

New Jersey PTA's 2007 Awards Criteria

2007 President's Award

The 2007 NJPTA President's *Champion for Children* Award will honor a Local PTA/PTSA that has demonstrated its creativity and success in being a champion for their students through a new or expanded program that highlights how the students in their school have directly benefited from the PTA/PTSA's involvement. The winning application will not only highlight how the children benefited, but will also demonstrate an increase in parental involvement during the program. In addition to recognition at the Awards Banquet, the recipient of this award will receive two complimentary tickets to the Idea Sharing Luncheon and an opportunity to highlight their program during that event.

To apply, complete the application form and provide a description of the program in 500 words or less on a separate piece of paper. Your application may also include flyers, news articles, or photographs relative to the program (materials will not be returned, please keep a copy for your records). The program must have been conducted during the 2006-2007 school year and may either be a new initiative or an expanded program.

Harry A. Capers, Jr., President

Outstanding Local PTA Education Excellence Award

This award recognizes local PTAs that actively participate in programs and activities supporting high academic standards and enhanced curriculum. Such programs may include, but are not limited to: programs explaining NCLB, monitoring, the core curriculum standards, assessment, homework requirements and other academic programs.

To apply, provide a description of the program in 500 words or less on a separate piece of paper. Your application may also include flyers, news articles or photographs relative to the program. The program must have been conducted or developed during the 2006-2007 school year and may be either long-standing or a new initiative.

Elise Miller, Vice President Educational Services

Character Education Award

The goal of this award is to encourage local PTA/PTSA's to advocate, promote and participate in the process of creating and sustaining character based school environments. Local PTAs must be one of the major sponsor/organizers of the reported character education initiative. Any highlighted activities must be part of the school routine and not a stand-alone, one time activity. A component of reflection about any

activity must be evident. Activities that lend themselves to becoming sustainable within the school culture will be considered the ideal. (Source of funding, if any, is not a factor)

You may include up to five (5), one-sided, 8 ½” x 11” pages of supplementary materials to help convey the scope of the program/activity. This material may include photos, articles, program materials, etc. They may be photocopied, reduced (by no more than 33%), or single-spaced in order to fit on the 8 ½ x 11 page.

Award Criteria:

1. Goals & Objectives-
Describe the goals & objectives of the program or activity
Relate the goals to the Mission and/or Objects of PTA
2. Implementation & support materials-
Describe how the program/activity was accomplished and by whom
Support materials must be neatly presented. Application packets, including support materials will not be returned.
3. Results & Evaluation-
Describe the results achieved and how the success of the program/activity was measured.
4. Final Page-
An original signed letter of support, written by a school or community official directly involved with the program/activity must accompany the application (i.e., the school principal, school district superintendent, director, teacher or community leader).

Kim Wislocky, Character Education Chairman

Arts in Education Award

This award recognizes local PTA/PTSAs who advocate for and promote the visual and performing arts by providing quality arts education programs and projects in their schools and communities and who work with their schools and districts to promote the arts in their schools.

Please provide a description of the program in 500 words or less on a separate piece of paper. Your application may also include flyers, news articles or photographs relative to the program. The program must have been conducted or developed during the 2006-2007 school year and may be either long-standing or a new initiative.

Emmy Hunter, Arts in Education Chairman

Great IDEA Award

This award will be presented to a local PTA/PTSA in recognition of their outstanding efforts in the advocacy of special education programs/activities that educate parents, teachers, and the community about special education issues and for their promotion of sensitivity and respect of those with disabilities. Activities/programs can include, but are not limited to parental rights under IDEA, integration training, information on learning disabilities, assistive technologies and physical access.

You may include up to five (5), one-sided, 8 ½” x 11” pages of supplementary materials to help convey the scope of the program/activity. This material may include photographs, articles, program materials, etc.

Award Criteria:

- **Goals & Objectives-**
Describe the goals & objectives of the program or activity.
Relate the goals to the Mission and/or Objects of PTA and advocating for the disabled.
- **Implementation & support materials-**
Describe how the program/activity was accomplished and by whom.
Support materials must be neatly presented. Application packets, including support materials will not be returned.
- **Results & Evaluation-**
Describe the results achieved and how the success of the program/activity was measured.
- **Final Page-**
An original signed letter of support, written by a school or community official directly involved with the program/activity must accompany the application (i.e., the school principal, school district superintendent, director, teacher or community leader). The letter should be the final document in the application packet.
- **Support materials must be neatly presented.** Application packets, including support materials, will not be returned.

Bill Sellar, Special Education Chairman

School Funding & Facilities Award

This award recognizes local PTAs who actively participate in programs/activities supporting educational funding and/or school facilities by educating and engaging parents and the school community on such items as school budget issues, facilities referendums, school and facilities planning, state aid, etc.

