

Invitation to Convention

May 18-19, 2019

Dear PTA Presidents and Officers, PTA Members, Teachers, and Principals,

The West Virginia Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc., hereby calls its members to send delegates and representatives to the 96th Annual West Virginia PTA Convention in Shepherdstown, WV, May 18-19, 2019.

On behalf of the West Virginia PTA Board of Managers, I invite and encourage your PTAs to attend this year! Convention is a great opportunity to become more engaged in PTA, attend relevant workshops, receive leadership development, attend the business meetings of the association, and be motivated by outstanding speakers and presenters. The state convention is great for leaders at all levels. Any and all PTA members including our youth are welcome to join us!



Dani Hancock
WV PTA President

Whether this will be your first convention or you have attended in the past, convention is rewarding and inspiring! We are providing professional speakers and presenters on the latest topics surrounding education and how you can make your PTA the best it can be! For some fun after a long day of workshops and meetings, dinner will be on your own Saturday evening so you can enjoy Shepherdstown and relax. After dinner, join us on the Rumsey Tavern patio for s'mores and socializing around the firepit!

This year, we will be presenting all awards at the Official Luncheon on Sunday including local unit, membership, volunteer, individual awards, as well as Reflections, Scholarships, and Student Healthy Recipe Challenge winners. The Scholarship Auction will also be held at Sunday's award luncheon this year. We are trying something new! Our delegates have expressed wanting more free time at the Convention, so we have listened to your requests and Saturday evening will be for you! On Sunday, speakers will present information about the upcoming special session for education at our General Session meeting.

The theme of this year's convention, "Bee a Part of PTA.....Let's Create a Buzz" will remind our delegates how important it is that we continue to use the power of our membership to advocate for our children. We are the largest child advocacy association in the state and we need to create a "buzz" about public education and continue to fight for what our children need to succeed. As parents, we are the best advocates that will speak up for what's best for our children, so we need to continually stay educated and involved in our children's lives moving into the future.

In this Call to Convention, you will find essential items for attending convention which include hotel accommodations, registration form, the tentative schedule of events, and workshops. I'm looking forward to seeing you at the 96th Annual West Virginia PTA Convention!

Yours in PTA,

Dani Hancock

Dani Hancock
West Virginia PTA President

The mission of West Virginia PTA is to make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children.

What's Happening

Convention Schedule

Friday, May 17, 2019

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm Meet the WV PTA Board

Saturday, May 18, 2019

8:00 am - 8:20 am First Timers' Orientation
8:30 am - 10:00 am **General Session I**
10:10 am - 11:00 am Workshop - Session A
11:10 am - 12:00 pm Workshop - Session B
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm Luncheon
Keynote Speaker:
WV Teacher of the Year
1:15 pm - 2:30 pm Round Table Discussion
Idea Sharing:
Fundraising/Membership
2:45 pm - 3:45 pm Workshop – Session C
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm Workshop – Session D
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm Dinner on your own
7:00 pm - 10:00 pm Social Time



Join us on the patio of the restaurant for networking and have some s'mores around the fire pit!

Sunday, May 19, 2019

8:30 am - 11:00 am **General Session II**
Featuring an Education Panel Discussion with updates on the Special Legislative Session!
12:00 pm - 2:30 pm Awards Luncheon and Scholarship Auction

“Awards Luncheon”

We have combined all award presentations into our Award Luncheon held on Sunday this year! Join us to honor students, volunteers, educators, and PTAs as they are recognized for their hard work followed by our scholarship auction!

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“Youth Schedule”

Don't forget you can bring students to the convention! On Saturday, school-aged children will have their own workshops beginning at 10am! They will join the adults for lunch, have more fun workshops in the afternoon followed by game time until 5pm! You can register your students on the sign-up sheet at the end of this packet!

