



PTA NEWSLETTER

August 2009

Issue No. 1

Birdville Council of PTAs Newsletter

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Dear Tammy,

Welcome to the August Newsletter. Here you will find news and updates from your Council, Area, and Texas PTAs. There will also be local PTA highlights.

We ask that you take this time to look over the newsletter. You just might find something you knew or that you need to know.

Pass this newsletter on to others in Birdville so they to can get this wonderful information.

Sincerely,

Tammy Egger, Newsletter Chairman
Birdville Council of PTAs

Quick Links

[Area 17 PTA](#)

[Texas PTA](#)

[National PTA](#)
[Birdville ISD](#)

Birdville Council of PTAs
6125 E. Belknap
Haltom City, Texas 76117





100Years
1909-2009

President's Column

Jeannie Burleson

I am honored to be serving as your Council President. I know the year will be filled with many rewarding experiences, but I would not be able to do this job if it weren't for all the wonderful volunteers that I have serving on the Executive Board with me! Check out the highlighted board members featured in each issue of our newsletter.

One of Council's main goals is to improve communication. We are updating our website at www.bisdpta.org, implementing a communication network between Council and local unit Presidents, and improving our newsletter. If you haven't registered to receive our newsletter, please sign up [here](#). We want to invite you to submit articles about what your local PTA is doing.

Share your experiences and photos, honor your volunteers, and encourage others within the District.

I am looking forward to working with all of you and supporting your endeavors which will greatly benefit the children in BISD. You are making a difference!!!

[Jeannie Burleson](#), President
Birdville Council of PTAs



Legislative Column

Whitney Harding

2009 End of Session Legislative Priorities Update

June 21st signals the end of the veto period for Governor Rick Perry. Texas PTA is pleased to announce that Gov. Perry did not veto any of the major pieces of legislation that Texas PTA prioritized this session. PTA members across the state are largely to credit for this record. Members participated by visiting legislators in home towns as well as Austin. Senate Bills included health and physical fitness, sales tax holiday expansion, booster seat bills, school accountability and school finance.

If you called or emailed your legislator during this session, please take a moment to call or email him or her today to say thank you for helping Texas PTA in its successful session. For more information, please contact me.

[Whitney Harding](#), Legislative Chairman
Birdville Council of PTAs



Volunteer Column

BISD is accepting online applications for parent/community volunteers for the 2009-2010 school year. New and returning volunteers can enter their application online [here](#).

Please don't wait, apply to volunteer today!

[BISD's Web site](#)

Web address has changed to www.birdvilleschools.net. Don't forget to update your Internet browser.



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The Birdville Council of PTAs is still looking for a Volunteer Coordinator to serve on Council. If you are interested or want to get more information, please contact [Mark Thomas](#) for details.
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Now Hiring an Executive Director of the Clothes Connection and Supply Depot

Birdville Council of PTAs is looking to hire an employee to fill the position of Executive Director of the Clothes Connection and Supply Depot. The Clothes Connection and Supply Depot are programs sponsored by the Birdville Council of PTAs, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, which provide clothes, shoes, and school supplies to underprivileged students and their families within the District.

The Clothes Connection and Supply Depot facility is located at 5308 E. Belknap St. in Haltom City. The Executive Director would be responsible for opening and closing the facility, managing provided volunteers, serving clients, accepting donations, managing inventory, and communicating monthly status with Birdville Council of PTAs Executive Board.

If you are a self-motivated individual with organizational skills, this position will allow you to serve the community and directly impact the lives of many families who need assistance. An understanding of non-profit regulations, business and inventory experience, and bilingual are extremely desired. The position will pay \$5000 over the course of one year.

If you are interested, please [download an application](#) and mail it to:
Birdville Council PTAs
6125 E. Belknap Street
Haltom City, TX 76118

Please send any questions or comments to [Jeannie Burlison](#), Birdville Council of PTAs President.



Parent Education Column

Fara Keller

Hello, my name is Fara Keller and as Parent Education Vice President of the Birdville Council of PTAs, my goal this year is to keep all parents informed, throughout the district of all upcoming parent education programs.

The programs will be released very soon and I will get that information to each local unit as soon as possible. Local units' Parent Ed Chairs may contact me so we will be in communication and I can get all information to you promptly.

