures with other PTA members. There is no reason for any unit to reinvent the wheel or make the same mistakes other units have made. If we all communicate with one another, all our jobs will be easier.

Mark your calendars and plan to attend our presidents' coffees and exchanges. These informal meetings provide excellent opportunities for idea sharing and networking.

Your Shawnee Mission Area Council PTA officers are willing and able to attend one of your PTA meetings or to meet with any of you individually at any time. Please take advantage of their experience and willingness to serve.

With membership drives going on in all of our units, I would like to suggest that you remember your past PTA leaders. They are a part of your unit's history and tradition. Consider asking them to join your PTA, sending them newsletters and a calendar of events, and invite them to your Founder's Day Celebration. Let's keep them involved in the school community!

We are undertaking a couple of new projects this year including preschool parent involvement in PTA and a Recreational Fair. The Recreational Fair is a project SMAC is doing with the Parent Resource Center to provide parents with ideas for summer activities for their children. Watch for more information!

Kim Pflaum,
SMAC President

Inside this issue:

SMAC General Mtg.	2
Citizenship Program	3
Membership Info.	4
SMAC Dues Reminder	5
Clothing Center	7
Reflections Program	8
Workshop Information	9

Meet the Administrators at the SMAC General Meeting

Wednesday, Oct. 16

7 p.m.

Indian Creek Technology Center
4401 W. 103rd Street

Join the members of SMAC for the second general meeting of the year. You will have the opportunity to speak with five of the district administrators in a small group setting. We encourage all parents to attend this informative evening. **This is a great opportunity to get your questions answered by people in the know.** Hope to see you there.

Presidents and SMAC Chairs: Keep Current!

Please send any changes in email address to Laura Bolter at lbolter@everestkc.net so that you can stay up on all of the latest info from SMAC. If you've signed up for the email update at the Topica website, make sure to edit your address there, in order to avoid missing those email distributions.

Bienvenidos a la "Zona Escolar" de Shawnee Mission

This summer during the National Convention held in San Antonio, Shirley Igo unveiled the new outreach program targeting Spanish-speaking families. The program kicked off with the slogan "*Los Buenos Padres No Nacen... Se Hacen*" (Good parents are not born, They are developed). It includes a mentor program to get these families involved in our schools, as well as making materials and resources available in Spanish. Branching from this initiative, we will start by sharing important information in this column, and provide print ready Spanish materials via this publication as well as the electronic newsletter to address our region's Spanish needs.

As the second part of this initiative, I am available to visit your PTA meeting or PTA sponsored activity to address your membership in Spanish. Feel free to call me at 341-6996 or via email at carmenbaby@aol.com to address the Spanish needs in your school, or if you are interested in working with me to promote and expand this program.

I encourage you to download the Spanish version of the "100 Ways for Parents to Be Involved in Their Child's Education" at http://www.pta.org/parentinvolvement/standarts/pdf/app_e1spanish.pdf. For other Spanish materials readily available to your membership, visit the National PTA Website at www.pta.org and follow the Spanish Resources links. We are all excited about this new program, and hope we can help you reach these families. Hasta la próxima.

Carmen-Elena Sachs
Member-At-Large



Elementary PTA Presidents' Roundtable

An Invitation for All Elementary PTA Presidents!


Whether you are brand new at being President or are a pro and have everything down pat, we want your ideas and opinions! These roundtables are designed for networking, voicing concerns, asking questions, and sharing ideas in a one hour relaxed setting. We go "Dutch" so you can order exactly what you want. We would love to see your smiling face at one of these sessions. You may attend the one that is most convenient for you (we even have one on a Saturday!). If possible, please let me know which session you will be attending, even the night before, so I can have the approximate table space ready for you.

RSVP to Nancy Huckaba 894-5275 or nancy@huckaba.com.

Thursday, Sept. 26 – 1 p.m. – Panera Bread, 15221 W. 87th, West of the Lackman & 87th Street intersection

Tuesday, Oct. 8 – 9 a.m. – Homers Coffeehouse, 7126 W. 80th in Old Town Overland Park (In the conference room)

Saturday, Oct. 12 – 10 a.m. – Panera Bread, 8300 Mission Road



WE'RE ON THE WEB
AT www.ptasonline.org/smac/

2002-2003 Kansas PTA Citizenship Program

This year's theme is: ***"Kansas is special to me because ..."***

Kansas PTA sponsors this contest for students in grades 5-9. There are two categories: essay and poetry. The theme changes each year, but is designed to encourage children to think about good citizenship. This could encompass what people have done in the past, can do now, or what they could do in the future to make a positive impact in their community or the world. This theme could be incorporated into a social studies unit, while enhancing a student's critical thinking and writing skills at the same time.