Hotel Information and Directions

The 2019 West Virginia PTA Convention will be held at the Clarion Hotel and Conference Center in Shepherdstown, WV. A group rate of \$104 (plus applicable taxes) is available to convention attendees. In order to receive the group rate, **please book your overnight lodging directly with the hotel no later than May 1, 2019**. Remember to identify “WVPTA” to receive the discounted rate! Price includes double occupancy. The Clarion has complimentary parking and wireless Internet throughout the building.

Breakfast is on your own. The hotel provides a buffet breakfast for approximately \$10.95 in the Tuscany Grille but feel free to pack your own or visit one of the bakeries in town! West Virginia PTA will be providing water and some snack items in your convention bags at the Registration table for conference attendees. Checks payable to the Clarion Hotel and Conference Center will be accepted from your local PTA. To avoid sales tax, please bring your completed tax exempt form at check-in.



Clarion Hotel and Conference Center
233 Lowe Drive
Shepherdstown, WV 25443
(304) 876-7000
<http://clarionshepherdstown.com/>
Group Code: “WVPTA”

Scholarship Auction Donations

The Annual West Virginia PTA Scholarship Auction is being held Sunday, May 19 immediately following the awards banquet and is open to the public!

Proceeds from the auction benefit the West Virginia PTA Scholarship Fund. Recipients of the West Virginia PTA Scholarship will be recognized during the Awards Banquet on Sunday. All local units, County Councils and individual PTA members are encouraged to donate items to the auction. Please bring your items to the convention. You may leave them at the registration desk upon arrival.

Please remember to label your donation with a tag or card listing your name and/or school and amount of the donated item. **In the essence of time, since we are now hosting the auction after the awards luncheon, please limit your items to themed baskets and nothing under a monetary value of \$20.00.** For further information, please contact the West Virginia PTA Scholarship Chair, Linda Abercrombie at scholarship@westvirginiapta.org.

Basket theme ideas include:

Gardening Baskets	Cooking
Chocolate Lovers	Italian
Themed Book Lovers	Toys
Game Night	Kitchen Utensil
Movie Night	Food – Cake Pops/Fudge!
Sports	Cookie Baking
Beach	School Supplies
Relaxation	WVU Theme
Dog/Cat	BBQ Lovers
Camping	School Supplies



Registration and PTA Shop

Friday, May 17

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm Registration and PTA Shop

Saturday, May 18

8:00 am - 8:30 am Registration and PTA Shop

10:00 am - 12:00 pm Registration and PTA Shop

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm Registration and PTA Shop

Sunday, May 19

8:00 am - 8:30 am Registration only (no PTA Shop hours)

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T-Shirt Decorating Contest

T-SHIRT DESIGN CONTEST

Join your fellow PTA members during General Session II on Sunday morning by designing and wearing a custom-made t-shirt for your PTA showing your spirit!

A prize will be awarded to the individual or group with the best shirt design!

This will be a great opportunity to have fun, network, and learn about your fellow PTA members! All you need to do is come up with a t-shirt design for your delegates to wear at Sunday's General Session!



Local Attractions or Things to Do!

There is SO much to do in the Shepherdstown area! Between River Riders, Antietam, Harpers Ferry, or the Hollywood Casino and Race Track....there is something for everyone! Check out the link below for ideas!

<http://clarionshepherdstown.com/area-attractions/>



PTA Convention Workshops

*(Final Workshop times and detailed information
will be in the Convention Program)*

Check out this year's amazing topics!



Beyond the Bake sale: Learning How to Be a PTA Advocate

Building a PTA Volunteer Network

How to Foster A Great Relationship Between Your School and PTA

Idea Sharing for Fundraising and Membership Ideas

Engaging Families through National PTA Programs

Creating PTA Partnerships

Creating Fun and Inexpensive STEM After-School Activities

Grant Opportunities and How to Prepare!