If you have any questions or concerns, I can be reached by email at: 5vp@bisdpta.org. I looking forward to serving you.



[Fara Keller](#), 5th Vice President Parent Education
Birdville Council of PTAs



The transition of students into middle and high school can be a rather scary and uncertain adventure for parents and kids alike. A one day seminar for parents of transitioning teenagers will be provided on Saturday, August 8 from 8:30 am until 3 pm at the 24:7 conference center at the Richland Hills Church of Christ. Register online [here](#).



Council News

Birdville Council of PTAs Goals for 2009-2010

1. Improve communication between board members and local units
 - a. Assign a personal contact from Council for each local unit
 - b. Build relationships with all local units
 - c. Disseminate information in a timely fashion
2. Support and expand PTA Programs such as Reflections, Environmental Contest, Clothes Connection, Supply Depot, Computer Connection, etc. by increasing:
 - a. number of clients served/participants
 - b. community involvement
 - c. promotions
3. Support and promote legislative policies as they pertain to Council and Birdville
4. Be positive and encouraging to build future leaders



Highlighted Council Board Members

Name: Diane Skaggs - Membership Chairman

Birthday: April 1, 1974

How long have you been active in PTA: 4 years

How man kids do you have: 1

What school do they go to: Watauga Elementary

Tell us something interesting about you: I worked as an auto mechanic and service station attendant from the age of 10 to 18.

Hobbies: reading, walking, shopping and traveling

Favorite Restaurants: Rosa's; Chili's

Favorite place to shop: Kohl's

Favorite Books: House of Night Series and Kristin Hannah books

Favorite Music: rock and country



Name: Whitney Harding - Legislative Chairman

Birthday: August 4, 1969

How long have you been active in PTA: 3 years

How man kids do you have: 2 girls

What school do they go to: Green Valley Elementary

Tell us something interesting about you: I play ROLLER DERBY.

Hobbies: watching and playing sports, travel, cooking, reading, gardening, camping, making fires outside, spending time with great friends and family anywhere

Favorite Restaurants: Sapristi Bistro in Fort Worth, Cowtown Sushi, and my kitchen!

Favorite place to shop: on line

Favorite Books: history, fiction and gardening books

Favorite Music: literally everything from rap to opera, no country



Calendar of Upcoming Events

August 2009

August 2009						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

- 5 ~ Executive Board Meeting - FAAC Black Box Theatre, 7 pm
- 6 ~ Volunteer Chairman and Presidents Meeting - 1 pm and 6:30 pm
- 8 ~ BISS Transition Seminar - 8:30 am to 3 pm, Richland Church of Christ
- 12 ~ New Teacher Breakfast - FAAC, 8 am
- 13 ~ Presidents Network/Treasurers Forum - FAAC Black Box Theatre, 6:30 pm
- 15 ~ Council Newsletter Submission Deadline
- 17 ~ Convocation - Richland Hills Church of Christ
- 18 ~ Career Center Dedication - 6:00 pm
- 20 ~ Haltom High School Dedication - 6:00 pm
- 23 ~ Richland High School Dedication - 2:30 pm
- 24 ~ School Starts
- 26 ~ Welcome Back Event for Shannon
- 27 ~ Officer and Chairman Training - FAAC Multipurpose Rooms A & B, 9 am and 6 pm
- 27 ~ Board of Trustees Meeting - 7 pm, Board Room, Admin Building
- 31 ~ Council Newsletter Distribution



Area 17 PTA News

Area 17 PTA Goals for 2009-2010

1. Continue to reach out to inactive PTAs, independent PTAs and schools without PTAs in our Area.
2. Recruit new leadership for Area, work on filling empty board positions.
3. Create Facebook for Area 17 - invite CPs, local Presidents and other board member to join.