Friday, Oct. 18 --Entries due to local PTA unit chairman. This deadline is within your own school building.

Friday, Nov. 1--Judged winning entries from you school are to be forwarded to the Shawnee Mission Area Council at the McEachen Building. They must be delivered or postmarked by Nov. 1.

For more information contact Lisa Schroeder, SMAC Citizenship Chair, at 859-9277 or at lisaandrocky@kc.rr.com.

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Early Membership Award Deadline is Oct. 1

To earn the Early Membership Award, the following must be submitted to Kansas State PTA and postmarked no later than Oct. 1:

- A completed 2002-2003 Kansas PTA Treasurer's Remittance Form—please check Early Membership on the back of the form and note the school enrollment as of Sept. 20 (This information is available from your school office).
- A membership roster (including both names and addresses).
- A check for \$3 **for each member** listed on your membership roster (\$1.25 per member goes to Kansas State PTA and \$1.75 per member goes to National PTA).

Reminder: *No individual is a member of PTA until his/her name, address, and dues have been submitted to Kansas PTA.* Please do not hold the state or national portion of PTA dues in your treasury. Submit all new members on a monthly basis.

Clarification: There have been several questions about the **100% Teacher Participation Award**. Please note that the Membership Packet included in the summer mailing states: "This includes all teachers except substitute teachers. When all full time teachers in your school join your PTA, the unit qualifies for this award. As noted above, this achievement must be indicated on the Treasurer's Remittance Form. The form must be received in the State Office by March 1. Note that although this award specifies full time teachers, do not hesitate to ask all staff to join your PTA. If you have further questions, please contact the SMAC membership chair.

Continue to solicit memberships through newsletters, mailings, special invitations, PTA and school events, etc. Don't forget to focus on the business community and new families entering your school later in the year.

Feel free to contact Cynthia Jarrold, SMAC Membership Chair, at 381-1543 or at jarroldrc@msn.com with any membership-related questions. Keep up the good work!

PTA Membership PTA Membership PTA Membership PTA Membership PTA

Mark your calendars for the Administrator's Dinner

Thursday, Nov. 21, 7 p.m.
Shawnee Mission North High School

Join us as Shawnee Mission North hosts the annual Administrator's Dinner sponsored by Shawnee Mission Area Council PTA. All Presidents and their spouses, Area Council Chairman and officers and their spouses should plan to attend. PTA Presidents, invite your school principal and his/her spouse to attend as guests of your unit. You should receive your invitation and reservation card in early October.

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What's happening at the

Parent Resource Center

The staff at the Parent Resource Center (PRC) is looking forward to another year of working closely with the Shawnee Mission Area Council PTA. This year, SMAC and the Parent Resource Center will partner in presenting a recreational fair for families to find information on summer programs for their children. This fair is an opportunity for parents to one-stop shop to gather lots of information. More will be shared about the fair in future newsletters.

Recently, all elementary and middle schools have received a packet of information to set up a Parent Resource Center display at their schools. Your efforts are very much appreciated in setting up these displays and getting information out to parents about the PRC. Each school should have received a resource packet, poster, PRC brochures, and our class booklets. Please contact us if you have any questions regarding the display or need more information.

A week ago, an article was sent out to all PTA presidents/newsletter editors to be placed in your September newsletter. Articles will be sent throughout the year. Ideas for articles that you feel would be helpful to your parents are always welcome.

Please remember that a video describing the services of the PRC is available for checkout. The video is less than five minutes in length, therefore, it is a fast and easy way to remind parents of this resource. We will also be glad to present at a PTA, Site Council, or any other meeting that you feel would be appropriate. Keep in mind that the PRC can help fill the void created by the loss of counselors at the elementary level.

If you have any ideas that could help improve the services that the PRC offers, please share those thoughts with us. We want to know how to best serve all parents throughout the district. The Parent Resource Center is located in the Dorothy Moody Elementary at 10101 England. We can be reached at 993-9315 or by email at parentresource@smsd.org.