The award submission may include up to five (5) one-sided, 8 ½ by 11 inch pages of supplementary materials to help convey the scope of the program/activity. These materials may include photographs, articles, letters, program materials, etc. The application form must be enclosed as a cover sheet. Please note that submitted materials cannot be returned.

Myron Miller, Educational Funding Chairman

Environmental Award

The Environmental Award is presented to a local PTA/PTSA who submits documentation for the most effective program/activity. It may be the implementation of a

program of your choice, either independently or in partnership with other agencies in your community. Indoor Air Quality testing in schools, including Radon, lead level in drinking water or soil, safe and clean playgrounds, are just an example of a program/activity that can be accomplished in a school setting. Awareness programs that educate parents and children on how to improve the quality of indoor/outdoor environment can qualify for this award. Programs or activities in observance of Earth/Arbor Day also qualify. You may submit an application for each environmental activity held during the 2006-2007 school year.

Please note the following criteria and answer pertinent questions.

- Describe in detail your program/activity. Please submit all documentation in a folder. A letter from your PTA President or School Principal, confirming the activity must be included. Name, address and phone number of contact person must appear on the front cover.
- What did your PTA/PTSA hope to accomplish with this program or activity? Was your goal achieved?
- Submit copies of flyers, brochures, newspaper articles and photos used to promote your program/activity or taken during the event. Also include supportive material, such as handouts. (Photos will not be returned)
- Was the program/activity restricted to PTA members or open to the community? Did the program/activity involve other cooperative agencies or organizations?

Chester Tuella, Environmental Chairman

HIV/AIDS Education Award

The HIV/AIDS Education Award is presented to a PTA/PTSA who has submitted documentation for the most outstanding HIV/AIDS education program held during the 2006-2007 school year. Suggestions are PTA Drug Awareness Week, sponsoring a World AIDS Day function or a community wide awareness program.

Please note the following criteria and answer pertinent questions.

- Describe in detail your program/activity. You may use up to 5 sheets of paper, double-spaced, one side only and placed into a folder. A letter from your PTA President or School Principal, confirming the activity must be included. Name, address and phone number of contact person must appear on the front cover.
- What did your PTA/PTSA hope to accomplish with this program or activity? Was your goal achieved?
- Submit copies of flyers, brochures, newspaper articles and photos used to promote your program/activity or taken during the event. Also include supportive material, such as handouts. (Photos will not be returned)
- Was the program/activity restricted to your local PTA members or open to the community? Did the program/activity involve other cooperative agencies or organizations?
- Did your program involve all parents in your school community? Did fathers, single parents, parents with children in special education classes, parents with

diverse ethnic, socio/economic and educational backgrounds participate in this event/program?

Paula Krokus, HIV/AIDS Education Chairman

Operation Prom/Project Graduation Award

The Operation Project Graduation Award recognizes a local PTA/PTSA who has provided a Drug Free/Alcohol Free graduation activity that was fun and safe and to encourage other PTAs/PTSAs at the high school level to become involved in providing a similar positive, safe and secure experience for their seniors celebrating graduation.

Please read the instructions carefully and include the following criteria in the application:

- Submit information in a binder or folder with the application as the cover page
- Describe the project in detail. Be sure to include the size of the graduating class; the number of participants; the length of the event; when and where the event was held; the activities available (pool, sports, etc.) and activities planned (DJ, fortuneteller, etc.)
- Were the facilities and equipment checked for safety? Were refreshments served? Was the event taped? If so, please include a copy. Video will not be returned. Were souvenirs distributed? If so, describe.
- Describe student/parent/community participation in planning the event. Was fundraising needed? Include details. Was participation limited to the local PTA/PTSA or was it community-wide? Did you work with other agencies or organizations (explain)?
- List publicity used – include copies of newspaper articles, PTA newsletters, flyers, awards or photos (will not be returned).
- A letter from your PTA President or School Principal must be included confirming the activity.
- Entry will not be returned, please keep a copy for your records.

Lonnie Hughes, Vice President Health & Welfare Services

Safety Award

This Safety Award is presented to a local PTA/PTSA who has submitted documentation for the most effective safety program and/or activity. A single program/activity or a collection of programs/activities that were held during the 2006-2007 school year may be submitted. This program/activity could have been done as a single Local PTA, with another Local PTA, a community effort or with a cooperating agency or agencies.

Be sure to note if the program/activity was held in conjunction with a special times such as: Fire Prevention Week, Buckle-Up for America Week, National Child Injury Prevention Week, National Child Abuse Prevention Month and so on.