Introducing the new Area 17 Executive Board:

President [Chris Zimmer](#)
Vice President [Alyssa Johnson](#)
Secretary [Martha Strain](#)
Parliamentarian
AFR-South [Lisa Savage](#)
AFR-North [Wendy Collins](#)
Arts in Education
Environmental Chairman
Awards Chairman
Annual Meeting Chairman
Legislative Chairman
Newsletter Chairman

Birdville ISD [Jeannie Burleson](#)
Cleburne ISD
Crowley ISD [Ronnie Crowley](#)
Eagle Mt/Saginaw ISD Kellie Ragan
Fort Worth ISD [Darlene Shue](#)
HEB ISD [Sandy Mazanazi](#)
Grapevine-Colleyville ISD [Darlene Bodish](#)
Keller ISD [Jennifer Bradley](#)
Northwest ISD [Tami Koenig](#)
Weatherford ISD [Shenea Hawkins](#)
White Settlement ISD [Teresa Davis](#)



If you are interested in filling one of the open positions, please contact President [Chris Zimmer](#).



Training Opportunities



Presidents Network & Treasurers Forum

When: August 13
Where: BISD Fine Arts and Athletics Complex, Black Box Theatre
9200 Mid-Cities Blvd., North Richland Hills
Time: 6:30 pm

Come join us and get your PTA year off to the right start. Council will present crucial information to local unit presidents and treasurers. There will be a Q&A and networking sessions.

Birdville Council of PTAs Officers and Chairmen Training

When: August 27
Where: BISD Fine Arts and Athletics Complex, Multipurpose Rooms A & B
9200 Mid-Cities Blvd., North Richland Hills
Time: 9:00 am & 6:00 pm

All local unit Officers and Chairmen are encouraged to attend this training. Morning and evening sessions are provided for your convenience. Packets and presentations will be available for the following positions:

President	Arts in Education
Programs	Community Involvement
Budget and Finance	Environmental Concerns
Hospitality	Handbook
Parent Education	Legislative Action
Clothes Connection/Supply Depot	Membership
Secretary	Newsletter
Treasurer	Scholarship
Parliamentarian	Virtual Communications
Historian	Volunteers

We hope you will be able to attend!



Awards Recognition **Stacey Edwards**

The Birdville Council of PTAs is pleased to announce the following recipients for our 2008-2009 senior scholarships:

Joseph Nguyen - Haltom High School
attending the University of Texas at Austin
Kyle Kettner - Richland High School
attending Tarleton State University
Amy Kathleen Burch - Birdville High School

attending the University of Tulsa

Each recipient received a \$500.00 scholarship that was paid directly to the college or university of their choice.

These remarkable students exemplify the qualities of exceptional leadership, community involvement, as well as academic success.

Each of the high schools promoted this scholarship program and provided individual scholarships on behalf of their PTSAs. They selected the top applicant to send onto Council for further consideration of the Griggs Scholar Award in the amount of an additional \$250.00.

The 2008-2009 Griggs Scholar Award was awarded to Joseph Nguyen.

Congratulations to all of the scholarship winners and their families. We wish them success as they continue their education.

Thank you to all of the students, teachers, counselors, and PTA scholarship chairs who work so hard to make all of this happen.

[Stacey Edwards](#), Scholarship Chairman
Birdville Council of PTAs



Local PTA Highlights

Congratulations to all the 2009-2010 Local Unit Presidents!

High Schools

Birdville High School ~ Jennifer LePla
Haltom High School ~ Marie Phelps (acting)
Richland High School ~ Pam Lazenby

Middle Schools

Haltom Middle School ~ Martha Guevara
North Oaks Middle School ~ Dora Sandoval (acting)
North Richland Middle School ~ Angel Patterson
North Ridge Middle School ~ Deborah Ray
Richland Middle School ~ Libby Sanders
Smithfield Middle School ~ Susan Sorrells
Watauga Middle School ~ Stacey Edwards

Elementary Schools

Jack C. Binion Elementary ~ Carrie Rushing
Birdville Elementary ~ Sherry Christopher
Foster Village Elementary ~ Melanie Frith
W. T. Francisco Elementary ~ Trinia Harsh
Green Valley Elementary ~ Anna Khalil
Grace E. Hardeman Elementary ~ Lacy Collins
Holiday Heights Elementary ~ Keiria Carrillo
Alliene Mullendore Elementary ~ Keri Vaughn
North Ridge Elementary ~ Beth Janke
W. A. Porter Elementary ~ Deanna Tolleson
Richland Elementary ~ Cheryl Kaufman
David E. Smith Elementary ~ Claudia Cavazos
Smithfield Elementary ~ Stefani Kopenec
Snow Heights Elementary ~ Tracy Schraub
South Birdville Elementary ~ Mary Elston
John D. Spicer Elementary ~ Leslea Delaney
O. H. Stowe Elementary ~ Traci Vela
C. F. Thomas Elementary ~ Te'Neal Peacock
Walker Creek Elementary ~ Brooke Johannes
Watauga Elementary ~ Mickie Hamilton
Academy at West Birdville Elementary ~ Laura Uriostegui





Membership

Diane Skaggs

Hi, my name is Diane Skaggs, and I am your Membership Chairman this year for council. I am very excited to be in this position and will do everything possible to help build your PTA.

