

COUNCIL MESSAGES

HAMILTON COUNTY COUNCIL of PTAs
every child. one voice

September – October, 2011

Issue 1

www.HCCPTAs.org

September 27 HCC Executive Luncheon *at The Meadows*

We will honor Council's Outstanding Educator,
present the Service to Children Award
and
recognize any units who have already achieved
100% Teacher Membership

Program begins at 11:30 a.m.

(There is a reservation form on the last page of
this newsletter that can be removed and mailed
in)

October 19 HCC Program *Avenue of Answers*

Now that your PTA year is underway is there
something you need clarified - how/when to
make motions, what needs a vote, when/how
to revise your bylaws & standing rules?
Do you have questions about Just Between
Friends, money matters, Reflections or
anything else that is of concern to your unit?
Come with your questions and we'll provide
the answers. Together we'll make this a great
PTA year.

Everyone from your unit is invited.
10 a.m. at the HCESC

COUNCIL MESSAGES' GAMES ARE BACK FOR ANOTHER FUN YEAR

Don't forget to look for a game in each newsletter. Complete the game and bring your results to the general meeting for a chance to win a prize package. This issues' game: Halloween/Child Safety. Enter your results in a drawing to be held at the *October* General Meeting.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome back to a new school year! I hope everyone survived our very wet spring and then our extremely hot summer and is now ready to make this a great PTA year.

Your membership drives should be in full swing. Membership is so critical to your units and to all of PTA. It's our numbers that give us a voice in advocating. Don't forget to reach out to past members, people who no longer have any children in school, those in your school district's central office, and others in your school community. Make sure that you take the time to "advertise" your PTA not only within your school and but also your community. Each of your units provides many items, events, opportunities and help to your staffs, students, and community. Do folks know this? It is also important to make sure your membership is aware of children's issues beyond your school. (Hopefully you have an Advocacy or Legislation chair to help with this.) It really is a win-win when people recognize the PTA efforts and want to support and be a part of them.

Elise Fessler, President, Hamilton County Council of PTAs

NEW CANCELLATION/DELAY POLICY

HCC Meetings are:

----cancelled if 3 or more member school districts are cancelled, including evening meetings if evening events are cancelled.

----delayed by 30 minutes (10:30 start) if 3 or more member school districts have 2 hour delays.

COUNCIL GAME: HALLOWEEN/CHILD SAFETY

Match the word/words below with their safety tip.

1. Make sure your children know their phone number including _____.
2. All carried costume props should be made of _____.
3. If a child is wearing a mask, make sure the _____ are big enough for them to see out.
4. Keep candle-lit _____ out of the reach of small children.
5. Teach children to look in _____ directions when crossing the street and obey all traffic signals.
6. _____ is never cool.
7. Costumes for young children should always be _____.
8. Teach children if they drop something near the bus they should _____ before trying to pick it up.
9. Candy should always be _____ by a grownup before eaten.
10. To make sure children are seen at night by drivers they should carry a _____.
11. An _____ should always try to accompany the trick-or-treaters or they should go in groups.
12. Drive _____ the posted speed limit in residential areas during trick-or-treating hours.
13. _____ other vehicles that have stopped in the roadway as they may be dropping off children.
14. If you are handing out treats, make sure the walk areas and stairs are _____ and free of obstacles.
15. Have a special _____ known only to you and your child in case of emergencies.
16. Teach children to never go in to a _____ house or off somewhere with them.

below

well-lit

checked

both

flashlight or light stick

do not pass

stranger's

area code

code word

flexible plastic

tell the driver

vandalism

jack-o-lanterns

adult

eye holes

flame retardant



EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR TIME IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER

Your Area Advisor will receive the nomination form and an instruction letter at Council's October 12 board meeting. Presidents, as soon as you get your packet of information from your Area Advisor, start your process for selecting your school's nominee. Get your committee together, solicit nominations from parents, staff and students, make your selection and then submit your nominee to your Area Advisor. Please check with your Area Advisor for any additional directions. Each of our six school districts will submit one nominee to Council to be their district's Educator of the Year. How your school district selects the district nominee is determined by your Area Advisor. The nominations are due back to Council by March 14, 2012; *however*, your Area Advisor may set an earlier deadline to be turned in at the district level. Each district educator will be honored at the Hamilton County Council of PTAs' Evening Dessert Meeting, April 18, 2012. If you have any questions, please contact either your Area Advisor or myself. Good Luck!

