

Plano ISD Council of PTAs Newsletter

March 4, 2009

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Calendar & Contacts

The [Council calendar](#) is on the Plano PTA website. If you are a google calendar user, you can easily add it to your personal calendar.

[Contacts](#) for the PTA Council board and information about each position can also be found on the website.

Quick Links...

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The Nominating Committee would like to propose the following slate of nominees for the 2009-2010 Plano ISD PTA Council Executive Board:

President - Cara Mendelsohn
1st VP Aide to Pres - Dana Bilbray
2nd VP Programs - Kelly Waterman
3rd VP Membership - Lisa Williams
Secretary - Susie Learmont
Treasurer - Angela Miner

The election will be held at the next general membership meeting:

10am on March 24th
Plano ISD Admin Building, Board Room

Special Guest Speaker: Superintendent Dr. Doug Otto on the future of education.

Sincerely,

[Cara Mendelsohn](#)
[President, Plano ISD Council of PTAs](#)

Diary Entry from ... PTA Day @ Capitol

We had a bus load of Plano folks hop a charter bus to Austin for PTA Day @ Capitol. We had a fantastic time with hundreds of other PTA folks from around Texas at the rally on the Capitol steps. We heard from several Texas Senators and Representatives that are well known for their support of public education and they really go the crowd going! We had the official kick-off of Texas PTA's 100th birthday with a cake for 700! (and it was delicious - thank you HEB!). Soon after, we had meetings scheduled with our state legislators or their staff. We met with someone from Sen. Shapiro's office, Rep. Madden's office, Rep. Laubenberg's office and with Rep. McCall and all were very receptive and supportive of the PTA legislative priorities. We also ran into a couple of other Senators and Representatives in the halls and Capitol Grill and had a fun time talking with them. Right after our last meeting, we hopped back on the bus for the trip back to Plano. Everyone who attended said they would do it again next time and they felt they made a real difference. It was a great day!!

How Was PTA Convention? Did the PTA Dues Change?

Plano PTAs were represented by 5 members at the Texas PTA Convention. The meetings were very interesting and we weren't sure what was going to happen with the motion

about the dues. After many parliamentary turns, the motion to increase the dues for Texas PTA by an additional \$2 failed. Later in the meeting, a new motion was made and adopted to increase the dues by \$1. We'll be talking specifically about how the dues increase affects your PTA at the March Council meeting and we will cover it at Officer and Chairman Training in May. Your local membership dues will increase \$1 starting with your new fiscal year.

Texas PTA Adopted 3 New Positions - Including Our Special Advocacy Project!!

At the business meeting, Texas PTA passed 3 new position statements. The first was supporting high school diploma degree plan choices for students that recognize individual students' natural talents, interests and abilities and prepares all students for a variety of careers and continuing education - hurray, this is our advocacy project! The other two deal with unified GPA and basically say that if we have unified GPA, we want it to include higher weight for pre-AB & pre-IB, and AP & IB classes and include all classes required for graduation. Plano PTA was introduced as the the lead speaker for each of these positions and they all passed unanimously! It is very exciting to have the advocacy project adopted by the 600,000 members of Texas PTA!!

Write This Date In Your Calendar!

Plano ISD Council of PTAs Program & Vendor Fair
Saturday, March 28, 2009
9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Jasper High School Gymnasium
6800 Archgate Drive, Plano

This event is for you!! If you are a school administrator, staff member, student organization sponsor, booster club officer, music or athletic director, PTA or PTSA officer or chairman or you are involved in your church group or scouts - you don't want to miss this vendor fair! It is free, come and go, ok to bring your children and you'll leave with new ideas for student and parent programs, different options for fundraising and a variety of resources and services for kids and adults. Representatives will be on hand to demonstrate products, provide samples, and answer your questions. Bring a friend and check it out!

Meet & Greet With NeighborsGo

NeighborsGo is having a Meet and Greet at Starbucks at Preston and Old Shephard where the community can learn about NeighborsGo and provide comments. NeighborsGo is by the Dallas Morning News. We've seen many PTA events publicized there.

It'll be on Friday, March 13 from 7:30am to 9:30am. Editor Angela Chambers will be there.

Preston & Old Shephard
1709 Preston Rd Ste B
Plano, Texas 75093
972-407-1008

PTA Mission

PTA is
A powerful voice for all children,
A relevant resource for families and communities, and
A strong advocate for the education and well-being of every child.

PTA Vision

Making every child's potential a reality.