

The Councilor



Shawnee Mission
Area Council

PTA[®]

every child. one voice.

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SMAC Officers 2004-05

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Laurie Franklin

VP/Community Services

Debbie Lawson

VP/Cultural Services

Mary Ellen Naylor

VP/Educational Services

Teri Waters

VP/Public Relations

Joni Etherington

Treasurer

Linda Kana

Recording Secretary

Doreen Campaign

Corresponding Secretary

Sammie Kudera

President's Message

The beginning of the school year also heralds the start of a new year of PTA activities. Many schools have already held back to school evenings and welcome back activities. These events are held to help build lines of communication and a sense of community in our schools. As a PTA leader, you serve as a vital link in the line of communication. Please share with the members of your unit the information you receive from SMAC, Kansas PTA and National PTA. This edition of *The Councilor* contains meeting times for many fall activities to help your PTA board become better prepared for the year.

The Shawnee Mission Board of Education will be holding several special meetings to help keep the patrons of the district informed. The first of these meetings will be held on October 4, at 7:00 P.M. at the McEachen Administrative Center. The topic will be "Ask the Board." Patrons will be given the opportunity to ask questions of general interest and receive responses from the members of the board of education and district administrators. This is not a forum to discuss child specific concerns. This event offers another avenue to keep lines of communication open between the district and patrons.

Kansas PTA is sponsoring an evening event to reach PTA members of the Shawnee Mission district. Two workshops will be presented on September 21, at 7:00 P.M. at the Indian Creek Technology Center. Topics to be discussed are "Working with the Media" and "What's Ahead in Legislation for Kansas Schools."

Please encourage members of your unit to attend these events and workshops.

Rae Ann Kobylinski
SMAC President

*"Education is not the filling of a
pail, but the lighting of a fire."*

— William Butler Yeats



SMAC Officers 2004-05
cont'd.

Members-at-Large
Kimberly Schultz
Roxann Quarnstrom
Mary Ca Ralstin

Representatives

SMSD Administration
Dr. Marjorie Kaplan
Board of Education
Susan Metsker

NEA
Lisa Elliott

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Dennis Way

Middle School Principals
Carla Allen

High School Principals
Joseph Gilhaus

Bylaws/Parliamentarian
Kim Pflaum

Elementary Coordinator
Carmen Sachs

Secondary Coordinator
Bridget Wagstaff

Immediate Past President
Kim Pflaum

Region 8 Vice President
Rae Ann Kobylinski

Region 8 (Shawnee Mission Area)
of the Kansas PTA Presents
An Evening of Enrichment
for PTA Members
Tuesday, September 21
7:00 to 9:00 P.M.
Indian Creek Technology Center

“Working with the Media”
Presented by the SM Communications
Dept.

“What’s Ahead in Legislation
for Kansas Schools”
Presented by Vicky Needham (KSPTA VP for
Advocacy) and Donna Bysfield (President, SM
Board of Education)

Meet your Kansas PTA State Officers
Free refreshments/No registration fee



\$75 per person

Please join us for
"A Taste for Learning"
A special evening to raise scholarship funds
for
Shawnee Mission graduates who are
English Language Learners
Wednesday, October 20, 6:30 P.M.
Broadmoor Technical Center

Sponsored by School Administrators Association, SMAC
PTA, and NEA-SM
Contact Julia Crain, 993.7802, for more information.

Upcoming Workshops Upcoming Workshops

Art Smart—Art Smart encourages art appreciation through classroom learning experiences. If you are a veteran or just thinking about getting started, this is your chance to learn about library resources and share ideas and experiences with fellow volunteers. This workshop will be held on **Thursday, September 30, 7:00 P.M., at the Johnson County Central Resource Library, 87th and Farley**. Johnson County Library Youth Services (495.2490) organizes this workshop.

Chat and Chew—The Chat and Chew program is a great way to get children reading. If you would like to learn more about how to make your program fun and successful, come to this workshop scheduled for **September 30, 7:00 P.M., at McEachen**. Michelle Finnerty, Chat 'n Chew Chair (722.5425), will facilitate this workshop.

