

CONVENTION REGISTRATION



✧ 130th Annual Convention ✧

Beyond Measure
Celebrating PTA

November 13-15 2026, Saratoga Springs, NY

**Saratoga Hilton
and City Center**

2026 NYS PTA 130th Annual Convention

Dear PTA Members,

Come celebrate with us! On behalf of the Governance Team of New York State PTA, we invite you to the NYS PTA 130th Annual Convention in Saratoga, New York, November 13-15, 2026. Set against a beautiful backdrop of fall foliage, the Saratoga Hilton and City Center is one of our favorite locations to hold the annual business meeting of our association! Whether you are attending for the first time or as a seasoned delegate, we need your voice to have a successful Convention.

Convention will energize and inspire you and help you grow as a leader:

- Elect our next President and other NYS PTA officers
- Vote on bylaws that govern our State Association
- Meet new members from across the state and reconnect with those you have met at other events.
- Adopt new resolutions, and retire, retain, or update existing resolutions that form the framework of our advocacy efforts
- Hear from dynamic and inspirational keynote speakers
- Attend motivating and informative workshops that will give you additional tools and resources to run your PTA
- Visit the exhibitor showcase with great giveaways
- Shop at our PTA Store for yourself and for gifts to recognize your volunteers
- Enjoy an amazing and memorable experience!

The 2026 NYS PTA Convention theme “Beyond Measure, Celebrating PTA” shines the spotlight on a year of accomplishments for our children and families. As we toss the confetti, be inspired to take in all the Convention has to offer so you can return home to Measure Our Mission for Every Child in your school and community.

See you at the Saratoga Hilton and City Center, November 13-15!

Sincerely,

Patricia Frazier

Patricia Frazier
NYS PTA President

Sophia Wu

Sophia Wu
2026 Convention Coordinator



Inside:

Schedule at a Glance.....	3
Convention Information	4
Workshops – Friday.....	5
Workshops – Saturday.....	6
Workshops – Sunday.....	7, 8
Elections and Voting.....	9
Hotel and Event Registration Information.....	10
Online Registration/Youth Registration	11
Cancellation/Refund Policy	12

Schedule at a Glance

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13

2:00pm - 7:00pm	Exhibitor Hall Open; PTA Store
2:00pm - 9:00pm	Registration/Information/First-timers table
2:00pm - 4:15pm	Dedicated Exhibitor time
4:15pm - 5:15pm	Workshop Session 1
5:30pm - 6:45pm	Dinner: A Celebration of Literacy Event
7:00pm - 9:00pm	General Session I
9:15pm - 10:30pm	Meet and Greet

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14

7:15am - 8:30am	Breakfast: Pride PTSA Breakfast/Annual Meeting
7:30am - 8:30am	Breakfast: General
7:30am - 12:00pm	Registration/Information/First-timers table
8:30am - 3:15pm	Exhibitor Hall Open; PTA Store
8:30am - 9:15am	Dedicated Exhibitor time
9:15am - 10:15am	Workshop Session 2
10:30am - 12:15pm	General Session II
12:15pm - 1:00pm	Dedicated Exhibitor time
1:00pm - 1:45pm	Lunch: General
1:00pm - 2:00pm	Lunch: President to Presidents
1:45pm - 3:15pm	Dedicated Exhibitor time
3:15pm - 5:00pm	General Session III
5:15pm	First-timers photo
7:00pm - 9:00pm	Dinner: Banquet
9:00pm - 11:30pm	Post-Banquet Celebration

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15

7:00am - 8:15am	Breakfast: Empire State PTSA Breakfast/Annual Meeting
7:30am - 8:15am	Breakfast: General
8:15am - 8:45am	General Session IV
9:00am - 9:45am	Workshop Session 3
10:00am - 10:45am	Workshop Session 4
10:45am - 11:00am	Convention Closing and Prize pickup

NOTE: Hotel checkout time is 11:00 a.m. The front desk can hold your luggage until your departure at the conclusion of Convention.

Convention Information

Workshops

There are four workshop sessions scheduled.

