

Kent Area PTA Council  
P.O. Box 6624  
Kent WA 98064-6624

President:  
Editor:

Sharon Pfeiffer  
Jennifer Hanscom

president@kacpta.org  
newsletter@kacpta.org

December 2009  
Volume 35, Issue 5

## President's Message

Sharon Pfeiffer  
president@kacpta.org  
206-244-3389

Next Council Meeting  
January 25 at 7pm  
KSD Board Room



## Inside This Issue

### KAC Board News

- Christmas Celebration 2
- Legislative Update 3
- Cookbooks for Sale 3
- Clothing Bank 4
- Volunteers Needed 5

### Local, State & Nat'l PTA News

- Local Units 5
- Region 9 News 6
- WSPTA News 7

Calendar 8

### Contact Information

- KAC, WSPTA, NPTA 8

## Happy Holidays from the Kent Area Council PTA

New Beginnings Christian Fellowship  
Children's Christmas Celebration



Saturday, December 19, 2009  
10AM – 2PM

At New Beginnings Christian Fellowship (NBCF)  
19300 108<sup>th</sup> Ave SE  
Renton, WA 98055

There will be a Christmas play performed by the children of  
NBCF.

Children ages 12 & under will have a picture taken with Santa  
& a Seahawk Player, and receive a gift

New Beginnings Christian Fellowship  
Children's Christmas Celebration

## KAC Legislative Update

Agda Burchard  
KAC Legislative Chair  
legislation@kacpta.org

### Replacement Levies

At their November 18 meeting, the Kent School Board approved two levy issues to present to the voters in an election to be held February 9, 2010. The first is a replacement Educational Programs and Operations levy. If voters approve, this would renew the current levy that provides approximately 20% of the total funding for the district. The second issue is a replacement technology levy. If voters approve, this would renew the current technology levy, ensuring students and staff will have access to adequate tools for modern curriculums.

The Citizens for Kent Schools (CFKS) has begun to campaign for passage of these two critical issues. The Kent Area PTA Council voted to endorse the levy campaign and contribute \$100. Many PTA units have "levy support" as a line item in their budgets. These funds and donations from the community are needed right away. Checks may be mailed to: CFKS; P.O. Box 6304; Kent, WA 98064-6304. If you would like to get involved in the campaign, please contact CFKS Chair Dennis Higgins: (253) 630-4545. In January, volunteers are needed for phone banking and sign waving.

Here are three things local units can do to inform parents and/or support the levy campaign:

- At your next meeting, have a **levy presentation** from Citizens for Kent Schools. Kentridge Strand including secondary, contact Allyson ([ptamom@q.com](mailto:ptamom@q.com) or 253-630-4727) to schedule. Kentwood and Kentlake Strands including secondary, contact Agda ([agdaburchard@msn.com](mailto:agdaburchard@msn.com) or 253-631-6834) to schedule. Kent Meridian Strand including secondary, contact Sharon ([2sharonp@comcast.net](mailto:2sharonp@comcast.net) or 206-244-3389) to schedule.
- Include a **levy article** in your newsletter. The top paragraph is informational only so should be okay for "Kid Mail."
- Send a **contribution and volunteer** for the levy campaign. (See second paragraph above.)

### WSPTA Focus Day January 18, 2010

Bring your kids and join other PTA activists and their families in Olympia for Focus Day on January 18, 2010, Martin Luther King's Birthday. Our slogan for the day is "Cuts Hurt Kids". Our goal is to work to move education reform, which began with the passage of ESHB 2261 last session, and other PTA priorities forward. Mark your calendar and make plans to be there with your children. Aside from the usual issue updates and legislator visits, free Capitol Tours and special activities are being planned just for kids, so be sure to bring them along.

Come just for the March and Rally at 9:45am or attend all day. Activities are planned from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. For more information and to register, go to [http://www.wastatepta.org/meetings/focus\\_day/index.html](http://www.wastatepta.org/meetings/focus_day/index.html)

---

## KAC Board Fundraising

### *Cookbooks for Sale!*

Toni Troutner  
btkktrout@yahoo.com  
(253) 854-1268

Just in time for the holidays....The KAC Cookbooks are available for \$10! They make great gifts and are full of yummy recipes. The recipes come from staff and families throughout the Kent School District! It's a treasure keepsake, so be sure you get yours today! To purchase contact Toni Troutner at 253-854-1268



## **KAC Clothing Bank**

*Volunteers and Donations Needed During this Busy Season*

Deb Fairclough & Kris Kaeding  
KAC Clothing Bank Chairs  
[clothingbank@kacpta.org](mailto:clothingbank@kacpta.org)

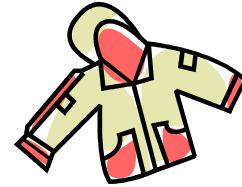
The KAC PTA Clothing Bank is open for business every other Tuesday from 6:00 – 8:00 PM. We provide clothing free of charge to students in the Kent School District as well as their younger siblings. In addition to clothing, students receive coats, hats, gloves, new socks and underwear, shoes, and school supplies, when available. The Clothing Bank is located at Kent Phoenix Academy in the former Boys' Locker Room. (11000 SE 264th Ave in Kent, just off Kent Kangley).