Citizenship—If you are the Citizenship Chair for your school and would like information about how to run the contest as well as receive other helps, come to the workshop scheduled for **September 8, 7:00 P.M., at McEachen**. Jill Connell, Citizenship Chair (894.9554), will facilitate this workshop.

Cultural Arts Showcase—Plan to attend one of the best shows in town! Presenters will showcase their acts for you to preview. In addition, other program information will be presented. Please feel free to bring your children. This showcase will be held **October 7 at 7:00 P.M. in the Shawnee Mission West Little Theater**. Lisa Schroeder, Cultural Arts Chair (859.9277), is the coordinator for this event.

Legislation—PTA legislative representatives will receive information in this workshop on the year's legislative efforts. In addition, ideas for making PTA units more effective in lobbying legislators and educating members will be offered. Nancy Niles Lusk, Legislation Chair (648.2616), will facilitate this workshop on Thursday, **September 16, 6:30 P.M., at McEachen**.

Newsletter—PTA newsletter editors are invited to a workshop that will cover everything from layout and content to working with administration and adhering to district communication policy. This workshop is scheduled for Monday, **September 27, at 7:00 P.M. in the Shawnee Mission East Library**. Cynthia Jarrod, SMAC PTA and SME Newsletter Editor (381.1543), and Susie Ostmeyer, SME Associate Principal, will facilitate the workshop.

Reflections—If you are the Reflections Chair for your school and would like more information about deadlines as well as hints to make your contest more successful, plan to attend this workshop held on **September 28, 7:00 P.M., at McEachen**. Mary Jorgenson, 268.6414, will facilitate this workshop.

Two Workshops for Treasurers

- The Treasurer's Workshop will be held on Tuesday, September 28, at 7:00 P.M. in the John Diemer Elementary School Library, 9600 Lamar.
- PTA Treasurer's should also plan to attend the 990-EZ Workshop scheduled for Tuesday October 5, at 7:00 P.M. in the John Diemer Elementary School Library. Participants will learn how to prepare the 990 IRS form; will be provided with handouts; and will have an opportunity to ask questions. Both workshops will be facilitated by Linda Kana, Treasurer (481.2032).

No registration is required for any of these workshops.

SMAC Dues and Clothing Center Cash Donations

Information About SMAC Dues

Shawnee Mission Area Council of PTA dues of \$35.00 per unit are due by October 15. Checks should be made payable to SMAC PTA and sent with the form below to:

Linda Kana
9637 Dearborn
Overland Park, KS 66207



If you have questions, please contact Linda at 913.481.2032 or fourgreatkanas@sbcglobal.net.

Information About Clothing Center Cash Donations

The SMAC Clothing Center is staffed by officers and chairs from the Area Council and with volunteers from each of the local PTA units. The Center relies on donations from the local PTA units to provide brand new socks and underwear to children in need. Donations of clothing are also appreciated. Clothing at the Center is available to any person living within the boundaries of the Shawnee Mission School District. The Clothing Center provides a valuable service to many families living in our area.

You may use the form below to provide an additional cash donation to the Clothing Center. Please note that you must write two separate checks if you make a cash donation at the time you submit SMAC Dues: one check for SMAC Dues and one check for Clothing Center Cash Donations. Checks should be made payable to SMAC PTA.

SMAC Dues and Clothing Center Donations Mail-in Form

Unit Name _____

SMAC PTA Dues (*\$35.00 for each Shawnee Mission School*) \$ _____

Clothing Center Donation (*Used to purchase new socks/underwear*) \$ _____

Please write two separate checks made payable to SMAC PTA.

Mail to: **Linda Kana**
9637 Dearborn
Overland Park, KS 66207

Thank you for your continuing support!

SMAC Clothing Center Volunteer Schedule

The PTA Clothing Center is located in the lower level of Arrowhead Elementary School at 6601 Santa Fe Drive in Overland Park. Each school is asked to send 3 volunteers to the Clothing Center from 8:30—11:00 A.M. on the assigned day. It is the responsibility of either the school, the officer, or the SMAC chair to make the necessary arrangements for substitutes. Questions should be directed to Denise Vineyard, SMAC Clothing Center Chair, 648.1543.