I encourage all of you to participate in Texas PTA's Membership Award program. There are several fun and exciting awards to be won. Full details on these awards are available on the [Texas PTA website](#). One of the main changes this year is that you have to use the Texas PTA theme to be eligible for the Membership Awards this year. The theme this year is "We want you".

Presidents keep an eye on your email for the delegate form. It is due back to me by Aug. 27. I hope all of you have a great year. Good luck and have fun!!!

[Diane Skaggs](#), Membership Chairman
Birdville Council of PTAs



Community Projects

Tosh McGaughy



Clothes Connection & Supply Depot volunteers have been busy organizing, planning, cleaning and coordinating in order to be able to serve our BISD students from low income homes as the new school year starts. Community churches and businesses have been running school supply drives and volunteers will begin collecting donations early next week.

August 10-14 will be school supply packaging time! All local PTA units are strongly encouraged to come volunteer for a couple of hours during this week. The Clothes Connection & Supply Depot facility is located at 5308 E. Belknap Street, Haltom City 76117. The building is located behind the Little Saigon Mall and an adjacent strip mall.

The big school supply distribution will be held Saturday, August 22 from 8 am to 1 pm at the Clothes Connection/Supply Depot facility. The following week, volunteers will get the Clothes Connection facility ready. September 1 will be the first day Clothes Connection will be open to assist families in need. The Clothes Connection work day schedule has been distributed to local unit Presidents. It will also be available on our [PTA website](#) soon.

**Are you cleaning out your closet getting ready for the new school year?
Tired of having garage sales?**

Please consider donating your clothes to the Clothes Connection. As a non-profit organization, your donation may be tax deductible. We greatly appreciate any donations of gently used clothes and shoes from infant to adult sizes. Clothes may be dropped off during the week of August 10 to 14 from 8:30 am to 11:30 am.

If you have any questions about the Supply Depot, the Clothes Connection, volunteering, or donating, please contact either Tosh or Kim. Thank you!

[Tosh McGaughy](#), 7th Vice President Supply Depot
Birdville Council of PTAs

[Kim Gossett](#), 6th Vice President Clothes Connection

A big Thank You to BIRD



At the July 23 Board of Trustees Meeting, President Dolores Webb and Superintendent Dr. Stephen Waddell presented Birdville Council of PTAs President Jeannie Burlison with donations totalling \$4800 to benefit the Clothes Connection & Supply Depot. The funds were raised through the annual Golf Tournament and a special Benefit Concert.

We are proud to have such a supportive partnership with our school district! Thank you to everyone who made these donations possible!!



Arts in Education

This year's Reflections theme is "Beauty Is..."

All category descriptions, guidelines, and forms can be found at [Texas PTA](#).



If you are passionate about getting students involved in the arts, please consider serving as the Arts in Education Chairman for Council. This position will oversee the acceptance, judging, and advancement of Reflection entries from local units. If you have a desire to promote more art activities throughout the District, this position is for you! Beauty is... a passionate volunteer!

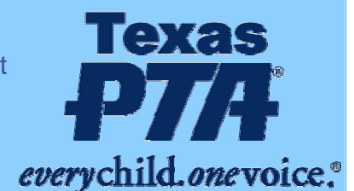
If you are interested, please contact [Jeannie Burlison](#) for more information.



Texas PTA news

At Summer Leadership Seminar, Texas PTA unveiled their new website design. Check it out at [Texas PTA](#).

Be sure to keep up to date with the online resources provided by Texas PTA. You can view issues of [The Voice](#) and sign up to receive [email notifications](#) from Texas PTA. Stay informed!



You can now find Texas PTA on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)!!