Send us your Unit Newsletters

Please forward a copy of your elementary, middle or high school's PTA newsletter to the SMAC

Councilor Editor. Send them to Janet Martz at 5301 W. 65th Place, Prairie Village, KS 66202 or by interschool mail to Highlands Elementary School, c/o Janet Martz.

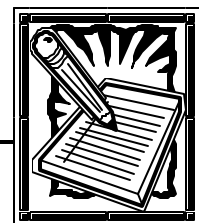


Liability Insurance Reminder

Important: Your unit's annual insurance premium is due now. Send your payment to Kansas PTA and send a copy of proof of insurance to Rusty Newman, Director of Student Services and Athletics, McEachen Administrative Center, 7235 Antioch, Shawnee Mission, KS 66204.

The Councilor is published monthly. The article deadline for the upcoming October issue is Wednesday, Oct. 2. Send articles to Editor Janet Martz by e-mail at jbmartz@juno.com or by mail to 5301 W. 65th Place, Prairie Village, KS 66202.

Contact Janet at 384-5306 or at the above email address with any comments or questions.



The Clothing Center Schedule 2002-2003

Date	School	Officers	SMAC Chair	Officers/Chairs
	8:30-11 a.m.	8:30-11 a.m.	8:30-11 a.m.	Evening 4:30-7:00 p.m.
23-Sep	Bluejacket Flint, Bonjour	Jorgenson		
30-Sep	Briarwood, Broken Arrow	Kremers	Jackson	
7-Oct	Brookridge, Brookwood	Bolter	Jarrold	
8-Oct	7 Middle Schools	Changeover	Lafferty	
14-Oct				Carper, Noll
21-Oct	Carpenter, Comanche		Schroeder	
28-Oct	Corinth, Crestview	Etherington	Ralstin	
4-Nov	Diemer, East Antioch	Wheeler	Neal	
11-Nov	TEEN NIGHT			Needham, Lafferty
18-Nov	Highlands, Marsh	Hodgson	Martz	
25-Nov	McAuliffe, Merriam		Anderson	
2-Dec	Mill Creek, Moody		Needham	Needham
9-Dec				Franklin, Lafferty
6-Jan	Nieman, Oak Park	Kobyliniski	Robinson	
13-Jan				Carper, Huckaba
27-Jan	Overland Park, Pawnee	Sachs	Riedel	
3-Feb	Prairie, Rising Star	Hodgson	Waters	
10-Feb				Jorgenson
18-Feb	5 High Schools	Changeover	Lafferty	
24-Feb	Roeland Park, Roesland	Wheeler		
3-Mar	Rosehill, Rushton		O'Grady	
10-Mar				Wintering, Lawson
7-Apr	Santa Fe Trail, Shawanoe	Kobyliniski		
14-Apr			Zila	Lafferty
21-Apr	Somerset, South Park	Kremers	Miller	
28-Apr	Sunflower, Tomahawk	Bolter		
5-May	Trailwood, West Antioch	Etherington	Talbott	
12-May				Breitmayer, Blake
19-May	Westwood View	Sachs	Nowell	



The SMAC PTA Clothing Center is located in the lower level of the Indian Creek Technology Center, 4401 W. 103rd Street in Overland Park. . . . Just follow the signs. Shopping hours are: 9-11 a.m. on the 1st, 3rd, and 4th Mondays of the month and 5-7 p.m. on the 2nd Monday of the month. Each school is to send 3 workers to help sort clothing on its scheduled Monday date. Sorting hours are from 8:30-11 a.m. Area Council officers and chairs must trade or find substitutes if they are unable to work on their assigned date. If you have questions, call or email Candy Lafferty at 541-8747 or clafferty@aol.com. Special thanks to Vivian and Bobby Baya for their help in translating all of our signs into Spanish. "Gracias."



Reflections Program 2002/2003

Imagine how a child feels when allowed to express their creative selves without academic boundaries... This is the door that the National PTA Reflections Program opens for our area's youth. Participants ranging from Preschool to 12th grade are encouraged to submit entries in

one or more than one of the four categories: Literature, Musical Composition, Photography and Visual Arts. This is a program that displays a child's imagination and creative ability, not one of academic performance. Thus, Reflections welcomes every child willing to create and self-express.