Workshop Session 1: Friday, 4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.

Workshop Session 2: Saturday, 9:15 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

Workshop Session 3: Sunday, 9:00 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.

Workshop Session 4: Sunday, 10:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

Pre-selection is requested to allow for ample seating.

Exhibitors and Sponsors

Please take this opportunity to visit and thank our exhibitors and sponsors - their participation is vital to the success of our convention! In-person Exhibitor hours: Friday 2:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. and Saturday 8:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m. Look for the Virtual Exhibit Hall on the NYS PTA website following Convention 2026, and remaining open for one calendar year.

PTA Store

You will find exciting new items along with your old favorites such as pins, mugs, totes and PTA apparel. Our staff of volunteers will be happy to assist you. All purchases are payable by check, cash, or credit card. (Please remember PTA checks require two (2) signatures.) PTA Store hours: Friday 2:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. and Saturday 8:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m. (closed Sunday).

IF (Invest in the Future) Table

Visit NYS PTA Past Presidents at the "Invest in the Future" table. Funds from your donations will directly support our mission to "make every child's potential a reality" by helping to ensure the continuance of our student programs!

Information and First-timers

If this is your first state Convention, the Information and First-timers table is where you can visit to get your questions answered. Once checked in at registration, stop over at the table on Friday 2:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. and Saturday 7:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Plan to be in the group First-timers photograph following General Session III on Saturday.

Friday Dinner – A Celebration of Literacy

A Celebration of Literacy will include award presentations of the NYS PTA Pick a Reading Partner (PARP) winner and the NYS PTA Every Child Reads student contest winners.

President to Presidents Luncheon

If you are a Unit or Council President and wish to participate in the President to Presidents Luncheon on Saturday, please be sure to register accordingly. NYS PTA President Patricia Frazier will connect with local Unit/Council Presidents at lunch and answer your questions. ***You must be pre-registered and a Unit/Council President to attend this luncheon.***

Banquet and Award Recognitions

Join us Saturday evening for Dinner, Award Recognitions, and Post-Dinner celebration. The Banquet on Saturday is included with some registration packages, or may be purchased a la carte with other registration packages.



<https://www.discoversaratoga.org/things-to-do/>



Workshops: Friday, November 13, 2026

Session 1: 4:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

101 Rules to Live By

Bylaws and Rules of Order---what do they really mean? Members' rights and responsibilities, meeting management, nominations, elections, vacancies, voting. Bring your questions.

102 Know Your Role: Understanding PTA Leadership at Every Level

What does it really mean to serve on a PTA board? This workshop explores the responsibilities and expectations of PTA leaders at the unit, council, region, and state levels. Participants will gain a clearer understanding of how the levels of PTA work together, where responsibilities begin and end, and how effective communication and collaboration strengthen the entire association.

103 Membership Tech: Digital Tools to Power PTA Growth

This workshop will equip unit leaders with strategies using tools such as Canva, Givebacks, and social media to attract and retain members. The aim is to create and promote campaigns that increase enrollment and engagement.

104 Growing Leaders from Within: Building Your PTA Leadership Pipeline

What if your PTA's next great leader is already sitting in your meetings, or perhaps sitting in this workshop? This interactive session will help participants discover leadership potential in themselves and others, explore opportunities for growth at every level of PTA, and create a culture where future leaders can thrive. Through reflection, discussion, and practical tools, attendees will identify their own leadership strengths, gain strategies for mentoring emerging leaders, strengthen succession planning, and build a sustainable leadership pipeline from the local unit to council, region, state, and beyond. Participants will also receive a ready-to-use Leadership Discovery Toolkit complete with an event plan, conversation guides, and recruitment resources.

105 Resolution-Writing 101

So you have an idea for a resolution? We will delve into the requirements for new resolutions, where and how to find resources to support your document, and help to de-mystify the resolution-writing process

106 Balancing PTA, Family & Self-Care: Putting It into Practice

This interactive workshop is designed for PTA volunteers who are ready to turn ideas into action. Together, we'll explore practical strategies for managing the many roles we balance through hands-on activities, including a personal time audit, setting healthy boundaries, identifying and strengthening your support network, and creating a realistic self-care action plan. Participants will leave with practical tools, renewed confidence, and one meaningful commitment they can implement immediately. Come ready to participate, reflect, and connect with fellow volunteers as we put self-care into practice—not just talk about it.