Please remember each Local Unit is asked to send four to five volunteers just one time each year to staff the Clothing Bank. See the KAC PTA website at [www.kacpta.org](http://www.kacpta.org) if you do not know which night your unit has been assigned for this school year.

We encourage each Local Unit to have a Clothing Bank Chairperson on their Board of Directors. Our Local Units are truly the backbone of our network. Although Chairpersons can collect donations, organize volunteers, run clothing drives or sock hops, and many other tasks, the easiest and most productive thing they can do is ADVERTISE. Make it a priority to get the word out every month to ensure that needy families know we exist.

All Local Units are encouraged to make a cash donation each year. Donations may be delivered at the monthly KAC meeting or send to:

KAC PTA 9.7 Clothing Bank  
PO Box 6624  
Kent WA 98064



Our clothing bank schedule and forms may be found and downloaded on our website: [www.kacpta.org](http://www.kacpta.org) under the Committees tab. In November, we served 318 children from 87 families. Your support is critical to keep up with the increased demand.

Stay tuned for more information regarding our involvement in the Les Schwab Kent Shootout, Friday, January 29th at ShoWare Center! Let's raise Cash for Coats and watch some exciting basketball!

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>School Scheduled</u></b>
December 15	Kent Phoenix Academy & Kentlake High School
January 5	Kentridge High School & Kentwood High School
January 19th	Carriage Crest Elementary & Martin Sortun Elementary
February 9	Mattson Middle School & Meadow Ridge Elementary

## News from Emerald Park PTA

Emerald Park has just wrapped up a very successful book fair and fall fundraiser! We received approximately \$5,100 in books for the Emerald Park teachers classroom library and the school's library. There were over 200 volunteer hours logged in for the book fair. The proceeds from the Fall Gift Fundraiser will be used to fund programs that PTSA supports, including RAZ reading materials and our upcoming Young Author's Day visit in January. Our school just kicked off a new socks and underwear and dollars winter clothing drive. Our goal is to have \$500 to donate for new underwear and socks. In addition, we will accept donations of all types of new or gently worn garments.

---

## News from Sunrise PTA

November at Sunrise included wrapping up Reflections and providing dinner for the wonderful staff and teachers during conferences. "Grand" Day and Family Night were the attractions of our successful book fair! The focus in December is a more outward with a Coat Drive for the clothing bank and a Christmas Party for the Son-Rise House. Traditionally, Sunrise has helped with a Thanksgiving dinner, but this year is organizing a Christmas party instead. Son-Rise House is a transitional housing facility which provides women and their children with the critical time and space needed to continue in the healing journey they began at the Mission's Women and Children's Shelter. More information about Sunrise PTA can be found on our new website at <http://sunrise-pta.weebly.com> The Sunrise PTA wishes you all a restful break!

---

## News from Northwood PTSA

November was a busy month at Northwood, wrapping up cookie dough sales for our music program, hosting a book fair, staff appreciation dinner during conferences, and helping with Student of the Quarter. More information about Northwood PTSA can be found on our new website at <http://northwood-ptsa.weebly.com> The Northwood PTSA wishes you all a Happy Holidays!

---

## Volunteers Needed

The United Way of King County's Volunteer Reader Program is looking for volunteers. They are in desperate need of volunteer readers in the city of Kent. The idea of the program is to have volunteers read aloud one on one with 3-5 year olds at childcare centers and preschools. The hope is that this will spur the children's cognitive and emotional development and in doing so prepare them to start school at the same level as peers that have been read to at home. They have three head start and ECEAP sites in Kent that would love to have more readers.

Volunteers go into the classroom for an hour each week to read at a prescheduled time (always on a weekday sometime between 8am and 5pm). They go the same time and day each week so that they can build strong relationships with the kids that they're reading with. The program asks for a six month commitment so that the kids can build relationships with the readers, but most tend to stay on longer than that. They require volunteers to be at least 16 years old, and welcome area high school students to come and read to the kids.