General Session - Panel Discussion

**“The Latest in Education
featuring an update on the
Special Legislative Session”**

~

Sunday, May 19, 2019

General Session 2

Slate of Officers

The West Virginia PTA Nominating Committee would like to present the following slate of officers for the 2019-2021 West Virginia PTA Executive Board:

President-Elect	Rose Rossana, Harrison Co.
1 st Vice President (Bylaws)	Chris Wuest, Berkeley Co.
2 nd Vice President (Membership)	Janelle Sperry, Berkeley Co.
Secretary	<i>Vacant</i>
Treasurer	<i>Vacant</i>
At-Large Member	Karen Sherman, Berkeley Co.



The West Virginia PTA Nominating Committee has been seeking interested PTA members looking to serve as an officer or at-large member to the Board of Managers and Executive Committee for the 2019-2021 term. The West Virginia PTA President and Nominating Committee Chairperson must have received all applications no later than Friday, April 19, 2019.

At the 2016 West Virginia PTA Convention, bylaw amendments were approved which now allows any PTA member of a local unit in good standing, to be eligible to hold office in the West Virginia PTA, with the exception of the position of president-elect. All applicants must be at least 18 years of age, adhere to election policies and submit an application with his/her qualifications to the nominating committee 30 days prior to the annual convention. The nominating committee has submitted the above slate of officers, however, any eligible applicant having met the above requirements may run from the floor for any of the positions listed above, with the exception of President-Elect. ***See Article XIV, Section 3, Qualifications For Nominations.***

All eligible applicants may be interviewed by members of the nominating and executive committees and are subject to approval. Two years of experience in a local or county unit in good standing is required. References are required upon request. PTA members receiving approval from the nominating committee and the executive committee, whose written consent has been secured, shall be eligible for nomination from the floor.

The at-large member to the Board of Managers and Executive Committee was approved through a bylaws amendment during the 2014 West Virginia PTA Convention. The goal of this position is to include an individual representative of the membership to the Board of Managers and Executive Committee.

Voting Credential Information

All PTA members are eligible to be credentialed to vote in the business portions of the Annual West Virginia PTA Convention. The West Virginia PTA Bylaws state:

Article XIX, Section 2. Voting Body.

- a. The meetings of the West Virginia PTA convention shall be open to all members, upon payment of a registration fee determined by the West Virginia PTA Executive Committee, but the privilege of making motions, debating, and voting shall be limited to members of the board of managers, presidents of county councils or alternates chosen by their councils and accredited delegates or alternates from each local PTA unit. A voting member shall have but one vote although entitled to vote in any of several capacities. The courtesy of the floor may be extended to registered visitors and guest speakers at the discretion of the chair.
- b. Each local unit in good standing as shown by March 1 current year by the books of the state treasurer, shall be entitled to be represented at the West Virginia PTA convention by its president or alternate and by one voting delegate or alternate for every twenty-five (25) members, or fraction thereof.
- c. Each council president, or their alternate chosen by the council is a voting member of the West Virginia PTA convention.

Local Unit Voting Delegate Allotment

Number of Members	Number of Voting Delegates
1-25	2
26-50	3
51-75	4
76-100	5
101-125	6
126-150	7
151-175	8
176-200	9
201-225	10
226-250	11
251-275	12
276-300	13
301-325	14
326-350	15

SPECIAL NOTE:

We will not be mailing out “voting credential cards” in this Call to Convention. In the past, these cards needed to be filled out and signed by the Local Unit/County Council President and the delegate and presented at the registration table.

We have added a section to the registration form which indicates if you are registering as a voting delegate. Your unit president **MUST** sign the registration form in the appropriate place to confirm your eligibility to vote on behalf of your unit. Eliminating this extra step will save the West Virginia PTA money on printing and postage, which can now be allocated in more efficient ways.

See chart above to determine how many voting delegates to which your unit is entitled. Your PTA may and is encouraged to send additional attendees to Convention above the number of your entitled voting delegates. Even though they will not be eligible to vote, the convention is a valuable experience for all PTA members and they will still receive training and workshop experiences. **If your local unit or county council submits registration forms with voting delegates that exceed the total number allowed, we will contact the President of your unit to make the appropriate corrections.** If you have any questions, please contact the office by emailing office@westvirginiapta.org.

