

# PTA<sup>®</sup> matters

The newsletter of the Escambia County Council of PTAs/PTSAs

## PTA S.T.A.R.S shine brightly



**Brigette  
Brooks**  
President

(850) 291-5577  
president@  
eccpta.org

**STELLAR  
TEAMS  
ACHIEVING  
RESULTS for  
STUDENTS**

Welcome to a new school year! I am excited to return for a second term as ECCPTA president. Among this year's county team are some experienced veterans, along with some new shining stars, all ready to assist in your goal to be "Stellar Teams Achieving Results for Students (S.T.A.R.S.)."

As we launch into a new year, I encourage you to take advantage of available **PTA training and networking opportunities**. Such opportunities are available through Florida PTA, such as the multi-day conference held recently in Innisbrook that several of you attended. National PTA offers access 24/7 to relevant online training classes ([www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org) – **PTA Leaders – E-Learning**) in a variety of subjects that are only 20 to 40 minutes each. Locally, we are busy finalizing plans for our annual half-day **Leadership Training and Vendor Fair** scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 22 (see page 4-6 for details). This event is a great kickoff to your new year and not to be missed!

My husband Larry and I have a passion for PTA, a journey that probably started very much like yours, when we chose to get involved in our sons' schools by participating in PTA. These sons, identical twins, are now 19-year-old juniors at Mississippi State University. Their involvement in the student ambassadors program, summer feeding programs, tutoring, and other outreach efforts attest to the fact that your children are watching you and are likely to emulate. Pat yourself on the back for showing your children the value of getting involved. It's truly the gift that lasts a lifetime and can be as much of a benefit to the giver as to the receiver.

The student is at the center of everything PTA does, giving a voice to every child. Thank you for being PTA S.T.A.R.S., shining bright, illuminating the path, and making a difference now and into light years beyond.

– Brigette

## ECCPTA Board, 2015-16

**President** – Brigette Brooks  
**1st Vice President** – Michelle Salzman  
**2nd Vice President** – Anessa Flannigan  
**Secretary** – Nichole Collins  
**Treasurer** – Amber Graham  
**Area Vice Presidents** – Leticia Dennis, Amy Philley,  
Pamulia Nelson  
**Immediate Past President** – Sally Bergosh

[www.EscambiaPTA.org](http://www.EscambiaPTA.org)

## Escambia represents at Innisbrook

Thanks to all the Escambia County PTA local unit members who attended Innisbrook Leadership Training in July. It was a busy, productive time of learning how to maximize the effectiveness of our PTAs.

Escambia County had 19 people attend. Our county council brought down the house at the PTA's Got Talent show!



Jenny Dyess, Michelle Salzman, Deidre Young and Florida PTA President Mindy Haas celebrating awards for Warrington Middle and Cordova Park Elementary.

**ANNUAL LEADERSHIP TRAINING, AUG. 22**  
Register by Aug. 14; see pages 3-5 for info!

## 2014-15 Awards

*These awards were presented at ECCPTA's Awards Banquet on May 15.*

**Outstanding Principal of the Year:**  
Monica Silvers,  
Beulah Elementary

**Volunteer of the Year:**  
Debbie Malsberger,  
West Florida High

**Promoting Communications Excellence:**  
N.B. Cook Elementary

**Outstanding Mentors of the Year:**  
Cordova Park Elementary

**Local Unit Volunteer Hours:** Beulah Elementary

**Outstanding Newsletter:**  
Ferry Pass Middle,  
"Eagle's Eye"

**Health and Safety:**  
Warrington Middle

**Outstanding Program of the Year:**  
Warrington Middle

**Local Unit of the Year:**  
R.C. Lipscomb Elementary

**Outstanding Citizen of the Year:** Michelle Salzman,  
Warrington Middle

**ECCPTA "Sharp Shooter" of the Year:**  
Brigette Brooks

**ECCPTA "Major Mission Accomplished" Award:**  
Sally Bergosh for the  
Leadership Boot Camp

*Be thinking about your award entries all year! Brag about what great things your PTA has done!*