The three sites in Kent are the ones most in need of volunteers. **They are the Kent Family Center (13111 SE 274th St.), Kent Valley ECEAP (225 W. Saar St.) and Kent Panther Lake ECEAP (10630 SE 204th).**

To learn more go to [www.uwkc.org/readers](http://www.uwkc.org/readers).

---

## Region 9 News Update

Allyson Johnson  
WSPTA Region 9 Director  
(253) 630-4727  
ptareg9@wastatepta.org

### The Importance of a Financial Review Committee

The financial review involves an examination of the financial transactions of the PTA, and the procedures used to conduct those transactions.

The treasurer is the custodian of the funds of the PTA and is charged with the responsibility to deposit, disburse funds, and to keep accurate records.

The board of directors has the responsibility to see that the funds of the PTA are administered properly and actions are made in the best interests of the members. To assure this has been done, the board acted responsibly, and that good financial practices have been followed, a financial review of the books and records must be conducted.

A financial review must be conducted:

- Immediately following the end of the fiscal year (June 30<sup>th</sup>) in compliance with WSPTA Uniform Bylaws;
- When a new PTA member assumes the treasurer position; or,
- Whenever there is a question about the financial wellbeing or performance of the PTA.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

A mid-year financial review is strongly recommended for all PTA's. This financial review should be conducted in the same manner as the one at the end of the fiscal year.

### Who can perform the Financial Review?

The WSPTA Uniform Bylaws are very specific in defining who can conduct a financial review of the PTA's books and records. Page 10 Article 5 Section 7 Duties of Officers "treasurer" (e) (2)

*.....close the books on June 30 and submit the books and records for financial review to a financial review committee of no fewer than three (3) members appointed by the president or to a qualified accountant. The financial review committee shall not include the people who were authorized to sign or individuals living within the same household as those authorized to sign on the bank account for the period being reviewed;*

Refer to the WSPTA Leadership Handbook- Money Matters section page 14 and 15. The Financial Review check list can be found on pages 34-37.

If you have any questions about the financial review process or any other financial questions please let me know.

As I sit here with the sunshine shining writing this article, reflecting on the last 6 months of service spent as Region 9 Director, I think of all of the wonderful opportunities I have had to grow and watch others around me grow. I want to thank all of you for the opportunities you have given me. You are all amazing people and leaders, with such a strong commitment to kids.

I look forward to seeing you at Focus Day on January 18<sup>th</sup> in Olympia. Remember to bring your kids, this will be a great day for all of us to make a difference.

I hope everyone has a wonderful and safe holiday season with their families and friends.

Smile,  
Allyson Johnson  
Region 9 Director

## WSPTA Update

Bill Williams  
Executive Director, WSPTA  
(253) 565-2153

### **ADDITIONAL NOMINEES SOUGHT FOR AT-LARGE POSITIONS ON THE WSPTA 2010-11 NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

At last year's WSPTA convention, the delegates amended the WSPTA Bylaws to increase the number of At-Large (i.e. non- WSPTA Board member) positions on the state Nominating Committee. Ironically, when the deadline for submission of recommendations for the 2010-11 Nominating Committee passed last month, only two nominations had been received. Candidates for these positions must be members in good standing at least 30 days before election and all candidates who meet the minimum requirement will be presented for consideration by the delegates at the Annual Convention to be held on April 30 – May 2, 2010. Candidates for these positions have until March 15<sup>th</sup> to self declare by filing the Declaration of Good Faith available on the WSPTA website [http://www.wastatepta.org/meetings/convnetion10/Elections/Nom\\_Declaration\\_of\\_Good\\_Faith\\_09-10.pdf](http://www.wastatepta.org/meetings/convnetion10/Elections/Nom_Declaration_of_Good_Faith_09-10.pdf)

### **REMEMBER TO APPLY FOR RESELLER'S PERMIT OR BE PREPARED TO PAY SALES TAX ON PURCHASES FOR RESALE**

PTAs and other non-profits are not required to pay sales tax on items that they purchase for resale, but in order to take advantage of this exemption, beginning January 1, 2010 you must have a Reseller's Permit issued by the state Department of Revenue. After December 31 the Resale Certificates that you may have used in the past will no longer be valid. In the alternative, you can pay the sales tax on the initial purchase and then apply for a refund. You can get more information at the Department's website <http://www.dor.wa.gov/Content/FindTaxesAndRates/RetailSalesTax/ResellerPermit/default.aspx>

### **WHETHER OR NOT YOU ATTENDED A PTA & THE LAW WORKSHOP, WE WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU SO WE CAN MAKE THEM BETTER FOR EVERYONE**

The fall round of Washington State PTA's "PTA & the Law" workshops has been completed, with seventeen different workshops in all parts of the state. To help us improve this important training program, we'd appreciate your feedback, regardless of whether you attended or not. **For those who attended a PTA & the Law Workshop this year**, please take a short survey at this link: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/DDJZS3N>. **If for whatever reason you weren't able to attend a workshop this year**, please complete the even shorter survey at this link: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/DDRZ2WS>. Your opinions matter greatly to us—in fact we can't get better without them.

