

COUNCIL TALKS

Garland ISD Council of PTAs Newsletter • December 2011

Dates To Remember

December

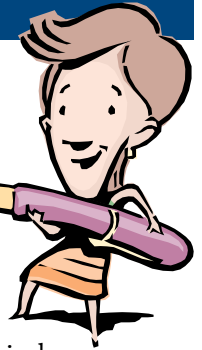
- 2 3:30-6:30 pm
Entry "turn-in" for
Council-level *Reflections* judging
Harris Hill Annex
- 3 8:30-10:30 am
Entry "turn-in" for
Council level *Reflections* judging
Harris Hill Annex
- 10:30 am
Reflections judging begins
- 5-6:00 pm
Entry "pick-up" for
Reflections entries
- 7 GISD Council of PTAs
Council Meeting
9:00 am, Harris Hill Annex
- 16 Early Dismissal
- 19 Winter Break begins

January

- 2 Grading/Recording Day
Teacher In-Service
- 3 Spring Semester begins

The President's Pen

Juliana Holmes, Council President
jholmes@garlandisd.net



The weather is finally feeling like fall and Thanksgiving is behind us. This year has started well and is just going by way too quickly.

Did you spend time with your family and play Pat Mullin's M&Ms game? Are you ready for December and the flurry of activity that it brings... holiday performances, end of semester performances, exams, Christmas on the Square, and class parties? In all the fun and excitement of this holiday season remember to take time to remember the reason for the season.

Deadlines

- This year, almost everyone turned in their Council dues on time. Pat yourself on the back for a job well done! We only have seven campuses that missed the Texas PTA membership deadline with 20 members to be in good standing. Please make sure you continue to send dues to state throughout the year for all your members regardless of when they join.
- We also still have a few units who have not paid council dues. Please take care of this as soon as possible. Your students will only be able to participate in *Reflections* or other council-level competitions when your \$50 council dues are paid.
- **Everyone should have submitted a 990 form to the IRS by now.** If your local has not yet filed, please do so NOW. If a local does not file a 990 for 3 years they will lose their nonprofit status.
- Another deadline fast approaching is the sales tax deadline. Sales tax is due to the state comptroller by January 20, 2011. There will not be another newsletter before the sales tax deadline, so please make note and take action if needed.

Next Council Meeting

- Our next council meeting will be Wednesday, December 7th. Remember to bring your packages of diapers, any size, for our service project. This will be our Holiday program so wear your special holiday outfit and enjoy the program with us. We will also be electing a nominating committee for next year's council board.
- There will be no meeting in January which gives us all a chance to catch our breath after the holidays and be ready for the second half of the school year.
- Our meeting in February will be our Founder's Day Celebration. I sure hope there won't be a snow and ice storm this year!! Debbie Crosby, Vice President-Programs, is busy working on a special program for our enjoyment,

(See *President's Pen*, page 2)

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Council Talks is the newsletter of the Garland ISD Council of PTAs and is published on a monthly basis during the regular school year.

www.garlandisdouncilpta.org

President's Pen

Continued from page 1

but one thing is for sure...there will be cake! Plan on joining us for both the celebration and the cake! Be watching for award forms and scholarship and luncheon information at the beginning of the year.

The volunteers, staff, and parents of GISD are truly ANGELS to all our students! I'm very thankful for each and every one of you this holiday season and always. May you have a safe holiday break with your friends and family...2012 will be here before we know it!

Advocate, Nurture, Guide, Encourage, Love and Support all children.

Juliana

Secretarial Minute...

Tonya Torske, Council Secretary, ttorske@verizon.net

The purpose of keeping minutes is to provide a record of the organization's actions, for the information of absent members and for future reference. Minutes are not generally intended to be a news report, or a record of all that was said in a meeting. For most meetings, it is enough to record the essential facts and the actions of the organization.



All minutes should contain the following information in the order of the agenda:

- The kind of meeting (regular, special, adjourned regular, or adjourned special);
- The name of the organization;
- The date and time of the meeting, and the place if it is not always the same;
- The name of the presiding officer and
- The presence of a quorum;
- The fact that the minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved or approved as corrected. Note: Any corrections to those minutes are recorded in the text of those minutes, not in the present meeting's minutes.
- The approval of the financial report. The report may be summarized for the record.
- All with the name of the mover of the motion. The names of seconders of motions should not be recorded.
- The time of adjournment.

Other business, such as elections, reports of committees, installation of new members, opening or closing ceremonies, etc., should be mentioned, but should not be recorded in detail.

If a written report is given for an officer or committee (i.e. a plan of work), a copy of it should be kept with the minutes.

When a vote is ordered counted, the votes on each side should be recorded, but not the abstentions, unless it is a roll-call vote.