Workshops: Saturday, November 14, 2026

Session 2: 9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

201 Leading Together: Growing PTA Leaders

This workshop explores how meaningful family engagement can strengthen PTA leadership by developing confident leaders, expanding leadership opportunities, and empowering families to become active partners and advocates for children. Participants will gain practical strategies to recruit, mentor, and retain PTA leaders while creating a culture that encourages families to share their voices, build leadership skills, and take meaningful roles in advocacy. Attendees will leave with actionable tools to grow leadership capacity, strengthen advocacy efforts, and build a stronger PTA where leaders and families work together to make a lasting difference for every child.

202 It's All Connected: Turning Great Ideas into An Impactful Year of Programs

Does your unit have the knowledge needed to use your programming as a strategic tool rather than a collection of individual, unrelated events? Join the NYS PTA Programs Coordinator to discuss how to organize unit level PTA programming to support multiple goals such as membership, advocacy, family engagement, student success, and community partnerships. Attendees will learn how to build a year-long program plan that works for PTA units of all sizes and budgets (including grant funding opportunities) with practical tools and adaptable ideas they can put into action immediately.

203 Givebacks: Communications, Contacts & Website

Want to increase engagement with your membership and school community? Learn how to send gorgeous newsletters, design an out of this world website, and have your contact list work for you! This workshop focuses on the communication tools included for FREE with your Givebacks site.

204 Strong Core, Stronger You: A Women's Guide to Pelvic Floor Health

When women prioritize their own health, they are better equipped to care for the people who depend on them. This educational program explores the vital role your pelvic floor plays in bladder control, core strength, posture, and overall wellness. Gain practical knowledge, expert guidance, and simple strategies to strengthen and support your pelvic health throughout every stage of life. Investing in your well-being is not only a gift to yourself, but also an important foundation for supporting your family, maintaining your independence, and living life with confidence and strength. When you care for yourself, you're better able to care for those you love.

205 Regroup, Refocus, Rebuild: Strengthening Your PTA

The school year is underway, and leaders can begin to see what is working, what is missing, and where their original plans may need to change. This session will help PTAs take an honest look at their current health, identify strengths and challenges, reset priorities, and make purposeful adjustments before small issues become bigger ones. Participants will leave with a focused, realistic action plan for strengthening their PTA and building momentum for the remainder of the year.

206 Saving Lives Before the Crash: The PTA's Role in Teen Driver Safety

Motor vehicle crashes remain the leading cause of death for American teenagers, yet many of the behaviors that contribute to these tragedies are preventable. This session will provide PTA leaders with practical, evidence-based strategies to engage parents, schools, and students in promoting safer driving behaviors, encouraging youth to speak up when they see dangerous situations, and strengthening partnerships that create a culture of accountability and prevention. Participants will leave with actionable ideas and free resources they can immediately implement in their schools and communities to help save lives.

207 Empowering Families, Supporting Children: Tools for Caregivers to Stay Informed, Supported, and Connected

This workshop is designed for parents and caregivers of children with special needs. It offers practical strategies for daily routines and behavior support for children, provides guidance on school and community resources for families, and highlights the importance of caregiver well-being.

Workshops: Sunday, November 15, 2026

Session 3: 9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

301 Financial Accountability Training

This training will cover shared fiduciary responsibility, officer responsibilities, basic financial management, insurance requirements and missing money. This training will help board members develop a basic understanding of the procedures and processes which should be in place to help assure the proper, prudent, and diligent management of the PTA's financial resources. The entire board of directors, not just the treasurer, is responsible for the financial well-being of the PTA.

302 Advocacy 101

Want to become a more active advocate but aren't sure where to start? Come and explore some of the paths to advocacy, discover areas where your voice can make a difference, and learn about steps you can take to help effect positive changes in your community.