**Be sure to attend the class on Awards at Leadership Training on Aug. 22!**

# Get to know your ECCPTA Board STARS!

*Dedicated to serving YOU, the local PTA/PTSA units of Escambia County*



**Anessa Flannigan, 2nd Vice President**  
(850) 686-2635 / bnaflannigan@cox.net

I have been a PTA board member since 2011. Along with being 2nd Vice President, I also serve as PTA President of R.C. Lipscomb Elementary. I am married to my high school sweetheart, Bruce Flannigan Jr., and we have a 10-year-old daughter, Madison. Bruce and I are very active in our church and our daughter's activities. I have a passion for children and for making a difference in the lives of others.

**Schools serving:** A.K. Suter Elementary; Brentwood Elementary; Cordova Park Elementary; Ensley Elementary; Global Learning Academy; Jim Allen Elementary; McArthur Elementary; N.B. Cook Elementary; R.C. Lipscomb Elementary; Scenic Heights Elementary



**Michelle Salzman, 1st Vice President**  
(850) 207-5024 / michelle@salzstudio.com

This will be my second year serving with the ECCPTA, this year as 1st VP and Founders Day and Awards Chair. I have a passion for helping children in our community. I have served with the PTA in many capacities for 12 years, and I own a non-profit that helps neglected and abused children within Escambia County. I have three children; the two oldest attend Tate High, and my youngest starts VPK this year.



**Amber Graham, Treasurer**  
(850) 525-8129 / angrahama82@gmail.com

I'm new to ECCPTA this year. I'm a mom of three, ages 6, 9, and 12, and they attend Longleaf Elementary and Bellview Middle. I am a Cosmetology student about to graduate from George Stone! Our family is active in Scouts, PTA, football and soccer.



**Pamulia Nelson, Area Vice President**  
(850) 255-0413 / pamulianelson@aol.com

I most recently served as President of the Pensacola High PTSA. I have been involved with PHS PTSA since my daughter was a freshman. I also have been involved with a local teen Shakespeare acting company. My daughter, Madison, is a 2015 PHS IB graduate and is a freshman at Mississippi State University.

**Schools serving:** Pensacola Beach Elementary; Pensacola High School; Warrington Middle School; Washington High School; West Florida High School; Workman Middle



**Amy Phillely, Area Vice President**  
(850) 377-7834 amyphillely@gmail.com

I am the proud wife of 18 years of Mike Phillely, the director of bands at Tate High School, and mother to three amazing children, Madison, Tucker, and Clayton. I am a VPK teacher at Gonzalez Methodist Church and have more than 15 years of experience in early childhood education. I also am Student of the Year Chair.

**Schools serving:** Beulah Academy of Science; Beulah Elementary; Bratt Elementary; Brown Barge Middle; Ferry Pass Middle; Jim Bailey Middle; Molino Park Elementary; Pine Meadow Elementary; Ransom Middle



**Nichole Collins, Secretary**  
(850) 748-0986 / nicholecollins0330@yahoo.com

My name is Nichole Collins and I'm a wife of 10 years and a mother of four. I'm PTA President and carnival chair at Scenic Heights Elementary, and I'm also Hospitality Chair for ECCPTA. I have been involved with PTA for two years now; I was terrified at first but have loved every minute of it!



**Leticia Dennis, Area Vice President**  
(850) 221-9385 / jerjoejac@att.net

I'm Leticia Dennis, and my husband and I are parents of three children who attend Brentwood Elementary. I currently serve as president of the Brentwood PTA. Additionally, I serve on the Florida PTA Board as the incoming Scholarship Chair. I own a home-based bakery, Yummy Yummies, and specialize in custom-order cakes. I look forward to helping you in any way I can. Together we can make a difference in the lives of the children in our community.