OPERATION: DIAPER DROP



As any of you with children (*or who spend time around families with kids*) know, #2 happens. But in these economic times, some families have a hard time putting food on the table, much less getting diapers for their littlest family members.

Therefore, this year, the Board has chosen to host an on-going **“Diaper Drop”** as our **2011-12 Service Project**. Drop off diapers in any/all sizes at our monthly Council Meetings. In turn, we will distribute these donations to various family charities in the Garland, Rowlett, and Sachse area.



Sales tax is due January 20

If you have a sales certificate, you need to either pay sales tax or send in the form showing no tax due.

PTA Council 2011-12 Meeting Dates

- December 7, 2011
- *No meeting in January*
- February 1, 2012
PTA Founder's Day Celebration!
- March 7, 2012
- April 11, 2012
(second Wednesday of month)
- Thursday, May 3, 2012
Spring Luncheon
- SEC Ballroom

All regular Council PTA meetings are held in the Garland/Rowlett/Sachse rooms (AKA Team GISD Rooms) on the second floor of the Harris Hill Administration Building Annex. The Building is located at the southwest corner of Forest Lane & Jupiter Road.

TAPPED OUT!

PROTECTING AND CONSERVING OUR WATER RESOURCES

Water is absolutely essential to the survival of our society; however, choices are made every day, by both individuals and businesses alike, that could potentially harm or deplete our most precious resource.

While almost 70% of the earth's surface is covered with water, only .003% is fresh and unpolluted. With our rapid population increase, along with the current effects of an extreme drought, it is important to identify and implement new strategies that will help ensure our water supply is clean and plentiful for generations to come.

Students are invited to step up to the **One World Challenge**, and create a solution to address the protection and conservation of our water resources.

Please be sure to check these two websites for forms and guidelines.

We are also including the guidelines and forms in this issue of *Council Talks* for your convenience. See pages 6-9.

- <http://www.txpta.org/programs/environmental-awareness/>
- <http://www.garlandisdouncilpta.org>

2011 - 2012

ENTRIES DUE TO COUNCIL by MARCH 23rd

Judging will take place on March 24th.

Contact Shellie Terrazas (shellieterrazas@verizon.net) with any questions.

ONE WORLD
challenge

GISD Council of PTAs 2011-12 Directory

Jocelyn Jackson, Directory Chair, lojack80@aol.com

The Directory is completed. Whew! Thank you to everyone for helping me get this published on a timely basis. A CD will be available for all local PTAs "in good standing" at the December meeting.

Fifth Grade Greeting Card Contest

For approximately thirty years, the greeting cards sent by the Superintendent and Board of Trustees has been designed by Garland ISD fifth graders.

In the days before digital printing and color copiers, the cards were one-color designs, and there was only one winner chosen from all of the entries. However, with the advent of low-cost full-color printing options, the cards are now printed in full color and instead of just one winner, the district now chooses three different designs to feature.

The contest is co-sponsored by the GISD Council of PTAs and the school district. Local PTAs, parents and teachers alike, have been instrumental in coordinating the contests at the local campuses, encouraging the fifth grade students to participate.

Employees at the Harris Hill Administration Building volunteer to judge the district-level contest. This year, they chose these three designs:

These young artists will be honored by the Board of Trustees with “*Reflections of Excellence*” awards at the meeting on Tuesday, December 13th.



Nicolas Goldring
Lister Elementary



Carlos Garcia
Bradfield Elementary



Nancy Garcia
Roach Elementary

Save THE Date!

Please mark your calendars for
Thursday, May 3, 2012

for the annual **PTA Spring Luncheon** in the SEC Ballroom

You'll be hearing more from our luncheon chairman, Jody Luna, as the date draws closer.



ONE WORLD challenge

2011 – 2012

TAPPED OUT! PROTECTING AND CONSERVING OUR WATER RESOURCES

General Student Guidelines

Student Eligibility

Students are invited to step up to the *One World Challenge*, and create a solution to address the protection and conservation of our water resources. This program is open to all students Pre-K through 12th grade that attend a school with a Local PTA/PTSA that is in good standing with Texas PTA. A solution may be developed at home or at school.

Grade Divisions

Students may enter the *One World Challenge* in the appropriate division for their grade. The divisions are as follows:

Primary:	Pre-K – 2nd Grade
Intermediate:	3rd Grade – 5th Grade
Middle/Junior:	6th Grade – 8th Grade
Senior:	9th Grade – 12th Grade

Formats

Texas PTA does not limit the number of solutions a student may enter in the *One World Challenge*. Solutions may be submitted in any of the following three formats:

- Visual** – Open to all grade divisions
- Essay** – Open to Intermediate, Middle/Junior and Senior grade divisions
- Public Service Announcement** – Open to Intermediate, Middle/Junior and Senior grade divisions

Originality

Each solution must be original and the work of one student, with the exception of the group public service announcement. An adult may not alter the integrity of a student's solution.