Date	School	Officers	Chairs/Officers	Officers/Chair
	8:30—11:00 A.M.	8:30—11:00 A.M.	8:30—11:00 A.M.	Evening 4:30—7:00 P.M.
8/30	Apache/Belinder	Franklin	Puskas	
9/13				Lawson/Wintering
9/20	Benninghoven/Bluejacket-Flint	Naylor	Womack	
9/27	Bonjour	Etherington	Schultz	
10/11				Waters/Sachs
10/12	7 Middle Schools	Changeover	9:00 A.M.—11:00 A.M.	
10/18	Briarwood/Broken Arrow	Kana	Moss	
10/25	Brookridge/Brookwood	Campain	Frazell	
11/1	Carpenter/Comanche	Kudera	Sultz	
11/8	TEEN Night			Pflaum/Jorgenson
11/15	Corinth/Crestview	Ralstin	Kinkade	
11/22	Diemer	Schultz	Schroeder	
11/29	East Antioch/Highlands	Quarnstrom	Connell	
12/6	Marsh	Wagstaff	Larson	
12/13				Lawson/Finnerty
1/3	McAuliffe/Merriam	Franklin	Campain	
1/10				Etherington/Noll
1/24	Mill Creek/Moody	Naylor	Jarrod	
1/31	Nieman	Schultz	Lusk	
2/7	Apache/Overland Park	Kana	Logan	
2/14				Pflaum/Gill
2/28	Pawnee/Prairie	Ralstin	Summer Films Chr	
3/7	Rising Star/Roesland	Waters	Duvall	
3/8	5 High Schools		9:00 A.M.—11:00 A.M.	
3/28	Rosehill	Quarnstrom	Koehn	
4/4	Rushton/Santa Fe Trail	Etherington	Franklin	
4/11				Naylor/Lawson
4/18	Shawano	Kana	Campain	
4/25	South Park/Sunflower	Kudera	Ralstin	
5/2	Tomahawk/Trailwood	Schultz	Franklin	
5/9				Waters/Pflaum
5/16	Westwood View	Quarnstrom	Wagstaff	

A Reminder About Liability Insurance

By this time, all of the PTA units in Shawnee Mission should have applied for and received notification of liability insurance coverage from R.V. Nuccio & Associates Inc., insurance underwriters. The Shawnee Mission School District requires liability insurance in order to use its facilities for meetings and/or events. A copy of proof of coverage must be sent to Rusty Newman, Director of Student Services and Athletics for the District. His address is 7235 Antioch, Shawnee Mission, KS 66204. He can also be reached at the following numbers: Phone—913.993.6414 or Fax—913.993.6248.

“Does Our PTA Need Insurance?” is the title of an article written by Kim Pflaum in last summer’s issue of the *Kansas PTA Bulletin*. Kim is a past president of SMAC PTA and also serves as Treasurer of Kansas State PTA. In this piece she answers the question about the need for insurance with a resounding YES!

“A PTA is a business, and a separate legal entity. As with any other business, it is held accountable to the public for its actions, or lack thereof, with which it interacts. The majority of this responsibility lies with current and past leadership, such as the officers of a particular unit. Even though an accident or occurrence is the result of unintentional negligence, it is, nonetheless, considered negligence. This condition oftentimes leads to an allegation or lawsuit, wherein the **unit president**, and all other officers and directors of the unit and State PTA, are personally and individually named, placing their **personal assets at risk**, (home, vehicles, savings, attachment of future wages and earnings of both individual and spouse.) Suits against unit, council, and State PTA leadership can be totally groundless or false, but still require a costly and highly specialized defense, (some in excess of \$250,000). If the lawsuit is not answered and properly defended, it is lost by default, and a judgment obtained against leadership. Responsibility to the public exposes the PTA and its individual leadership to an element of risk, which can be transferred to another through the use of general liability insurance.”

If you would like more information on this subject and the various types of insurance offered, please read Kim’s article on page 11 of the July-August 2003 *Kansas PTA Bulletin*. Check with your PTA President for the full text of this article.