Linda Day, Outstanding Council Educator Chairman, 522-7403

MEMBERSHIP ---- ALERT

At the annual National PTA Convention in June, National's dues were raised from \$1.75 to \$2.25. Ohio PTA dues have remained the same. Therefore, you will need to send in \$4.00 to Ohio PTA for each joining member. *National PTA has not raised their dues for over 10 years.* You may need to change the amount of your dues, so check with your board and make the change if necessary. Please make a note of this change in your by-laws. You DO NOT have to send in this change in your by-laws, but when they need changing in the future, you will have this noted and ready to send in with the rest of your amendments.

As the Membership Chair, you need to send out your first Membership notice as soon as possible. By now you should have received the Membership Handbook from your President. It has a lot of ideas in there for you as the Chair of this important committee. Your parents and teachers need to know about the dues amount change, but you need to also explain about the good things your unit has been doing over the past few years. Ask them to join at your first meeting or send the dues into school. Ask your Principal if you can place a special letter in the mailbox for each teacher.

REMEMBER – your first dues money needs to be sent in to OPTA no later than September 30. If you do this, you will get an “Early Bird Award” from OPTA.

When you reach 100% teacher membership, please let me know and you will receive a certificate to display in your school.

Thank you for all your hard work. PTA needs you and so do all the children in your school and throughout the country.

Carol Kiradjieff, Membership Chairman carolchili@fuse.net

NPTA Reflections Program Theme – “Diversity means...”

The NPTA Reflections Program encourages children, Preschool/kindergarten through Grade 12 to give imaginative expression in the areas of literature, music composition, photography, visual arts, video/film production, and dance choreography. Participation begins at the local level with each district developing its own local procedures/timetables in accordance with the **National PTA rules**. Deadline for local winning entries to come to Council will be **December 14, 2011**.

All local entries advancing to HCC will be displayed at the **Reflections Open House on February 14, 2012** from 6:30- 8:30 pm at the HCESC and the next day at the Founders’ Day Program, from 9-10am.

HCC entries that win or receive honorable mention at the Ohio PTA level will be recognized at **Council’s Evening Dessert Meeting on April 18, 2012**. Ohio PTA displays its winning entries during the OPTA Spring Convention, April 21-22, 2012 and the National PTA winners are displayed as part of the National PTA Reflections Program’s Traveling Exhibit. All students are encouraged to participate. *Entries maybe completed at home or in the classroom setting.* Each student has to complete his/her project independently. Please refer to the OPTA Reflections Handbook for complete information. Any questions, please contact your Area Advisor or myself.

Rick Smith, HCC Reflections Coordinator, 509-9226, 123mks@fuse.net



Hamilton County Council of PTAs has a variety of pins available which are great for saying “thanks”. There are PTA board position pins, earrings, key chains, cookbooks and PTA note cards also. Prices vary from \$2 to \$5. Contact Valerie Perry, Ways & Means Chairman for information at: vsperry14@aol.com or 513-521-7999.



Watch for information on the HCC Founders’ Day Service Project in the next issue of the Messages



COME ONE, COME ALL

to

HCC's ANNUAL EXECUTIVE LUNCHEON

September 27, 2011 11:30 a.m.

The Meadows

59 East Main St. Addyston, OH 45001 513-941-7638

This is our first meeting of the new school year so please join us for a wonderful lunch and a great opportunity to interact with peers and associates from your own and other school districts. You will receive the Council Yearbook which contains a variety of information about what's available through your Council, a calendar of meetings and programs, contact information for your Council officers and contact information of members in other school districts.

We will honor the Outstanding Council Educator, chosen from among all of the school district nominees, present Council's Service to Children Award, and recognize any units that have already achieved 100% Teacher Membership.

Please fill out and send in the form below by September 22. If you need additional spaces, please use a separate sheet. We are looking forward to seeing you there!

Make Checks Payable to: Hamilton County Council of PTAs

Send Reservation Form to: Lori Mueller, HCC Treasurer
309 County View Dr.
Harrison, Ohio 45030

Cost: \$15 per person _____ number of attendees X \$15 = \$_____

School District: _____ PTA Unit: _____

Name _____ PTA Position: _____

Name: _____ PTA Position: _____

Name: _____ PTA Position: _____

Name: _____ PTA Position: _____

Name: _____ School District Position: _____

Name: _____ School District Position: _____
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