



## **BENEFITS & PRIVILEGES OF PTA MEMBERSHIP**

Chaperone field trips? Help with student parties? Volunteer at book fairs?

As parents and volunteers, we all find ourselves serving pizza or attending a play on occasion. However, it is important that you know as a member of PTA, you do so much more. Your dues paid to the Virginia PTA/PTSA and National PTA ensure your voice is heard on important issues—children and violence, children and drugs, and, of course, children and education.

By belonging to your local PTA, you are doing much more for your children than you know! As a PTA member, you are one of nearly 340,000 members in Virginia and over 5 million members nationwide working for children.

### **PTA PROVIDES BENEFITS FOR UNITS IN GOOD STANDING...**

- PTAs automatically qualify for federal and state sales tax exemption, group registry for solicitation, and most donations to the organization are tax deductible.
- Students may participate in the Reflections Program, recognizing achievement in visual arts, literature, photography, film/video production, dance choreography, and musical composition
- Graduating seniors are eligible for Virginia PTA Scholarships
- Students in grades 6-12 may participate in Virginia PTA's Citizenship Essay program
- Members can subscribe to email newsletters on events, programs, issues, and the latest news from Virginia PTA at [www.vapta.org](http://www.vapta.org) and National PTA at [www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org)

### **PTA PROVIDES A VOICE...**

- Legislation meetings
- Annual voting on Virginia PTA Proposed Legislation Program
- Representation at Virginia General Assembly sessions
- Representation at Virginia Board of Education meetings and public hearings
- Representation on Department of Education committees, including School Nurse Task Force; Special Education Advisory; Vocational Technical Education Planning and Review; Education of the Gifted; State Teacher of the Year Selection; State Superintendent of the Year Selection
- Representation on statewide boards and associations, including Virginia Education Coalition; Virginia Middle School Association; Virginia High School League Executive Committee; General Assembly Commission on Youth Truancy and Alternative Education

### **PTA PROVIDES TRAINING...**

- Virginia PTA Leadership Training Conference
- Regional Leadership Training
- Virginia PTA Annual Convention
- National PTA Convention

## VIRGINIA PTA PROVIDES EDUCATIONAL AND LEADERSHIP RESOURCES...

- Incoming President's Packet in May
- Local Unit Resource Guide at [www.vapta.org](http://www.vapta.org)
- Virginia PTA *Bulletin*, covering a variety of child and family matters, health & safety concerns, legislative briefings, and highlights of PTA programs, projects, & activities. Mailed or emailed free to president, principal and at least three other individuals. Addresses must be sent to the state office by June 15 to activate subscriptions
- Resources mailed to president to conduct programs and projects, such as Reflections, Scholarship Program, Phoebe Apperson Hearst-National PTA Excellence in Education Partnership Award, Citizenship Essay Program, Legislation Program, as well as information on grants for PTA units
- Resources and workshop presenters available on Arts in Education, Bylaws, Education, Field Service, Health and Safety, Legislation, Membership, Parent Involvement, Public Relations, Secondary PTA/PTSA, Technology and Volunteers
- Mailings to president on member services, grants, Legislation Program and bill tracking to keep members abreast of children's issues before the Virginia General Assembly
- Virginia PTA/PTSA website at [www.vapta.org](http://www.vapta.org)
- Free subscriptions to online newsletter *VA PTA VOICE*. Sign up at [www.vapta.org](http://www.vapta.org)
- Legislation advocacy Action Alerts provided by email all Voice subscribers
- Assistance with financial issues and an understanding of 501(c)(3) requirements

## NATIONAL PTA PROVIDES EDUCATIONAL AND LEADERSHIP RESOURCES...

- Quick Reference Guides *for PTAs* mailed free to president in the Official PTA Kit, containing information for PTA leaders for operations, membership recruitment, finances, program development – also available online at [www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org)
- National PTA magazine *Our Children*, mailed free to the president
- National PTA website at [www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org) – Go to “Running Your PTA”
- E-learning courses for leaders on website at [www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org)
- OMDR Plus – superior system to operate PTAs with a web based suite of services for parents
- Free subscriptions to online newsletters for the PTA leader and parents from National PTA

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## CALENDAR

September/October	Vote on Proposed Legislation Program
October/November	Virginia PTA Convention
January/February	Virginia PTA Day at the General Assembly
February 17	National PTA Founders Day
March-April	Annual District Meetings
June	National PTA Convention
July	Virginia PTA Leadership Training Conference
July/August	Virginia PTA Legislation-Education Conference

*Please check Virginia PTA's website [www.vapta.org](http://www.vapta.org) for precise dates!*

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