### **JOIN WITH WSPTA TO TAKE UP NATIONAL PTA'S NATIONAL ADVOCACY CHALLENGE**

As you probably know, many of the national programs that benefit children came about largely because of PTA advocacy. That legacy has been passed on to us because of the work of those who preceded us as PTA leaders. Earlier this week National PTA President Chuck Saylors issued a challenge to all PTA members and their state associations to carry on the legacy of national advocacy at an even higher level than before:

To increase PTA's voice on Capitol Hill, we challenge *all* PTA members to join the PTA Takes Action Network and respond to every action alert by reaching out to their members of Congress. **The state with the highest increase in number of PTA Takes Action Network members and response rates to action alerts between now and May 15, 2010, will be named the National PTA Takes Action Challenge Champion and recognized at the National PTA Convention in Memphis, Tennessee, June 10–13, 2010.**

Washington State PTA is taking up this challenge, and we encourage every local unit to make it one of their highest priorities. The most important effort is to encourage as many of our members as possible to sign up for the PTA Takes Action Network, and then use the user-friendly system to communicate PTA's message to your Senator or Congress member. To help you, National PTA has provided us a Local Unit Leader Tool Kit which includes the full text of President Saylor's challenge and which you can download from the WSPTA Advocacy Page. Washington has a long history of advocacy at the local, state and national level, and we urge you to help us continue that work on behalf of our children.

## Calendar

---

### January 2010

- 11 - Board Meeting (Rainier Room - KSD Admin Building)
- 25 - General Membership Meeting (Board Room - KSD Admin Building), 7pm

### February 2010

- 8 - Board Meeting (Rainier Room - KSD Admin Building)
- 22 - General Membership Meeting (Board Room - KSD Admin Building), 7pm

### March 2010

- 8 - Board Meeting (Rainer Room - KSD Admin Building)
- 22 - General Membership Meeting (Board Room - KSD Admin Building), 7pm

### April 2010

- 6 - Founders' Day Dinner
- 12 - Board Meeting (Rainer Room - KSD Admin Building)
- 26 - General Membership Meeting (Board Room - KSD Admin Building), 7pm
- 30 - Washington State PTA 2010 Annual Convention (DoubleTree Hotel - Seattle Airport - SeaTac, WA)

### May 2010

- 1 - Washington State PTA Annual Convention
- 2 - Washington State PTA Annual Convention
- 10 - Board Meeting (Rainer Room - KSD Admin Building)
- 24 - General Membership Meeting (Board Room - KSD Admin Building), 7pm

---

### KAC, WSPTA, and NPTA Contact Information

KAC President-Sharon Pfeiffer  
206.244.3389  
president@kacpta.org

Senior Vice President-Hallie Knudson  
253.850.3318  
vicepresident@kacpta.org

Kentridge Area VP-Carol Liu  
253.638.7243  
kentridgevp@kacpta.org

Kent-Meridian Area VP-Margaret Pfeifle  
kentmeridianvp@kacpta.org

Kentlake Area VP-Dana Tate  
kentlakevp@kacpta.org

Kentwood Area VP-Pam Rumer  
kentwoodvp@kacpta.org

Secondary-Mark Ryan  
secondaryvp1@kacpta.org

Secretary-Toni Troutner  
253.854.1268  
secretary@kacpta.org

Treasurer-Anita Kallish  
treasurer@kacpta.org

Legislation Chair  
Agda Burchard  
legislation@kacpta.org

KAC Newsletter Editor-Jennifer Hanscom  
(253) 859-9567  
newsletter@kacpta.org

Web Site—Leon O'Daniel  
webmaster@kacpta.org

KAC PTA  
P.O. Box 6624,  
Kent WA 98064-6624  
www.kacpta.org

Region 9 Director-Allyson Johnson  
253-630-4727  
PTAreg9@wastatepta.org

WSPTA President-Scott Allen  
ptapres@wastatepta.org

Washington State PTA  
2003 65th Ave West  
Tacoma, WA 98466-6215  
(800) 562-3804  
www.wastatepta.org

National PTA President-Chuck Saylor  
National PTA  
(800) 307-4782