Please note the following criteria when applying for this award:

- Describe in detail your program/activity from planning to execution.
- Submit your documentation in a binder or pocketed folder with the application as the first page.
- Submit copies of photos, newspaper articles, flyers, brochures and any handouts that were used (photos will not be returned).

Lynn Forbes, Juvenile Justice and Safety & School Violence Prevention Chairman

School Violence Prevention Award

The School Violence Prevention Award will be presented to a local PTA/PTSA who has promoted, encouraged and participated in activities and programs addressing the very serious issue of school violence. Programs and activities that encourage tolerance among students, acts of kindness, Parent/Parent-family education and school/community involvement programs are some examples.

Please note the following criteria for applying for this award:

- All activities must have been held during the 2006-2007 school year.
- Describe in detail your activity/program. It should be typed (no longer than 3 type written pages). A copy of the application form should be stapled to the report.
- Submit all documentation in a folder.
- Copies of flyers, brochures, newspaper articles and photos (photos will not be returned) may also be included in the folder. Please attach each such item to an 8 x 10 sheet of construction paper.

Lynn Forbes, Juvenile Justice and Safety & School Violence Prevention Chairman

Substance Abuse Prevention Award

The Substance Abuse Prevention Award will be presented to the local PTA/PTSA who submits documentation for the most effective substance abuse parental involvement program/activity. The PTA should emphasize the NJPTA "No Use" position in their programs or actions. This activity must have been held during the 2006-2007 school year. To apply for this award highlight your parental program.

- Describe in 500 words your program/activity. Use a two pocket folder, which should include a letter from the School Principal, a letter from the PTA President and letters from any organizations that you worked with. The letters should all be on the left side of the folder.
- What did your PTA/PTSA hope to accomplish with this program/activity? Was the goal achieved?
- How many people were in attendance? Did you do a survey asking for the needs of the parents?

- Was your participation confined to your Local PTA/PTSA or was it community-wide? Did you work with cooperative agencies and/or organizations?

R. Catherine Steele, Substance Abuse Prevention Chairman

Outstanding Membership Program Award

The Outstanding Membership Program Award will be presented to a local PTA/PTSA who submits documentation for the most effective program encouraging families and friends to join PTA throughout the school year. The program should be creative, inclusive and should promote the Objects of PTA. The recipient will be invited to present their award-winning program at the Idea Sharing Event at our 2007 Convention.

Please note the following criteria and answer the pertinent questions.

- The application should be the first page and it should be clearly printed or typed. Staple all pages together and place in a pocket folder (no paper clips, please).
- Describe in detail your program in 500 words or less.
- A letter from your Local PTA President confirming your activity must be included.
- Submit two pages, front and back, of flyers, brochures, newspaper articles and photos used to promote your program (Photos will not be returned).
- Did the program involve other cooperative agencies or organizations?

Joan Simon, Membership Chairman

Outstanding Achievement Through Advocacy Award

Advocacy is defined as the act of pleading in favor of or on behalf of another. The PTA includes in their definition of advocacy: mobilizing individuals and local PTAs to spark changes that will benefit children.

There are many ways your local PTA can advocate for all children: speaking on behalf of your PTA at a Board of Education meeting, on an issue concerning the students of your district, supporting the passage of the school budget, appearing at a town meeting in support of a city playground, presenting a program of advocacy, attending or testifying at a committee or session of legislature in Trenton or the US Congress.

Tell us about what you have done. In two pages or less, describe your advocacy activities. Please use the application form as your cover page.

Syvonne Forkin, Legislative Activities Chairman

Parent/Family Involvement Award

This award is to recognize local PTAs who are using the National Standards for Parent/Family Involvement in their schools and communities, and who encourage parents to take an active role in the education of their children.

For more information on the Standards, visit National PTA's website at <http://www.pta.orgparentinvolvement/standards/index.asp>

Local PTAs are eligible for this award if they have used the standards to encourage parents, families, and the community to become actively involved in their schools during the 2006-2007 school year. Award applications should be submitted in a three-ring binder, and should include the following:

- The application form as the first page.
- A description of the activities/programs, etc., in 500 words or less. The description should detail which of the National Standards for Parent/Family Involvement were used and how these activities were encouraged. A letter from your Local PTA President or School Principal confirming your activity must be included.
- Was the program/activity restricted to PTA members, or open to the community? Did the program/activity involve other cooperative agencies or organizations?
- All back-up materials such as flyers, questionnaires, newsletters, photographs, newspaper articles, etc. Photos will not be returned.

Donna Capers, Parent Involvement Chairman

Outstanding Website Award

The Outstanding Website Award will be presented to a Local PTA/PTSA in recognition of an outstanding website that effectively communicates its mission and programs to their members and community.