Upon presentation of your membership card at the registration desk at Convention, each voting delegate shall receive their voting delegate card, which is the card that signifies their voting status during this convention. Delegates have the opportunity to vote on decisions that affect West Virginia PTA and local PTAs, including their leadership and organizational structure. It is very important to ensure that every local unit is represented at convention. The items presented to the convention delegates can be found in this Call to Convention.

Proposed Bylaw Amendments

West Virginia PTA Members and Registered Delegates to the 2019 State Convention:

The following document is to inform you of an amendment to the STATE Bylaws that will be brought forward for your consideration during the state convention in May. Please note the following:

- The bylaws being amended are the West Virginia PTA bylaws, not the unit or council uniform bylaws. This document governs how your state Board of Managers operates.
- The proposed amendments provided to you in this document were brought forward to the state Board of Managers by the Bylaws Committee. Board members had the opportunity to debate the proposed amendments, and then voted to send the amendments as presented to the convention for adoption.
- Words to be stricken will be shown with a strike-through mark: ~~example~~
- Words to be added will be shown with an underline: example

AMENDMENT 1:

#Article VIII, Officers: Election and Vacancies, Section 5

Currently #Article VIII – Officers: Election and Vacancies; Section 5 reads as follows:

“The term of each officer shall be for two (2) years or until their successor is elected. No officer may be eligible to serve consecutive terms in the same office. A person who has served in an office for more than one half of a full term shall be deemed to have served a full term in such office.

Proposed Amendment:

Amend by inserting the following words (underlined):

The term of each officer shall be for two (2) years or until their successor is elected. Furthermore, if no one is elected to fill an officer position, the current officer is permitted to maintain the position and fulfill the duties and requirements, so the work of West Virginia PTA will continue. No officer may be eligible to serve consecutive elected terms in the same office unless they are continuing to maintain the position until a successor is elected. A person who has served in an office for more than one half of a full term shall be deemed to have served a full term in such office.

Rationale: The West Virginia PTA Bylaws Committee is proposing this Amendment for clarification purposes. If an office remains vacant and a successor is never elected to a position, the officer will continue in the position to maintain the work of the WV PTA.

AMENDMENT 2:

#Article VIII, Officers: Election and Vacancies, Section 9B

Currently #Article VIII – Officers: Election and Vacancies; Section 9B reads as follows:

No officer shall be eligible to serve consecutive terms in the same office.

Proposed Amendment:

Striking the entire Section 9B

~~No officer shall be eligible to serve consecutive terms in the same office.~~

Rationale: The West Virginia PTA Bylaws Committee is proposing this Amendment for clarification purposes and to avoid redundancy. This section is already included in Article VIII, Section 5 and is not necessary to be included in Article VIII, Section 9B.

AMENDMENT 3:

#Article XIV, Committee on Nominations: Section 3c

Currently #Article XIV – Committee on Nominations: Section 3c reads as follows:

No officer shall be eligible to serve consecutive terms in the same office.

Proposed Amendment:

Striking the entire Section 3c

~~No officer shall be eligible to serve consecutive terms in the same office.~~

Rationale: The West Virginia PTA Bylaws Committee is proposing this Amendment for clarification purposes and to avoid redundancy. This section is already included in Article VIII, Section 5 and is not necessary to be included in Article XIV, Section 3c.

Convention Reminders

Did you remember...

- ✓ Hotel Reservation
(before May 1 for discounted hotel rate)
- ✓ Registration for each PTA delegate
(before May 7 for early discount rates)
- ✓ Checks payable to the West Virginia PTA if by mail
- ✓ Bring your PTA membership card to convention
- ✓ Pack casual clothing for workshops
- ✓ Bring completed tax-exempt form when registering at hotel
- ✓ Themed basket donation for Scholarship Auction



WHAT DO I WEAR AT THE CONVENTION?