**Schools serving:** Bellview Elementary; Bellview Middle; Blue Angels Elementary; Ferry Pass Elementary; Hellen Caro Elementary; Holm Elementary; Longleaf Elementary; Myrtle Grove; Pleasant Grove; West Pensacola Elementary

## ECCPTA Committee Chairs

**Ways and Means**  
Debbie Malsberger  
(850) 450-6526  
debbie.pta@cox.net

**Health & Safety**  
Susan Kennedy  
(850) 450-0772  
skennedy@escambia.k12.fl.us

**Legislative**  
Jenny Dyess  
(850) 393-6887  
jdyess1@cox.net

**Reflections**  
Samarys Kervin  
(850) 291-5800  
samarys.kervin@amec.com

**Communications**  
Kirsten Efrid  
(850) 494-2982  
ksefrid@aol.com

**Teachers Matter**  
Deidre Young  
(850) 380-9522  
dyoung2342@gmail.com



**ECCPTA'S  
LEADERSHIP TRAINING & VENDORS FAIR  
SATURDAY, AUGUST 22, 2015  
8:00AM - 1:00PM  
B.T. WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL**

**CHECK-IN & BREAKFAST: 8:00AM -8:30AM  
GENERAL MEETING & CLASSES: 8:30AM-11:00AM  
DRAWINGS/DOOR PRIZES: 11:15AM  
FREE LUNCH & VENDORS FAIR: 11:15AM-1:00PM**

**THERE IS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE AT THIS FREE EVENT!**

***FREE CHILDCARE (AGES 4-12) PROVIDED FOR PREREGISTERED ATTENDEES.  
YOU MUST REGISTER BY AUG. 14; SEE FORM ON NEXT PAGE.***

**Pre-register by 8/14 and be automatically entered into a drawing!**

**Submit proof of audit submission to [audit@floridapta.org](mailto:audit@floridapta.org) and proof of tax filing submission to [990@floridapta.org](mailto:990@floridapta.org) by 8/14 and be entered into a school drawing!**

***Purchase a \$5 raffle ticket from the ECSD Food Backpack Program, Backpack Project USA  
for a chance to win a gift basket and support a great cause!***

**Questions? Contact Sally Bergosh at 850-748-4456 or [SBergosh@escambia.k12.fl.us](mailto:SBergosh@escambia.k12.fl.us)**



## Leadership Boot Camp & Vendors/Health Fair 2015 Registration Form

Please print:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please complete and mail/email this form to: ECCPTA, 30 East Texar Drive, Pensacola 32503 or [sbergosh@escambia.k12.fl.us](mailto:sbergosh@escambia.k12.fl.us) OR fax to: (850) 469-5335  
*REGISTER BY 8/14/15 FOR A CHANCE TO BE ENTERED INTO A PRIZE DRAWING!***

**Preregistration Required for FREE Childcare**  
**\*\*Deadline to register for free childcare: August 14, 2015\*\***

### Childcare Registration:

Name of Child: \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Name and Phone

\_\_\_\_\_

List any Special Needs of which we need to be aware: \_\_\_\_\_

- Child must be potty trained.
- If your child has special needs please inform the childcare worker at time of check in.
- Lunch and snacks will be provided to all children. If your child has any food allergies or other health concerns please inform the childcare worker at time of check in and provide specific snacks and lunch for him/her.
- Children may bring activities with them, but ECCPTA will NOT assume responsibility for lost or broken items.
- ECCPTA will have adult supervision including volunteers to monitor the children.
- Adults checking students into Childcare at the training must remain on the Washington HS campus while the child is in childcare.

I have read the above statements

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

# ECCPTA's Leadership Training Classes

Here is the list of classes being offered at ECCPTA's annual leadership training on Aug. 22!

