

Everett PTSA Council

Proudly serving the PTAs and schools of Everett School District



*** July 1, 2019 ***

Everett PTSA Council eBlast

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* www.everettsacouncil.org *

OUR VISION:

To be a meaningful and vital resource to PTAs and our community partners.

OUR MISSION:

To support, empower, and guide our PTAs to be successful.



Upcoming Dates:

Tuesday, August 13th: PTSA Council Board of Directors' Retreat
Wednesday, August 28th: **Region 7 Training** (Time, location TBD)
Wednesday, Sept. 18th, 6:30pm: **Council Membership Meeting** (all PTAs should have at least one representative present)
Wednesday, Oct. 2nd: **Reflections Training**
Wed, Jan 8, 2020, 6:00pm: **Reflections Celebration Open House** at the Community Resource Center
Oct. 26-27: **WA State PTA Legislative Assembly** at Bellevue College
May 15-17, 2020: **WA State PTA Convention**: at the Lynnwood Convention Center.

2019-2020 Council Meeting Dates:

Please place these on your local PTA calendar and plan to have at least one representative of your PTA leadership board at each of the Council Membership Meetings.

- Wed, September 18, 2019: 6:30pm at the Community Resource Center
- Wed, November 20, 2019: 6:30pm at the Community Resource Center
- Wed, January 29, 2020: 6:30pm at the Community Resource Center
- Wed, March 18, 2020: 6:30pm at the Community Resource Center
- May Council meeting date & location (TBD)

2019-2020 Council Coffee Chats

Dates & locations TBD: If you would like us to set up a coffee chat at a location close to your school, please let us know! We'd love to meet you at a location and time that works best for you and your board members!

End-of-Year Survey

We want to hear from you! Please take a few moments to complete this survey to help inform our Everett PTSA Council on ways to best support local PTAs:

<https://forms.gle/sKUEAWzYyXudhLMz8>

PTA Board Retreat:

A Board Retreat is different from a regular board meeting as it's a time for board members to reflect on progress that's been made, dig a little deeper into your mission and goals, and create a vision for the year ahead. For boards with new members, it also provides a time for team building and sharing organizational information which sets the tone for how the board will collaborate and work together effectively. The year can get busy! So having a time set aside for big-picture planning is important to build into your schedule. July and August are ideal times to do this with your PTA board. See a sample PTA Board Retreat Agenda to get some ideas.

Summer Transitions:

Here at Council we are wrapping up the 2018-19 school year, performing our annual financial review, and transitioning over our leaders just like you all are doing at the local PTAs. Please don't hesitate to continue reaching out with any questions as you go through these transitions and keep a look out for communications from WSPTA on the roll-out of memberplanet. For a more detailed list of PTA summer to-do items, see <https://www.wastatepta.org/july-checklist-running-pta-2/>



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Local PTA Board of Director's

August Planning Retreat

Sample Agenda

Date, Time, Location

	Ice Breaker , introductions or other get to know you
President	Expectations: Code of Conduct , email etiquette Year-End Survey Results (if you did one) Review PTA's Articles of Incorporation (don't have them? Contact Council for help in obtaining a copy) Review PTA's Mission and Goals (do they need updating?) include 2018-19 Membership Goal (is this a S.M.A.R.T. goal?) PTA Communication Plan (Do you have a communication and social media plan?)
Secretary	Review PTA's Standing Rules (do they need updating? Are they too long and complicated and are you following them?)
Treasurer	Review your 2018-19 Budget (does it need updating? Does everyone understand what the line items are being used for?)
President	Membership and Board meeting schedule for the year Preview the Year: What events and committee work are planned for the year? Reminders: Annual training requirements of all elected officers, Council meeting dates

Advocacy

Hi Everyone!

I hope you're enjoying the beginning of summer and the sunshine. As your transitioning and having board retreats this summer, think about your goals for advocacy next year. It could be as simple as sending someone to Legislative Assembly especially if you've never had anyone attend before or talking to your principal about an issue that has come up that needs to be addressed. You could have a member attend a school board meeting and have them share with your members at a meeting what happened. It's important as advocates to stay informed and to share that information.

Advocacy is year round so even though the school year has ended and the legislature is not in session, summer is a perfect time to set up some informal meetings with legislators or to meet with a school board member, city council or county council person. These are all people who make decisions that affect your schools and students. The meetings can be as simple as a coffee chat instead of the formal setting of an office. It's a time to get to know them and to share things that are important to you. If you're meeting with a legislator, it could be a good time to ask what issues might be coming up in the next year or if there is something that was left unfinished, what are the next steps. Remember these officials are all human like you and me, so they're not some scary person behind a glass wall that you can't talk to. They like to talk to constituents and during the summer when things are a little slower and less hectic, it's a great opportunity to meet with them since they typically have some more time. Building these relationships with our elected officials, is a great tool to have as an advocate!

Please contact me if you have any questions. I am continuing as your advocacy chair and want to make sure you have the tools you need to start the next year off smoothly. Lastly, I want to wish everyone a safe and fun summer!

Lizzy Sebring

Advocacy Chair

Membership

2018-19 Members: 5191 Goal: 5150 2017-18 total: 5121

National PTA Convention Recap

The National PTA Convention is a great growth opportunity for leaders looking beyond the local level. Simply getting the opportunity to talk with leaders from around the country (and Europe!) and to hear how they do things is invaluable. Programming starts on Wednesday with a First Timer session in the late afternoon. The two best things about that were the ice-breaker (to get to know the people at my table) and then getting introductions to many of the National leadership team, committee members, and National PTA staff.

