

National PTA Standards for Family-School Partnerships

These awards will recognize local PTAs whose programs and activities are based on the assessment questions for one or more of the National PTA Standards for Family-School Partnerships. When applying for these awards, a PTA can develop a program or project related to one or more of the assessment questions *in any of the six standards* and write a narrative that shows the goal, the program/project, and evaluation/success of program/project. The six awards standards are (1) Welcoming All Families, (2) Communicating Effectively, (3) Supporting Student Success, (4) Speaking up for Every Child, (5) Sharing Power, and (6) Collaborating with the Community.

Award: One plaque per standard in each category

Grade Divisions: Elementary, Middle/Junior High, Senior High (schools with multiple grades. i.e. K-I 2, must specify in which grade division they are applying.)

When planning PTA activities, consider projects in each of the six Standards to ensure a comprehensive approach to building successful partnerships between family, school and community. PTA projects should supplement and enhance those sponsored by the school. Some projects or activities may address more than one Standard, such as a project that addresses parenting skills and student learning, or a project that combines volunteering and collaborating with community.

Once you have selected the program(s) or project(s) you want to develop, form a committee to develop an action plan.

National PTA Standards

- 1. Welcoming All Families**
- 2. Communicating Effectively**
- 3. Supporting Student Success**
- 4. Speaking up for Every Child**
- 5. Sharing Power**
- 6. Collaborating with the Community**

National Standards for Family-School Partnerships Awards

Alabama PTA Awards are based on the National Standards for Family-School Partnerships. The six standards are: (1) Welcoming All Families, (2) Communicating Effectively, (3) Supporting Student Success, (4) Speaking Up for Every Child, (5) Sharing Power, and (6) Collaborating with the Community.

Read each standard. There are suggestion of programs that align with each one listed below the definition. Complete the Awards application; submit two copies to Alabama PTA, 470 South Union Street, Montgomery, AL, 36104, by March 1st (it must be postmarked by this date NO faxes). Local units may apply in multiple categories. Remember awards are based on activities supported or sponsored by the PTA and not the activities of the school staff.

Standard 1: Welcoming all families into the school community

Definition: Families are active participants in the life of the school, and feel welcomed, valued, and connected to each other, to school staff, and to what students are learning and doing in class.

- Family nights on math and literacy
- Host an Open House or Multicultural event
- Family movie night
- Back to school carnival

Standard 2: Communicating effectively

Definition: Families and school staff engage in regular, meaningful communication about student learning.

- Parent Workshops on what is your child's learning style
- PTA newsletters, websites, phone trees, Email distribution system
- Provide student planners, weekly folders

Standard 3: Supporting student success

Definition: Families and school staff continuously collaborate to support students' learning and healthy development both at home and at school, and have regular opportunities to strengthen their knowledge and skills to do so effectively.

- Family workshops on planning for college or career fairs
- Sponsor wellness and fitness programs.
- Student versus parent math/science or trivial competitions

Standard 4: Speaking up for every child

Definition: Families are empowered to be advocates for their own and other children, to ensure that students are treated fairly and have access to learning opportunities that will support their success.

- Attend school board meetings
- Appoint a legislative representative who will attend your school board meetings and make a report to your membership.
- Provide the contact information on the decision makers and provide updates on legislative issues
- Invite your local or state elected officials to speak on a panel or forum.

Standard 5: Sharing power

Definition: Families and school staff are equal partners in decisions that affect children and families and together inform, influence, and create policies, practices, and programs.

- Host a Kids ID program to address the issue of the dangers of strangers
- Host an informational night for parents on How to prepare your child for high school
- Host an informational session on what are the requirements for graduating from high school?
- How parents and teachers can promote internet safety at home and school

Standard 6: Collaborating with community

Definition: Families and school staff collaborate with community members to connect students, families, and staff to expanded learning opportunities, community services, and civic participation.

- Partner with a sister PTA that is struggling; invite them to your event than assist them with orchestrating their own.
- Partner with other nonprofits agencies like United Way and Junior Achievement for youth leadership programs
- Collaborate with local churches and community organizations to provide quality after-school programs.
- Sponsor voter registration drives, mock elections or community recycling projects
- Host joint community PTA meetings with the elementary, middle/junior high and high schools to showcase what each offers.

For more information about the National Standards and PTA programs that promote family-school partnerships, visit www.pta.org.



National Standards for Family-School Partnerships Award Application

(Cover Sheet)

Applicant's checklist:

- ____ Duplicate this award application cover sheet.
- ____ Complete the application cover sheet.
- ____ Attach a narrative for each standard for which your PTA is applying to the back of this application cover sheet. Please type or print.
- ____ Keep a copy for your records.
- ____ Mail to: Alabama PTA, 470 South Union Street, Montgomery, AL 36104 **(postmarked by March 1)**.

Award/Standard (check one)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I. Welcoming All Families | <input type="checkbox"/> III. Supporting Student Success |
| <input type="checkbox"/> II. Communicating Effectively | <input type="checkbox"/> IV. Speaking Up For Every Child |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> V. Sharing Power |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> VI. Collaborating with the Community |

School Year: 200__ - 200__ School System: _____

Grade Division: _____ Elementary _____ Middle/Junior High _____ Secondary/HS
(K-8 & K-12 schools must specify the division in which they are applying)

PTA Unit Name _____

President's Name _____

President's Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Telephone (_____) _____ E-mail _____

Name of Person Preparing Application _____

Application Preparer's Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Telephone (_____) _____ E-mail _____

Instructions: After completing this application cover sheet, write a narrative that details the program/s conducted under this award category, the goals you wished to achieve with this/these program/s, and the success of your efforts. It is important to use actual measurements in your narrative such as the number of participants, the number of volunteer hours, the number of recipients, etc.

Use no more than two separate pages for your narrative. Use 8.5 x 11 paper, double-spaced. Type the award/standard name at the top of each page. Use a font no smaller than 10 point Times New Roman. Reduced or compressed type will not be accepted.

Submit two complete copies of the award application cover sheet with the separate narrative stapled to the back. Do not place applications in folders or binders of any type. Applications will not be returned.

Winners will be announced during the Alabama PTA Convention in April.

Application Number _____ (For Awards Committee use only)