*Be sure to check the finalized schedule with room numbers when you sign in that day.*

## 9:00-9:55 a.m.

### Calling All Presidents

**Brigette Brooks, ECCPTA President**

This workshop will cover everything from the basic information, rules and policies to working with volunteers and your school district. *This class is a requirement for every president.*

### Calling All Treasurers, Part I

**Melanie Morgan, past ECCPTA Treasurer**

This two-hour workshop will cover all the rules and procedures that must be followed in dealing with the funds of the PTA/PTSA. Included will be information on money handling procedures, tax returns, recognizing red flags, responding to money mishandlings, treasurers reports, audits and budgets. *This class is a requirement for every treasurer.*

### Calling All Secretaries PLUS Bylaws and Standing Rules

*(Offered again at 10 a.m.)*

**Jenny Dyess, Past Florida PTA Secretary**

More than just the minutes, the secretary of each local unit must wear many hats, from parliamentarian to corresponding secretary and beyond. This class will focus on the skills needed to keep accurate records for the PTA unit and offer tips and tricks for staying organized.

### Reflections: Beginners' Basics

**Samarys Kervin, ECCPTA Reflections Chair**

For the first-time local chair and others looking for information. We will cover basic information on how to start a Reflections program!

### Healthy Schools

**Susan Kennedy, ECCPTA Health and Safety Chair**

Promoting healthy and safe children in our schools and at home is one of the missions of PTA. This class will focus on how PTAs and PT-SAs can help schools meet their healthy initiative goals and become an active stakeholder in our district's Food Services department.

### Ways & Means *(Offered again at 10 a.m.)*

**Debbie Malsberger, ECCPTA Ways & Means Chair**

PTA is not a fundraising organization, but most units need to raise money or secure donations to meet their budget needs. This class will show you ways to operate on a shoestring budget, evaluate a good fundraiser, use your resources and discuss the fundraising rules.

### How to Grow Your Membership *(Offered again at 10 a.m.)*

**Amy Whitwell, Past ECCPTA Vice President**

Membership is the lifeblood of every local unit. This class will give ideas on how to effectively organize a membership campaign, keep records and learn about promoting and growing your membership!

### Administrators and their PTAs, Part I

**Debbie King, past ECSD Community Involvement head**

This class is for ECSD Administrators ONLY! This class will provide an overview of the Principal's role and responsibilities within their PTA. Topics to be covered include financial reporting requirements, collaborating for success school PTA leaders, and how the Community Involvement Office can be of assistance.

### Advocacy – Stand Up for Public Schools!

**Patty Hightower, ECSD School Board; past ECCPTA president**

From the playground to Capitol Hill, learn how to advocate for your students! Elections are coming up ... how do YOU advocate as a PTA member?

## 10:00-10:55 a.m.

### Calling All Presidents Roundtable

**Brigette Brooks, ECCPTA President**

This is a roundtable being offered to all Presidents and will involve an open discussion of the challenges and successes your school has encountered. This is a great way to get new ideas!

### Calling All Treasurers, Part II

**Melanie Morgan, past ECCPTA Treasurer**

This is a continuation of the two-hour workshop that will cover all the rules and procedures that must be followed in dealing with the funds of the PTA/PTSA. This class is a requirement for every treasurer.

### Calling All Secretaries PLUS Bylaws and Standing Rules

**Jenny Dyess, Past Florida PTA Secretary**

Repeat of the 9 a.m. session.

### Reflections: Beyond the Basics

**Samarys Kervin, ECCPTA Reflections Chair**

Returning local chairs and program volunteers, this class will cover judging, online registration, celebrations and how to advance entries onto County level.

### Awards: Let Your PTA Shine!

**Michelle Salzman, ECCPTA 2nd Vice President and Awards Chair**

National, state, and local PTA awards are a great way to let your PTA shine and give your school bragging rights! You are already doing all the programs and events at your school – now take a few minutes to write about them. Helpful tips and suggestions will be given.

