

Happy New Year!

Livonia PTSA Council is planning an exciting Founders Day Celebration for February 29th. As in the past, five outstanding youth from each of the three high schools will be honored. The 2011-12 Teachers of the Year will be acknowledged. In addition to membership and PEP awards, three recognition awards will be presented. This is a great way to celebrate PTA/PTSA members and units for the great things you do for our students. Nominations are being accepted for the following awards:

1) **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AWARD**

Recognition awarded to the PTA unit who has undertaken the most creative school event that involves students, teachers and administrators, families and community members. The winning PTA/PTSA unit will receive a monetary gift for their unit. The event will be judged as to how well it corresponds to one (or more) of the National PTA Standards of Family Engagement, which are listed below.

**Standard 1—Welcoming All Families into the School Community**

*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.*

**Standard 2—Communicating Effectively**

*Families and school staff engage in regular, two-way, meaningful communication about student learning.*

**Standard 3—Supporting Student Success**

*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*

**Standard 4—Speaking Up for Every Child**

*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.*

**Standard 5—Sharing Power**

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

**Standard 6—Collaborating with Community**

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

2) **SPIRIT OF PTA AWARD**

Awarded to a PTA/PTSA member who reflects a positive influence, is an inspiration to others, and embodies the values of PTA as listed below. The recognized member will receive a paid registration to the 2012 Michigan PTA Convention.

Collaboration: We work in partnership with a wide array of individuals and organizations to accomplish our agreed-upon goals.

Commitment: We are dedicated to promoting children's health, well-being, and educational success through strong parent, family, and community involvement.

Accountability: We acknowledge our obligations. We deliver on our promises.

Respect: We value our colleagues and ourselves. We expect the same high quality of effort and thought from ourselves as we do from others.

Inclusivity: We invite the stranger and welcome the newcomer. We value and seek input from as wide a spectrum of viewpoints and experiences as possible.

Integrity: We act consistently with our beliefs. When we err, we acknowledge the mistake and seek to make amends.

### 3) **SHINING STAR AWARD**

Is there a PTA member in your unit you can ALWAYS count on? Every unit has a member that is high energy, reliable, follows through, going above and beyond what is asked of her/him. Let us all know about that special dedicated person. We plan to acknowledge one member of each PTA unit in Livonia Public Schools. Certificates will be presented to each Shining Star.

Nomination forms are attached and are also accessible on [www.livoniaptsacouncil.org](http://www.livoniaptsacouncil.org) . As you submit a nomination, be sure to identify the category, state nominee name, and provide qualifications for that award. Please submit your nominations by January 30, 2012. Results will be announced at the February 29<sup>th</sup> Founders Day Celebration.

Nomination forms can be emailed to [heidy.nance@livoniaptsacouncil.org](mailto:heidy.nance@livoniaptsacouncil.org) or sent inter-school mail to my attention, LPTSAC, Central Office.

Let's celebrate the outstanding PTA members and wonderful things accomplished in Livonia Public Schools!

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