303 The Road to State: Leading Your Region to Reflections Success

As Unit participation concludes, the focus shifts to the important work happening at the Region level. Designed for Region Reflections Chairs and Region Directors, this session will explore best practices for coordinating Region judging, supporting local leaders, recognizing and celebrating Region winners, and navigating the new Region-to-State submission process using the National PTA portal. Gain practical guidance, helpful resources, and the opportunity to ask questions while preparing for a successful conclusion to this year's Reflections program.

304 Be the Leader You Want to Be

Strong leadership strengthens an organization. The strongest leaders set an example that others want to follow. Strong leaders create a strong PTA. An interactive workshop to learn and practice strategies to motivate your team adding to the success of your PTA.

305 Unwrapping the Gift: Advocating for Advanced Learning & Gifted Education

Take a closer look at gifted education in our state and learn about recent developments affecting gifted and advanced learners. Acquire practical resources and strategies to advance quality, inclusive gifted education in your school, district, and across the state. Every child deserves an education that meets their needs, so let's advocate for equitable access to gifted education.

306 Queerness & Queries: Understanding and Supporting Gender-Affirming Journeys

This workshop presented by NYS Pride PTSA provides an opportunity for open discussion and reflection on the experiences of transgender and gender-expansive youth and their families. Presenters will share insights and perspectives drawn from their own lived experiences, touching on topics such as coming out to family and peers, names and pronouns, family and peer relationships, and creating supportive and inclusive school environments. Through shared experiences and conversation, participants will have an opportunity to consider how PTA members can help foster understanding, respect, belonging, and inclusion within their school communities, while supporting environments where every child and family feels seen, valued, and respected.

307 Beyond the Agenda: Designing PTA Meetings People Want to Attend

People don't stop coming to meetings because they're busy, they stop coming because meetings don't feel worthwhile. Learn how to transform routine PTA meetings into engaging experiences that inspire participation, build leadership, and strengthen your association. This workshop explores strategies for balancing business with meaningful learning, relationship-building, and fun while ensuring meetings remain productive and compliant with bylaws and parliamentary procedure. Participants will leave with practical tools for incorporating a brief educational segment into every meeting and a template for planning meetings members will actually look forward to attending.

Workshops: Sunday, November 15, 2026

Session 4: 10:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

401 Financial Accountability Training

This training will cover shared fiduciary responsibility, officer responsibilities, basic financial management, insurance requirements and missing money. This training will help board members develop a basic understanding of the procedures and processes which should be in place to help assure the proper, prudent, and diligent management of the PTA's financial resources. The entire board of directors, not just the treasurer, is responsible for the financial well-being of the PTA.

402 Closing the Gap Starts Deeper: Executive Function, Math, and Literacy (CTLE eligible)

National Assessment of Educational Progress data has pointed to increasing achievement gaps in math and literacy, despite their existing many interventions aimed at promoting achievement. Executive Functions (EF), a set of cognitive skills related to attention, memory, impulse control, and efficient task-switching, form the foundation for learning and academic success (strong EF enables math and literacy interventions to work). This workshop will discuss the significance of EF on academic and intervention success along with the ways in which EF can be improved upon.

403 Beyond the Booster Club: Tips to Improve Your High School PTA

Make PTA matter beyond the elementary years! Discover practical ways to engage teens, connect with families, amplify student voice, and support students from freshman year through graduation. Walk away with fresh ideas to make your high school PTA more relevant, inclusive, and impactful.

404 Pass the Torch: Building a Stronger PTA Through Nominations & Elections

A successful PTA begins with strong leadership. This interactive workshop will help leaders understand the nominations and election process, identify qualified candidates, encourage members to step into leadership, and conduct elections in a fair, transparent, and respectful manner. Participants will leave with practical strategies for building a leadership pipeline and ensuring a smooth transition from one board to the next.