Linda Kana
Treasurer—SMAC PTA

Types of Insurance

Bonding Insurance—Protects people handling cash and other assets.

Directors’ and Officers’ Insurance—Provides protections for claims rising out of the wrongful acts of directors and officers that do not fall within the parameters of physical injury to person or property.

General Liability Insurance—Provides coverage for liability arising from bodily injury, personal injury (false arrest, libel, slander), and property damage to others as a result of an organization’s activities and operations.

Source: *Our Children*, September 2004, p. 22.

More info available through *National PTA Property and Liability Insurance Buyers Guide* available through Kansas PTA.

Reminder

To qualify for the
Early Membership Award,
dues must be sent to the
Kansas State PTA office
no later than October 1, 2004.
Questions? Contact Sonya Puskas,
Membership Chair, 631.4490

Please Note These Important Election Dates!

Advance Voting BEGINS

Wednesday, October 13, 2004

Voter Registration ENDS

Monday, October 18, 2004

Advance Voting ENDS

- Saturday, October 30, at 5:00 P.M. at two locations—Johnson County Northeast Offices, 6000 Lamar, and Johnson County Wastewater Administrative Offices, 7311 West 130 Street, Overland Park
- Monday, November 1, at noon at the main Johnson County Election Office, 2101 East Kansas City Road, Olathe
- In order to be counted, a mailed ballot must be received at the Election Office before 7:00 P.M. on Election Day

General Election Day

November 2, 2004, from 6:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.

Please encourage your members to register to vote. The November election will be a critical one for school finance in Kansas. For more information on voter registration and advance voting go to the website of the Johnson County Election Office at www.jocoelection.org. If you have questions, please contact Nancy Niles Lusk, SMAC Legislation Chair, at 648.2616 or nnlusk@kc.rr.com.



Elementary Roundtables
are an opportunity for
Elementary Unit Presidents to meet with
the SMAC Elementary Coordinator to
share ideas and receive important
SMAC PTA and district information. The
following fall roundtables
have been scheduled:

September 10, 9:00 A.M.
Panera Bread Company, 83rd and
Mission Road

October 8, 9:00 A.M.
Panera Bread Company,
75th and Antioch

*The Councilor is published monthly
during the school year and once during
the summer. Articles are due the first
Wednesday of the month.
Articles should be sent to Cynthia Jar-
rold, Councilor Editor, by email at
cjarrold@sbcglobal.net or by mail to
9107 Reeds Drive, OPKS 66207.
Questions may be answered by
calling 381.1543.*

**Preferred format for emailed articles:
MS Word attachment.**

Dates to Remember

September

10 Friday	Elementary Roundtable	9:00 A.M.	Panera, 83rd and Mission
16 Thursday	Legislation Workshop	6:30 P.M.	McEachen
27 Monday	Newsletter Workshop	7:00 P.M.	SME Library
28 Tuesday	Reflections Workshop	7:00 P.M.	McEachen
28 Tuesday	Treasurer's Workshop	7:00 P.M.	John Diemer Library
29 Wednesday	High School Exchange	8:45 A.M.	McEachen
30 Thursday	Chat 'n Chew Workshop	7:00 P.M.	McEachen

October

5 Tuesday	990-EZ Workshop	7:00 P.M.	John Diemer Library
6 Wednesday	Executive Committee Meeting	9:30 A.M.	McEachen
6 Wednesday	October Councilor Deadline		
7 Thursday	Cultural Arts Showcase	7:00 P.M.	SMW Little Theater
8 Friday	Elementary Roundtable	9:00 A.M.	Panera, 75th and Antioch
27 Wednesday	Middle School Exchange	8:45 A.M.	McEachen

November

2 Tuesday	General Election		
3 Wednesday	Executive Committee Meeting	9:30 A.M.	McEachen
3 Wednesday	November Councilor Deadline		
15-19	National Education Week		
19-21	Borders Benefit Days		
18 Thursday	Administrator's Dinner	6:15 P.M.	SM South



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 7235 Antioch
 Shawnee Mission, KS 66204