### Ways & Means

**Debbie Malsberger, ECCPTA Ways & Means Chair**

Repeat of the 9 a.m. session.

### How to Grow Your Membership

**Amy Whitwell, Past ECCPTA Vice President**

Repeat of the 9 a.m. session.

### Administrators and their PTAs, Part II

**Debbie King, past ECSD Community Involvement head**

This is a continuation of the two-hour workshop that will cover everything administrators need to know about their roles and responsibilities within their PTAs.

### Crucial Communications: Newsletters and Social Media

**Kirsten Efrd, ECCPTA Communications Chair**

The key to keeping your members informed AND involved is regular communication in all its forms! Which kinds of communications are right for your PTA? Learn how to put together a newsletter and what to include in it; how to start and run a Facebook Group or Page; and other tips for staying in touch.

**Remember to register by Aug. 14!** *(Registration form, previous page)*

## ECCPTA Events Calendar

### August

- 14 Meet the Superintendent and School Board, 8 a.m., Hall Center, room 130
- 17 First day of school
- 18 ECCPTA Board meeting, 11:30 a.m., Hall Center, room 140
- 18 School Board meeting, 5:30 p.m., Hall Center, room 160
- 22 ECCPTA Leadership Training, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Washington High School

### September

- 7 Labor Day holiday
- 15 ECCPTA Board meeting, 11:30 a.m., Hall Center, room 140
- 15 School Board meeting, 5:30 p.m., Hall Center, room 160
- 19 Nickelodeon Worldwide Day of Play, 10 a.m., Maritime Park

### Save the Date!

Oct. 26-30 Red Ribbon Week

Nov. 5 Reflections entries due to Hall Center (*Get help and info on running your program at Leadership Training on Aug. 22!*)

## Treasurers' notes for the beginning of the year

Welcome back to school! Are your financial books ready? The PTA fiscal year is July 1-June 30. After then, books are closed until an **audit** has been conducted. Once the books have been released from the audit, filing the **990 tax form** with the IRS should be completed. (deadline is Nov. 15). Filing with the IRS annually is required.

The **budget** is an outline of estimated income and expenses for the year. It is a working document that operates as a guide for how funds are generated to meet the needs of the unit's activities and goals for the year. *A budget does not show what a local unit must do; it shows the general membership what the unit intends to do.* Just because a program or fundraiser is listed on the budget does not mean that it must be done. But if it is not on the budget, it cannot be done. A budget can be amended throughout the year, but it must be approved by a vote of the general membership.

The budget is to be **approved by the general membership** at the PTA's first general assembly of the fiscal year, usually after the school year has begun.

### Helpful tips for money handling:

- There should be **three check signers** on the PTA's checking account. No check signers can be related, and by school district policy, no district paid employee can be authorized to sign PTA checks.

- Any check written must have **two authorized signatures** when remitting payments.

- **No school funds** are to be held in the PTA's account.
- Always have **two people count monies** received during an event or program.

- **Do not hold funds.** Deposits should be done quickly upon receipt.

- Have a **receipt** for all reimbursements prior to remittance.

- Checks are not to be made out for cash.
- PTAs are **not released from paying taxes** on purchases for resale. Pay the vendor taxes owed.

**Learn lots more at my class at Leadership Training on Aug. 22** (*see pages 3-5 for information*), or visit [www.floridapta.org/running-your-pta/finance](http://www.floridapta.org/running-your-pta/finance).

– Melanie Morgan, past ECCPTA Treasurer



## ECCPTA LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Saturday, Aug. 22

8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Washington High School

*See pages 3-5 for info and registration!*

**nickelodeon™**  
**WORLDWIDE DAY**  
**PLAY** OF

Saturday, Sept. 19

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Community Maritime Park

Escambia County Council of PTAs/PTSAs  
 J.E. Hall Center  
 30 E. Texar Dr.  
 Pensacola, FL 32503

**PTA**  
 everychild. onevoice.