

President's Update...

Greetings Wake PTA Leaders,

We hope that your school year is off to a fabulous start. We appreciate the work you do to make sure that all of our students, teachers, and schools have the resources and support they need to provide the best education possible for all kids. Our schools can't do it alone! They rely on advocates and volunteers like you. Family involvement and parent voices ensure that our schools and students excel.

PTA is an advocacy organization. In fact, we're the oldest and largest child advocacy association in America. PTA's collective parent voice influences decision-making that affects children at the local, state, and national level. This election year is particularly important. We need to ensure that we elect leaders at all levels of government who are strong supporters of public schools in order to ensure that our kids have access to the kind of quality education that will enable them to maximize their potential.

All WCPSS school board seats are on the ballot on November 8. The school board sets policy for the school system that is then implemented by the superintendent and administrative staff. The board also adopts an annual budget proposal that includes its request for local funding from the Wake County Board of Commissioners as well as its plan for using state and federal funds. The school board does not have taxing authority.

Three county commission seats are on the ballot November 8. Our county commissioners provide local funding for our schools and funds for building new schools and renovating older schools.

Encourage your PTA and PTA members to be active advocates for our schools this year by registering to vote, being informed voters, and voting on election day. For advocacy resources related the election and to find out more about ways your PTA can and can't play a role, visit [National PTA's Election Resources](#).

Thank you all for your leadership and involvement.

Best,

Hardin Engelhardt



Wake County PTA Council Monthly Leadership Training



Why should you attend leadership training?

- Get an outsider's perspective on some of your most pressing challenges.
- Develop a network that you can re-connect with.
- Step back, sort through, think creatively, reflect, re-invent and experience your role from a whole new perspective.
- Learn something that changes your life (in a good way!).

Training is an important part of being a leader of your PTA. Developing your skills as a volunteer and leader will help to improve your PTA unit and give you more confidence!

Wake County PTA Council will be conducting monthly leadership training sessions, open to all council members. Each month, we will address a different topic of interest to PTA leaders. All sessions will be held at Crossroads II, 110 Corning Road in Cary. The first session will be Wednesday, October 5 at 10:00 a.m. We will be discussing Conflict Resolution. Learn how to manage conflict within your PTA board, with school administration and others.

Go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WakePTAConflictResolution> to register today.

The remainder of our leadership trainings are as follows:

- Monday, November 7 - "And the Nominees Are...." (Nominating Committee)
- Friday, December 2 - TBD
- Tuesday, February 7 - Advocacy is the Heart of PTA
- Wednesday, March 1 - Health, Wellness and Safety
- Wednesday, May 3 - Becoming a School of Excellence: What it Means to Your Community
- Friday, June 2 - TBD

We hope to see you there!



Smart Solutions for Your School

Make a difference for your students & staff...
and earn recognition for your school's wellness efforts!



You are invited to attend a *free* workshop on Thurs., Sept 29, **Smart Solutions for Schools**. This workshop is sponsored by Wake PTA Council's Healthy Living partner, Advocates for Health in Action (AHA). The same workshop will be presented twice that day - choose what time suits you best! Choose 10-11am or 5:30-6:30 pm.

Learn how to apply for AHA's Healthy Schools Awards (apply for 1 or both!), hear from Child Nutrition Services Director Paula De Lucca about USDA Smart Snacks for school celebrations, and learn about how you can support walk/bike to/at school for more active, healthy students.

Research shows active students perform better academically, and of course, you know they are healthier as a result!

[Sign up here](#) to attend. Feel free to share with other parents at your school, as well as staff members. We hope to see you on Sept. 29!

School of Excellence!

Wake County PTA Council extends hearty congratulations to Centennial Campus Middle School PTSA for their recent designation as a School of Excellence through the National PTA School of Excellence Program. You can read more about that and see what's involved in making this happen at your school by visiting this [link](#).



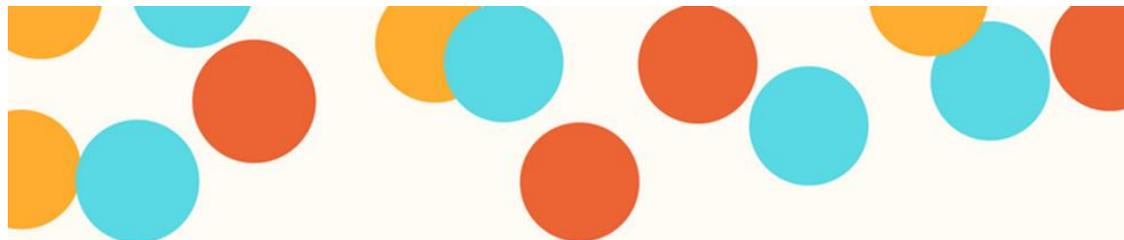
Free Upcoming Advocacy Webinar from NCPTA

Be sure to join NCPTA Lobbyist Ashley Perkinson as she discusses step-by-step tips on putting together an Elected Officials Go to School event at your school on Tuesday, September 20, 2016 at Noon. [Click here](#) to register.

National PTA offers opportunities for you to take e-learning courses any time on your own schedule. A few courses to help start the year off right including Planning your PTA Year, Ethical Leadership, Parliamentary Procedures and Running a Successful Program. Learn more at PTA.ORG

On that note – here is the invite to WCPTA Advocacy Committee meeting for September... please join us!





**You are Invited to Join the
WAKE COUNTY PTA COUNCIL
2016-17 NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

What would Wake County PTA Council look like without strong leaders to support our units?

Help us ensure strong leadership at the Council level for the coming year, so we don't have to find out!

Join the Nominating Committee.
It's not painful. It makes a difference.
...And you might just have some fun!