This is your convention. We want you to be comfortable. The dress for convention is casual for all workshops and general sessions. You may wear business casual or dressy clothing for the awards banquet but formal clothing is not needed. No jeans or shorts at the awards banquet, please.

WHY SHOULD YOUR PTA SEND DELEGATES TO THE CONVENTION?

This is the place where your unit has the opportunity to affect the business of the state PTA, energize your leaders, obtain valuable PTA training, attend workshops from professional speakers on the latest topics in education, network with other PTA members from across the state and idea share!

WHAT HAPPENS AT CONVENTION?

You will attend business sessions and vote on PTA matters. You will hear exciting speakers, attend informative workshops, and meet with fellow PTA members from across West Virginia. You will also meet and spend time talking with the West Virginia PTA Board of Managers and National PTA Representatives. Convention is also a time to reward all of your hard work and celebrate local unit awards, congratulate Reflections and Student Healthy Recipe winners and Scholarship winners during various events.

WHO SHOULD PAY FOR DELEGATES TO ATTEND?

Convention expenses should have been included in your budget. Convention is an investment in the future leadership of individual PTAs. If you do not have a line item for convention, you may amend your budget. (Check your bylaws for details).

PTA SHOP

Convention is a great time to buy a gift for your outgoing officers. What a nice remembrance of the year to give a pin or gift to outgoing/incoming officers, chairpersons, principals and/or school staff! Show everyone you are proud to be involved in PTA. We are now accepting credit cards at convention!

2019 West Virginia PTA Convention Registration Form

A separate form is required for each registrant. This form may be duplicated. **Advanced Registration must be received by May 7, 2019**, to receive discounted registration fees. The availability of meal tickets cannot be guaranteed to late or walk-in registrants. Multiple registrations may be paid together with one check, but please use separate forms for each person. If you have any special dietary restrictions or require special accommodations to fully participate in this year's convention, please indicate, in detail, on the back of this form. **IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE AN EMAIL CONFIRMATION THAT YOUR FORM WAS RECEIVED, PLEASE EMAIL: marketing@westvirginiapta.org**

Contact Information

Name (as it should appear on badge): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Local PTA/Council representing (only one): _____ WVPTA _____ Region: _____

I will be a voting delegate at this year's convention representing my PTA _____ Yes _____ No

_____ (Unit President's Signature confirming voting delegate)

Please let us know if any of the following apply to you:

_____ This will be my first state convention _____ I am a West Virginia PTA Life Member _____ I am a National PTA Life Member

Deadline for advanced registration discount is May 7, 2019

☐ **PTA Early Bird Member Package (The Biggest Savings!)**

- \$75.00 Adult (Includes Registration, Saturday Luncheon, General Sessions, Sunday Awards Luncheon.)
- \$50.00 Student (Includes Registration, Saturday Luncheon, General Sessions, Sunday Awards Luncheon)

☐ **Registration Only – Saturday and Sunday (no meals)**

- \$50.00 Adult (Includes Registration only and all meetings)
- \$25.00 Student (Includes Registration only and all meetings)

☐ **Saturday Only Package (includes one meal)**

- \$40.00 Adult Registration and Saturday Luncheon
- \$30.00 Student Registration and Saturday Luncheon

☐ **Sunday Only Package (includes one meal)**

- \$40.00 Adult Registration and Sunday Awards Luncheon
- \$15.00 Student Registration includes meeting and luncheon

Additional Guest Meal Tickets:

- ☐ Saturday Luncheon: \$15.00 each Number requested: _____
- ☐ Sunday Awards Luncheon \$15.00 each Number requested: _____

Please list names of guests:

Mail form and payment to:
West Virginia PTA
Attn: Convention
PO Box 3557
Parkersburg, WV 26103

OR VISIT
www.westvirginiapta.org
to register online and
make payment!

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____

NOW ACCEPTING CREDIT CARDS