Please include the following materials and note the criteria:

- The completed application form.
- Up to 3 one sided pages of support materials that includes the following information:
 - The URL of the website (internet address)
 - How long has the website been live?
 - How often during the school year is the site updated?
 - How many people are involved in maintaining the site?
 - How has your PTA used the website and the internet to communicate to its members and the community?

The Website requirements:

- PTA Logo, PTA and PTSA are Registered Service Marks. NO PERIODS may be used between the letters.
- All internal links must be valid.

Website recommendations: the following are not required but are suggested.

- Navigation should be simple and content easy to locate.

- The site should be displayed consistently across a variety of web browsers, such as Internet Explorer and Netscape.
- All pages on the site should have a consistent look and feel, especially the navigation.
- The site should be handicapped friendly, i.e. graphics should have a meaningful alternative description.
- All external links should be valid.

Support materials must be neatly presented. Application packets, including support materials will not be returned and will become the property of NJPTA. Please keep a copy for your own records.

Sandra Cooper, Web Coordinator

Fathers P.R.I.D.E. Award

The Fathers P.R.I.D.E. Award is presented in recognition of a local PTA who actively participates in programs/activities that increases the participation of fathers within their school and supports the understanding that the participation of fathers is critical to the growth and development of their children and involves all dads everywhere. P.R.I.D.E. = **P**articipation & **R**esponsibility **I**nvolves **D**ads **E**verywhere!

Please include up to 5 one-sided, 8 x 11 pages of supplementary materials to help convey the scope of the program/activity. These materials may include photographs, news articles, program materials, etc. They may be photocopied, reduced (by no more than 33%), or single-spaced in order to fit on the 8 x 11 page.

C. André Daniels, Fatherhood Initiative Chairman

Latino Initiative Award

This award will recognize a local PTA/PTSA who has originated or conducted programs aimed at increasing awareness within the Latino Community of the importance of being involved in their children's school/PTA activities.

Please include the application form and provide a description of the program on a separate piece of paper. Your application may also include flyers, news articles and photographs. Materials submitted will not be returned.

Hilton Gonzalez, Member-at-Large, Latino Initiative

Parent Education Award

The Parent Education Award is presented to a Local PTA/PTSA who has submitted documentation for the most effective parent education program or activity. The purpose is to recognize PTAs/PTSAs that are proactive in presenting current and

timely information to their membership on health, welfare and safety issues that affect children.

Some suggestions for a Parent Education Program or Activity are: building your child's self esteem; children's physical and emotional development; healthy eating habits and ways to encourage being physically fit. You may apply for this award documenting all of the parent education programs that were presented during the 2006-2007 school year.

Please read the instructions carefully and include the following criteria in your application:

- Submit information in a binder or folder with the application as the cover page.
- Describe in detail your parent education program/activity. Include documentation such as copies of flyers, handouts, newspaper articles, brochures, photos/video (will not be returned) that are used to promote the program.
- What were your goals for the project? Were they reached? How?
- How did the project affect the community? Was participation confined to the local PTA/PTSA or was it community-wide? Did you work with cooperative agencies or organizations?
- How did you determine the success of the program/activity? Will the PTA/PTSA conduct this program or a similar one next year?
- A letter from your PTA President or School Principal must be included to confirm the activity.
- Entry will not be returned, please make a copy for your records.

Lonnie Hughes, Vice President Health & Welfare Services

Education Reform Award

The Education Reform Award is presented to a Local PTA/PTSA who has submitted documentation highlighting a project or program in the education reform area. Such programs may include, but are not limited to: Family Science or Family Math Days/Nights; programs for parents explaining academic programs; such as, testing, homework, innovative curriculum ideas, core curriculum standards, or other academic standards; PTA newsletter articles on related issues, activities involving parents in curriculum issues; education advocacy efforts; and any other programs that enable parents to support their youngsters' academic success.

To apply, complete the application form and provide a description of the program in 500 words or less on a separate piece of paper. Your application may also include flyers, news articles or photographs relative to the program. Your program must have been conducted or developed during the 2006-2007 school year and may be either long-standing or a new initiative.

Grace Benson, Education Reforms Chairman

Nutrition Award

The Nutrition Award will be presented to a local or county PTA who has acted to further good nutrition through their program during the 2006-2007 school year.

To apply, submit completed application form and describe how your PTA promoted good nutrition. Include the rationale, the method and the impact of your program. Provide any additional materials that specifically support your nutrition program such as: newspaper articles, letters, photographs, hand-outs, etc. (materials will not be returned, please keep a copy for your records).

Candy Fredericks, Nutrition Chairman