This year's theme is "Signs of Courage." Get your Principal, the teachers and your members involved in backing up and promoting this wonderful program. Following are the deadlines:

Individual Units	-	Friday, Jan. 10, 2003
Council/Region	-	Friday, Jan. 24, 2003
State	-	Friday, Feb. 21, 2003



ALL entries must be received by the above dates. However, you can run your local Reflections Program anytime before these deadlines. If you have not done so, please let us know if your school is planning to participate this year and the name of your local chair.

Last year participation increased by 3 more schools and 200 entries, for a total of 39 schools and 1,464 entries. Although these numbers seem like a lot, we want to see our participation increase especially at the middle school and high school level. Let us know how we can help you get your program started. We hope you choose to share this opportunity with your school. If you have any questions, contact Shirley Reeves at 381-2135 or via email at sreeves036@aol.com; or Carmen Sachs at 341-6996 or at carmenbaby@aol.com.

Shirley Reeves, SMAC Reflections Chair
Carmen Sachs, SMAC Reflections Chair Helper

Block Parent Workshop Information

Monday, Sept. 23

7 p.m.

McEachen Administrative Center

Lower Level

7235 Antioch Road

In addition to recruiting the parents of our elementary-aged students, we encourage schools to include parents of preschoolers, as well as other neighborhood adults, who do not have children in their schools, to sign up to be Block Parents. We welcome neighborhood participation. Come and learn some ideas about how to make this happen. Contact Amy Wheeler at 649-1679 or at awheeler2@kc.rr.com with any questions.

Workshop Information

Drug Abuse Prevention Program Workshop

Sept. 17
7 p.m.

McEachen Administrative Center
Lower Level
7235 Antioch Road

Contact Mary Ca Ralstin at 268-5970 or
JRALSTIN@worldnet.att.net with questions.

Chat and Chew Workshop

Tuesday, Sept. 24
7 p.m.

McEachen Administrative Center
7235 Antioch Road



Contact Denise Riedel at 385-3229 or
riedelfive@yahoo.com with any questions.

Legislative Workshop

Wednesday, Sept. 18
7 p.m.

McEachen Administrative Center
Room 7911
7235 Antioch Road

Contact Julie Rainen at
jhrainen@prodigy.net with questions.



Treasurers 990 Workshop



Attention Treasurers! Please join me for an
informative workshop on filling out the 990 and
990 EZ tax forms.

Thursday, Oct. 10
7 p.m.

McEachen Administrative Center
Room 7
7235 Antioch Road

Contact Joni Etherington, SMAC Treasurer at
642-4064 or kcetherington@kc.rr.com
if you have questions.

Fundraising Workshop



Wednesday, Oct. 2
7 p.m.

McEachen Administrative Center
Board Room
7235 Antioch Road

Contact Peggy Miller at 579-6585 or at mmgpeggy@kc.rr.com with questions.

Dates To Remember

SEPTEMBER

17	Tues.	Drug Abuse Prevention Workshop	7 p.m.	McEachen
18	Wed.	Legislative Workshop	7 p.m.	McEachen
23	Mon.	Block Parent Workshop	7 p.m.	McEachen
24	Tues.	Chat and Chew Workshop	7 p.m.	McEachen
25	Wed.	High School Pres. and Prin. Exchange	8:45 a.m.	McEachen
26	Thurs.	Elementary Presidents' Roundtable	1 p.m.	Panera Bread (Lenexa)

OCTOBER

1	Wed.	Early Membership Award Deadline		
2	Wed	Fundraising Workshop	7 p.m.	McEachen
2	Wed.	Executive Session Meeting	9:30 a.m.	McEachen (lower level)
8	Tues.	Elementary Presidents' Roundtable	9 a.m.	Homer's (Old Town O.P.)
10	Thurs.	Form 990 Treasurer's Workshop	7 p.m.	McEachen
12	Sat.	Elementary Presidents' Roundtable	10 a.m.	Panera Bread (Mission Rd)
15	Tues.	SMAC dues due		
16	Wed.	Meet the Admin., SMAC Gen'l Mtg.	7 p.m.	Indian Creek



The Councilor
SMCA-PTA
 7235 Antioch
 Shawnee Mission,
 KS

INSIDE

Workshop Information