405 Givebacks: Fundraising & Store

Learn how to maximize your profits while keeping the workload to a minimum! That's right, Givebacks is your one stop shop to raise more, while doing less. This workshop will be broken into two, first focusing on the online store and Givebacks POS, and then a fundraising platform. For the store portion we will go as basic as how to add items to your store, run efficient reports of orders, and utilize the Givebacks POS - now with Tap to Pay. During the fundraising part of the workshop you will learn all about a-thons, crowdfunding, donation drives, auctions, ticketed events, and more! Your dream fundraiser starts here.

406 Creating an Inclusive PTA

Create a culture where every family feels welcomed, valued, and empowered to participate. This interactive workshop equips your PTA with practical strategies to foster inclusive leadership, recruit and mentor diverse volunteers, and build trust through meaningful family engagement. Participants will leave with actionable tools to create a welcoming, representative, and sustainable PTA that ensures every voice is heard and every family feels connected.

New York State PTA is an approved provider of Continuing Teacher and Leader Education (CTLE) for education professionals!

Workshops meeting CTLE criteria are indicated in the workshop description. Educators attending CTLE workshops will be sent necessary documentation from NYS PTA after Convention.

Elections and Voting 2026

NYS PTA Bylaws Article XVI – State Convention

Section 4.

- a. Each local PTA in good standing as of September 1, 2026, shall be entitled to be represented at the Annual Convention by its president or alternate and one (1) delegate.
- b. Local PTAs with a membership of over one hundred (100) shall be entitled to one (1) delegate for each additional one hundred (100) members or a major fraction thereof as shown on the books of the New York State PTA as of June 30, 2026.
- c. Each council in good standing as of September 1, 2026, shall be entitled to be represented by its president or alternate.

Section 5.

- a. Each Region PTA shall be entitled to be represented at the annual convention by its Region Director or alternate.
- b. Each region shall be entitled to six (6) additional voting delegates who shall be region board members. The selection of these six (6) delegates shall be governed by the region accrediting such delegates.

NYS PTA Bylaws Article VIII

Section 10.

- j. The proposed nominating committee's candidate slate shall be posted on the NYS PTA website by June 1. Additional nominations may be made by the membership at large, provided that written consent of the nominee has been secured. A copy of the qualifications of any candidate to be nominated by the membership at large must be received by the chair of the nominating committee (nominations@nyspta.org) by September 15.

NYS PTA Bylaws Article VIII-Officers: Elections and Vacancies (as it pertains to eligibility for office)

Section 6.

To be eligible for election as an officer, except for the office of President, a member shall have served at least two (2) years on the Board of Directors of the New York State PTA OR shall have served at least one (1) year on the Board of Directors and at least two (2) years as a Region Director or Specialist.

Section 7.

To be eligible for the office of president of the New York State PTA a person shall have served at least one (1) year on the Executive Committee of the New York State PTA and two (2) years on the Board of Directors exclusive of service on the Executive Committee for a total of three (3) years of service.

Section 8.

No person under the age of 18 years shall be eligible to serve in the office of president, (recording) secretary, or treasurer.

Election of NYS PTA Officers

Voting delegates participate in the election of the leadership of our state PTA. All candidates must be formally nominated at Convention either by the Nominating Committee or from the floor. The Nominating Committee has proposed the following candidate slate of officers:

PresidentSonya Verrillo (Genesee Valley Region)
1st Vice President.....Roberto Rijos (Westchester-East Putnam Region)
Vice President.....Lissa Zukoff (Nassau Region)
SecretaryLynn Petrofsky (Nassau Region)

Hotel Reservation Information

Hotel reservations are to be made on your own (under the NYS PTA room block) at Saratoga Hilton using the hotel booking link (below). Reserve before October 13, 2026, at the room rate of \$174/night (two night minimum), or \$209/night for one night only, per standard room (not per person). Availability of rooms cannot be guaranteed after October 13.

Parking is available at the hotel at a reduced rate of \$12 per car, per day.

Saratoga Hilton

534 Broadway, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

Hotel Phone Number: 518-693-1002

Check in: 3:00pm; Check out: 11:00am

Online hotel reservations:

- [2 night minimum \(\\$174/night\)](#)
- [1 night only \(\\$209\)](#)

If your PTA region, unit, or council is responsible for your overnight expenses, please present your PTA unit check with two signatures, and your unit tax exempt form with the same name, at time of check in to have room tax removed.