Use of copyrighted material (other than recorded music used during PSA entries) is prohibited.

Plagiarism is defined as taking and using another person's ideas, writings, or inventions as one's own. Any research used within a solution must be identified and credited to the proper source. Plagiarized entries will be disqualified.

Student Entry Form

All participants are required to sign and complete the form in its entirety. In situations where the child cannot complete the entry form or write legibly, a parent may complete the form on their behalf.

Deadlines

Students must enter all solutions before the deadline established by their Local PTA/PTSA. Each Local PTA/PTSA participating in the program will set their entry deadline. Solutions are judged at the Local PTA/PTSA level and the top 10% are forwarded directly to Texas PTA.

- Suggested local PTA/PTSA deadline – End of February, please confirm this date with your school's PTA/PTSA
- Entries advancing to Texas PTA must be received in the state office by Thursday, March 31st at 5:00 pm.



ONE WORLD challenge

2011 – 2012

TAPPED OUT! PROTECTING AND CONSERVING OUR WATER RESOURCES

Visual

A visual solution must be the work of one student and be an original print, photograph, drawing, collage, or computer-generated piece that relates to the current One World Challenge. Each entry will be judged primarily on how well the student creatively presents a clear message and its correlation to the challenge. A well-developed solution is more important than technique. The visual format is open to all grade divisions.

Presentation

- Solutions may not be larger than 24" X 30"
- Solutions may not exceed 1/2" in height
- Solutions must have a clear message that promotes a solution to the current challenge
- Using a clear sheet protector, attach the Student Entry Form to the back of the entry

Use of Copyrighted Material

Use of copyrighted material, including any copyrighted cartoon characters or other such material, is not acceptable in any submission, with the following exceptions:

Visual solutions may include public places, well-known products, trademarks, or certain other copyrighted material as long as they are incidental to the subject matter of the piece and/or is a smaller element of a whole. The resulting work cannot try to establish an association between the student and the trademark/business/material, or influence the purchase/non-purchase of the trademarked good.

Collages may include portions of existing copyrighted works, such as photographs, magazine clippings, Internet images, and type cut out of a newspaper, as long as those portions are used to create a completely new and different image. A collage should be judged for its whole, not by its parts, and whether the resulting work stands as a creative, *original* work of art on its own.

Essay

An essay solution must be nonfiction and based on facts that relate to the current *One World Challenge*. The entry will be judged primarily on how well the student uses current research to present a clear message and promote a solution. The essay format is open to Intermediate, Middle/Junior and Senior grade divisions.

Presentation

- Essays must be handwritten or typed on standard 8 1/2" X 11" paper, not to exceed 1,000 words
- Essays are to reflect grade-appropriate grammar, punctuation and spelling
- Page numbers and the student's name should be on the back of each page
- Place essay inside a manila folder, with the student entry form stapled to the outside

Dictation, Typing and Translation

- Students may have their entries typed by another person
- Students who are physically challenged may dictate to another person who may type or write down the original work.
- Students for whom English is not their first language may submit essay solutions in their own language.

An interpretive translation must accompany the entry.

- Transcribers and translators should make every attempt to retain the same level of language and accuracy that is reflected in the student's original work.



ONE WORLD challenge

2011 – 2012

TAPPED OUT! PROTECTING AND CONSERVING OUR WATER RESOURCES

Public Service Announcement

PSAs may be submitted in an audio or video format, and may be the creation of one student or a group of students. PSAs will be judged primarily on how well the student creatively presents a clear message and promotes a solution. A well-developed concept is more important than technique. The public service announcement category is open to Intermediate, Middle/Junior and Senior grade divisions.

Presentation

- Audio PSAs must be 25-30 seconds in length
- Video PSAs must be 55-60 seconds in length
- PSAs must include the tag line, “this message is brought to you by Texas PTA and the *One World Challenge*” included within the specified length
- A script must be submitted with the entry
- PSAs must be submitted on a CD/DVD that is finalized and playable on standard equipment
- PSAs should be protected in a jewel-case or sleeve
- Place PSA and script, inside a 9” X 12” envelope with the student entry form stapled to the outside

Group PSAs

- List all participating students on one student entry form
- Grade division will be determined by the highest grade level among the participants

Music

The title, composer, and performer of any background music must be credited and documented on the student entry form.