**INTERESTED OR HAVE QUESTIONS?
EMAIL SARAH MARTIN AT
SBMMOM@GMAIL.COM**

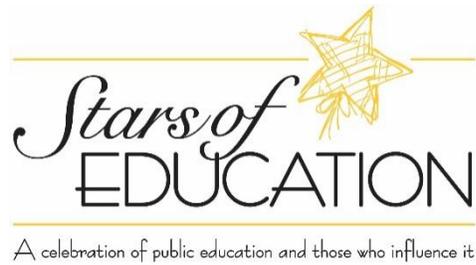


As you know, the uniform bylaws of all PTA units in North Carolina require that your PTA unit have a Nominating Committee in place from the beginning of the PTA year. The same is true for Wake County PTA Council.

Maybe you are searching for your next step in PTA. Maybe you have completed service in a leadership role at your unit and wish to look at the County for a potential next step. Maybe you're interested in learning how a Nominating Committee works. Regardless of your reasoning, if you have any interest in serving on the Council Nominating Committee for 2016-2017, don't delay in contacting Sarah Martin about joining the committee.

Email Sarah Martin at sbmmom@gmail.com. It won't hurt...not even a little bit!





WakeEd Partnership's Annual *Stars of Education* Celebration and Dinner

5:00 – 6:00, pre-dinner Reception
6:00 – 8:00, Dinner + Program

Wednesday, October 12, 2016
Raleigh Marriott City Center

WakeEd Partnership proudly announces 2016 *Stars of Education*! Presented by PNC Bank, *Stars of Education* is WakeEd's signature event each fall. Mark your calendars for October 12th at the [Raleigh Marriott City Center](#) as we celebrate public education and those who have influenced it.

At *Stars of Education*, we will celebrate and honor these distinguished and deserving individuals:

- The Dr. Robert E. Bridges Lifetime Achievement Award recipient – **Bill McNeal**
- The Vernon Malone Friend of Education Award recipient, **Judge Howard Manning, Jr.**
- The 2016 class of inductees into the Wake County Public School System Hall of Fame:
- Education – **Richard Murphy** (honored posthumously)
- Business – **Orange Quarles, III**
- Art – **Bob Rankin**
- Athletics – **Bob Catapano**
- Community Service – **Wanda Denning**
- Entrepreneurship – **Nancy Olson** (honored posthumously)

The 20 recipients of WakeEd's 2016 Teacher Innovation Grants

Tickets are available at <http://www.wakeed.org/stars/>

WCPSS current + retired educators - \$50/person

General public - \$100/person

Can't attend? Consider purchasing tickets for teachers to attend from your school or to honor one of the honorees.

Make sure your school and teachers are represented and celebrated at 2016 *Stars of Education*!

For additional information, contact:

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Vice President of Development
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919.780.5207



Wake PTA Summer Leadership Conference Recap

On September 1, 2016, over 200 Wake County PTA leaders joined together at the Wake County PTA Council Summer Leadership Conference. Wake County PTA Council President Hardin Engelhardt and Vice President of Leadership and Training Julie von Haefen welcomed the attendees, kicking off our fall business meeting. NC PTA President Kelly Langston also welcomed everyone and thanked them for their service to PTA.

WCPSS Superintendent Dr. James Merrill and WCPSS School Board members Christine Kushner and Tom Benton also spoke and expressed their appreciation for the work of PTAs and PTSAs all over the county.

Wake County PTA Council approved their 2016-2017 Budget, and announced dates for upcoming events such as the annual Reflections Celebration in March and the Night of Stars in May. We also announced the dates for upcoming committee meetings as well as our monthly leadership training sessions at Crossroads II. Our website calendar lists all of these dates, and you can find information about leadership training on the Leadership tab. Prior to the beginning of the conference, PTA leaders were able to visit our sponsor and community partner tables to get information about topics such as fundraising, communications, and advocacy.

Thank you to our sponsors, [R City Rocks](#) and [MemberHub](#), as well as our food donors, Sweet Tomatoes and [Jason's Deli](#). Thank you to our community partners NCPTA, Advocates for Health in Action, SAS, Wake Ed Partnership, Public Schools First NC, WAKE Up and Read, You Can Vote and Activate Good.

Sessions were conducted on many topics including Leadership, Financial Management, Membership, Bylaws and Standing Rules, Reflections, Diversity and Inclusion, the duties of the Secretary, Advocacy and WCPSS Policies and Procedures. Thank you to all of our presenters! All of the workshop materials are available on our website at <http://www.wakepta.org/summer-leadership-conference.html>.

Thank you to all the leaders who took time to attend our Summer Leadership Conference! We hope you left feeling educated, energized and empowered for the year ahead!



Solutions for Supporting Your Unique Student

A Morning of Information, Resources and Support for Families

Saturday, September 24th

9:30 am - 12:30 pm

Resurrection Lutheran Church
100 W. Lochmere Dr. Cary, NC

We are assembling a team of parents, students, educators, community and members to share their knowledge and experience navigating the supports available to students to succeed in general education.

**Resource Fair, Refreshments
No Childcare**

To register: www.eventbrite.com/e/seac-fall-conference-tickets-27199463327

So join us for dynamic small group discussions around the topics of:

• IEP (Roles/Organizing)

• Study and Test Taking Skills

• Accessing Extracurricular activities; Developing Social Skills

• Accommodations and Modifications at School

Special Education

ADVISORY COUNCIL

Representing exceptional children in Wake County schools

wakeseac.org



Hey Parents-

- Are you frustrated by challenges that keep you from helping your student?
- Do you understand your student's IEP? (just what is an IEP?)
- Do you want to talk about the tools for success?

The SEAC hopes to engage and empower the families of the thousands of students who receive special education services within the general education curriculum.

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NEW VOICES