All meetings, workshops, sessions, meals and other planned activities for the NYS PTA Annual Convention are being held at the Saratoga Hilton and City Center (connected to the hotel).

**Convention registration inquiries must be directed to NYS PTA at 518-452-8808.
Hotel reservations and inquiries are to be directed to the hotel.**

Convention Registration Information

To Register

All registrations must be submitted online using the [Convention registration link](#). Each person attending must be individually registered. ALL registration fees are payable to the State Office PRIOR to the event.

Deadlines

No advance registrations accepted after October 13, 2026. Registrations after that date will be processed on-site only. Registrations canceled, *in writing*, prior to October 13, 2026, will receive a full refund, less a \$25.00 processing fee. No refunds will be given for cancellations received after October 13, 2026, or for **no-shows**.

Credit Card/Check Payments

All event registrations must be paid in advance via credit card or by sending a check for the total as indicated in the online registration confirmation. If you need assistance making a credit card payment after you have submitted an online registration, please call the state office for assistance.

Purchase Orders

Purchase Orders are not accepted.

2026 NYS PTA Online Registration

Register Online at: <https://nyspta.org/home/events/convention/>

All event registrations must be paid in advance

Credit card payment available through online event registration.

Checks, made payable to NYS PTA, and mailed to: NYS PTA, 1 Wembley Court, Albany, NY 12205

Event Registration and hotel reservations deadline: October 13, 2026 –

Hotel reservations are separate and on your own

<u>Packages</u> (all fees include Event Bag and T-shirt)	<u>Fee</u>
A. Total Convention (All Meals & Conference fees).....	\$400.00
B. Friday and Saturday only (Fri/Sat Meals and Conference fees).....	\$365.00
C. Saturday only (All Saturday Meals & Conference fees).....	\$315.00
D. Conference only (Workshops & Sessions, Friday-Sunday; No meals*).....	\$300.00

* Meals can be added a la carte to packages at additional cost (see below)

A la Carte Meals available on request (if not Total Convention Registration)

o Friday Dinner.....	\$56.00
o Saturday Breakfast	\$37.00
o Saturday Lunch	\$42.00
o Saturday Banquet.....	\$61.00
o Sunday Breakfast.....	\$37.00

All meals will be ticketed, and every attendee must be individually registered and paid for. All meals must be purchased by the deadline and ticketed. There may be limited meal purchasing on site, if available.

Youth Registration

Please note, a parent/guardian OVER the age of 25 MUST accompany the youth to this event, and stay in the same hotel room with them.

<u>Packages</u> (all fees include Event Bag and T-shirt)	<u>Fee</u>
A. Total Convention (All Meals & Conference fees)	\$175.00
B. Friday and Saturday only (Meals & Conference fees).....	\$150.00
C. Saturday only (Saturday Meals & Conference fees).....	\$135.00

Event Cancellation / Refund Policy

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: OCTOBER 13, 2026

- Event registration and payment must be received prior to the registration deadline.
- Registrants who have paid in full and cancel before the registration deadline will receive a full refund, less \$25 processing fee.
- Registrants canceling before the deadline, who have not paid their registration fee, will be billed \$25 processing fee.
- Upon receipt of event registration, registrant is responsible for the full event fee whether they attend or not. No refunds will be given for cancellations received after the registration deadline or for no-shows.
- Registrants will be billed for any unpaid amounts due.
- Registrants may send a replacement at no additional charge.
- Registrants or replacements who do not show up to the event will not receive a refund.
- Registrations received after the registration deadline will only be handled as on-site registrations.
- Hotel rooms and reduced room block rate are not guaranteed for on-site registrations.

No advance registrations accepted after October 13, 2026. Registrations after that date will be processed on-site only at an additional \$25 of listed registration fee. The hotel cannot guarantee overnight room availability for on-site registration; the room block rates will not be in effect after the deadline date. On-site registration attendees cannot be guaranteed voting credentials or the event t-shirt.