Use of Other Copyrighted Material

PSAs may include public places, well-known products, trademarks, or certain other copyrighted material as long as that copyrighted material is incidental to the subject matter of the piece and/or is a smaller element of a whole. The resulting work cannot try to establish an association between the student and the trademark/business/material, or influence the purchase/non-purchase of the trademarked good.

Possible Video Styles

- Animation: Animation may be drawn; created from a collection of objects, clay, etc.; or computer-generated
- Narrative: A story told through the images created on film or computer
- Documentary: Nonfiction documentation using narration, facts, and images
- Media presentations: Computer-generated media presentations must be completely original, and the student must do all the work. Cutting and pasting from other sources is not permitted. In addition, the use of software that allows the user to build a virtual environment using prefabricated characters and elements is not permitted. Any software used to create an entry should be used only to enhance and present the work of the student, not to provide the primary design.
- PowerPoint presentations will not be accepted.



ONE WORLD challenge

2011 – 2012



Visual Solution

- Primary (Pre-K - 2nd Grade)
- Intermediate (3rd Grade – 5th Grade)
- Middle/Junior (6th Grade – 8th Grade)
- Senior (9th Grade – 12th Grade)

Essay Solution

- Intermediate (3rd Grade – 5th Grade)
- Middle/Junior (6th Grade – 8th Grade)
- Senior (9th Grade – 12th Grade)

Title of work (required) _____

Resources used for research _____

Please type or print legibly (black ink preferred)

All information required. Information will not be shared with outside parties.

Name of Student _____ Age _____ Grade _____

Address _____ City, ZIP _____

Phone _____ Email _____

STATEMENT OF ORIGINALITY

I affirm that this is my own creative work. I understand if my work advances to the State level, the entry will not be returned and could be used by Texas PTA partners for promotional purposes. PTA includes the National, State, Area, Council, and Local PTA/PTSA. I grant PTA permission to use my works for commercial or noncommercial use, including but not limited to public presentation of the work and reproduction of the work in print, electronic, and multimedia formats. PTA may continue to use my work as long as it has access to the original or a copy. PTA is not responsible for lost or damaged works. I understand that I must participate in the One World Challenge through a PTA/PTSA in good standing. I understand that the submission of my entry into the One World Challenge constitutes acceptance of the above conditions.

Student Signature

Parent Signature (Required if student is under 18 years)

To be completed by your Local PTA

Name of Local PTA (no abbreviations) _____

City _____ Council PTA (if applicable) _____

Local PTA Contact Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

GISD COUNCIL OF PTAs

Monthly Outstanding PTA Activity

PTA NAME: _____ DATE: _____

PRESIDENT: _____ PHONE: _____

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S NAME: _____

SUBMITTED BY: _____ PHONE: _____

SUBMITTER'S EMAIL: _____

Instructions:

- Complete information above and attach form to your entry.
- Please submit a description of your PTAs' activity on the Outstanding PTA Award Application attached.
- A maximum of 300 words, handwritten or typed will be accepted.
- Please do not use your PTA name within the text, as all PTA names are covered for judging.
- Flyers, programs, pictures, etc., may be included, but send copies as these items will not be returned.
- Your PTA may submit only one entry per month.
- Originality of idea, participation of parents, staff, and students as well as community involvement is also considered. Keep in mind the Objects of PTA as you plan the entry.

Email entries to:

pmullins@garlandisd.net

or

Mail to:

Pat Mullins
501 S. Jupiter Rd, Box 701
Garland TX 75042

Monthly "Outstanding PTA" award application deadlines:

Outstanding PTA entries for Month of:	Entry Must Be Received By:	Winners will be Announced at Council meeting in:
September 2011	September 26, 2011	October 2011
October 2011	October 24, 2011	November, 2011
November 2011	November 28, 2011	December 2011
December 2011 January 2012	Entries for both month's entry due January 23, 2012	February 2012
February 2012	February 24, 2012	March 2012
March 2012	March 26, 2012	April 2012

*In April, we will have the form for "Outstanding PTA of the Year" available.
Your PTA must enter **at least three (3)** monthly contests during the year
to be eligible to submit an entry for the Outstanding PTA of the Year.*

The Outstanding PTA of the Year will be announced at the Council of PTAs' spring luncheon

GISD COUNCIL OF PTAs

Monthly Outstanding PTA Activity Form

Please send invitations, copies of pictures, etc., that will help others visualize your event!

School Name:	
Submitted By:	
Date Submitted:	
Title of Activity	
Date of Activity:	
Name(s) of person(s) organizing event:	
Number of Participants:	
Description of Activity: <i>(300 word maximum - Use additional sheet if necessary)</i>	
Name of Speaker(s), if any	
What did you like best about activity?	
What would you change?	
Comments from students, parents, staff	