Thursday, Friday, and Saturday were full of PTA business and class opportunities. A brief summary of the changes in Bylaws and Resolutions are as follows:

- Quorum for the historical preservation committee was set to 3.
- Resolution for Financial Literacy was passed with one minor edit.
- Resolution on the Dangers of Alcoholic Energy Drinks was amended to include Non-Alcoholic Energy Drinks, with a new Resolved statement to "urge decision makers to ban the sale of all kinds of energy drinks in all K-12 schools".
- Lead Poisoning Resolution from 1976 was basically completely re-written to be Lead Poisoning Prevention.

Details on all of the National PTA Resolutions can be found here: <https://www.pta.org/home/advocacy/plas-positions/individual-PTA-Resolutions>

The most heated discussion was on the National PTA proposed dues increase.

Motions were made from the floor to reduce the increase to \$1, \$.75, \$.50, and \$1.50 with increases of \$.50 each of the next 3 years. Attendees from large states (with more than 100,000 members) argued strongly against any increase. Attendees from smaller states argued in favor of smaller increases. Few were in favor of the full \$1.50. WA representative Stacy Meyer testified near the end of the debate saying that "Companies do not raise the price of their goods when they have a decrease in sales. From that perspective, it makes no sense to increase the price of membership as our membership numbers are decreasing." Minutes later, a final vote on the proposed \$1.50 increase was taken with 202 in favor and 448 opposed. **There will be no National dues increase this year.**

The next order of business was the election of the Executive committee, 1/2 of the Board of Directors, and 1/3 of the Nominating and Leadership Recruitment Committee. There were 32 candidates for 14 positions—so different from what happens at the local and State level here in WA!

Keynote speaker was recording artist Janiva Magness. She was also a guest speaker at the Symposium on Foster Care and the host for the Reflections celebration. She spoke to the need for all youth to have an adult mentor to "be the hope" in times of trouble. She has a memoir [Weeds Like Us](#) coming out shortly.

The Reflections Celebration was amazing! The Outstanding Interpretation Winners were each honored on stage with live performances. You can watch a highlight video here: <https://youtu.be/YDkDT7IPmmk>. There was not a dry eye in the audience, especially following the video about a particular Parkland shooting survivor.

Sunday morning started with the Diversity and Inclusion Breakfast. Winners at the local, council, and state level of the Jan Harp Domene Diversity & Inclusion Award presented summaries of what they did to earn the award. As a result of this breakfast, the entire winning applications will be soon be shared here: <https://www.pta.org/home/run-your-pta/Awards-Grants/Jan-Harp-Domene-Diversity-and-Inclusion-Award>

The messages that were heard multiple times over the weekend were:

- 1) Focus on customer service to better serve and to increase membership,
- 2) Participating in the School of Excellence program, <https://www.pta.org/home/programs/National-PTA-School-of-Excellence> will increase the diversity of your PTA membership AND increase your membership numbers,
- 3) "O is for Our and A is for All"- PTA is about helping improve outcomes for ALL students.

By Everett PTSA Council VP Membership/ WSPTA Membership Director Kim Kuhne



2019-20 Reflections Theme

Students can be working on their entries now. Entry forms will be ready by September.



Our Children is an online magazine for parents published by the National PTA.

Today's PTA is dedicated to empowering parents to make a difference in the education, health, and safety of America's children.

<https://ptaourchildren.org/>

* Click [HERE](#) for Spanish Our Children online magazine *



Everett PTSA Council - CONTACT INFORMATION

Executive Committee (elected officers)

Jen Hirman, President: jhirman@gmail.com

Amanda Cabana, VP Membership: aruddell52@gmail.com

Valerie Ungren and Christa Bicket: Secretary vungren@yahoo.com bicket32@msn.com

Jonelle Radford, Treasurer: jonelleradford@gmail.com

Board of Director Positions

Brooke Fiscus, FACE Chair (Family and Community Engagement):

brooke.fiscus@gmail.com

Lizzy Sebring, Advocacy Chair: rungal20@msn.com

Emily Hotchkiss & Vanessa Dilley, Reflections Chairs: everetreflections@gmail.com

Christa Bicket, Programs: bicket32@msn.com

Amanda Cabana, Shoe Fund Chair: everettcouncilshoefund@gmail.com

Craig Willis, Communications Chair: greatapez@yahoo.com

Valerie Cunningham, Special Ed Liaison: valcunningham25@gmail.com

Brooke Yule, Member at Large-Central: beyule@comcast.net

Denise Constantineau, Member at Large-South: denise.constantineau@comcast.net

Laura Peterson, Member at Large & Region 7 Rep: lkpete@mac.com

OPEN-Member at Large-North:

Ad-Hoc Committee Chairs

Heather Morrow & Kristy Mothersbaugh, Awards Recognition Chairs:

everettcouncilbanquet@gmail.com

For more information or inquiries, please refer to the Council Contact list in this eBlast and also posted on our [website](#).

Membership Meeting Minutes and Monthly Financials can be found on our website. [website](#)



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3900 Broadway
Everett, WA 98201 - USA

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