

*Theresa Raso, Editor***UPCOMING EVENTS****January 15:**Presidents'/Principals'
Dinner**January 29:**

Winter Workshops

March 12:Western Suffolk BOCES
Dinner**March 18:**Eastern Suffolk BOCES
Dinner**May 13:**

Spring Conference

A MESSAGE FROM THE REGION DIRECTOR Kathy Vento

Another year has begun, and we hope your summer was filled with restful days and many family memories. Welcome to all our new members and thank you to our returning members. This year, let's set a goal for increasing our membership and fostering leadership. Many units fall by the wayside when training ceases. Suffolk Region offers many training opportunities throughout the year. Please check our website www.suffolkpta.org for dates, locations and registration forms for these events. If your council would like to be a host district, please contact Joan Wabnik, our Associate Director for Special Events.

Suffolk Region Board of Managers members are available to come into a unit that needs help addressing any concerns or issues that involve PTA protocol, procedures, structure, and function. We provide a school of instruction that will get your unit back on track or clear up other problems that the unit may be experiencing. Please contact Karen Steigert, our Associate Director for Outreach.

Our PTA directory was sent out. Please use this resource to contact us with any questions you may have. Your Assistant Directors contact information is listed by district. They are your first contact and will answer any questions you might have. Please remember that PTA personal information should only be shared with PTA.

Please make sure your insurance was paid, and Form A's were filled out. Make sure your membership is up to date.

A reminder that our Danielle Alduino Award Scholarship application is now due. A HSPTA/PTSA may nominate one senior for this award which is given for outstanding efforts in community service. The information on this award has been mailed to all presidents and can be found on our website.

I wish you a successful year, with increases in membership. I look forward to meeting you at one of our upcoming events. Remember, we are just a phone call away.

Here's to a great year!

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NATIONAL NEWS

Susan Lipman, past Suffolk Region Director, has been re-elected to a second two-year term on the National PTA Board of Directors. As only one of 29 members of the Board of Directors, Lipman has demonstrated her commitment to making a difference for the education, health, and welfare of all children.

“Susan is a great advocate for education and issues affecting children, and we are proud to have her on our Board of Directors,” said Otha Thornton, National PTA President. “Her leadership, dedication and passion will be tremendous assets to National PTA, our members and our Board as we work together to support and take action for children and families across the country.”

POINTS FROM THE REGISTRAR

Please adhere to the deadline dates, headcounts are crucial. This is especially important when we are at a hotel or catering hall. We need to pay for the dinners seven days before the event. Please write clearly on all registration forms. We need the info for confirmation, return emails and/or name badges. Please make sure all checks contain your unit code and two signatures.



Thank you and I am looking forward to registering you in the year ahead.

Sue Brandes, Registrar

2014-2015 MEMBERSHIP AWARDS — “Carry the Card That Counts”

The Early Bird Award is given automatically to units that make their first membership payment on or before Oct. 20. **Awards to be Applied for:** (award descriptions can be found in your membership packet) **Building a Better Community Award, School Pride Award, Men Matter Award, Founder’s Day Award.**

Just a few reminders: To request additional cards, your unit must have paid for at least 90% of its initial cards received and have sent payment to NYS PTA. Once the payment is posted with NYS PTA, your unit can email me at membership@suffolkpta.org for up to 48 cards at a time.

I wish you all a successful membership campaign!!

Kelly Short, Suffolk Region Membership Chair



NEW PARTNERSHIP



Suffolk Region PTA is pleased to announce a partnership with Lifetouch Photography. Lifetouch will be the “Official Photographer of Suffolk Region PTA” and as such will be available at our Region events for photography. In addition, they will be assisting us in getting the message out about the importance of Parent Involvement and joining the PTA. We look forward to working with them over the next year.

ALICE WILLETT LEADERSHIP AWARD



This special Suffolk Region Leadership Award was established to recognize PTA units and councils, as well as individual members, who, through their attendance at Suffolk Region Training events are working to ensure that they will become better PTA leaders for their units. It is named in honor of Alice Willett, a past New York State PTA President, and a valued member of our Suffolk Region PTA. She continues to set an example for our new leaders by actively participating in Suffolk Region and NYS PTA trainings throughout the year. The awards are presented at our Suffolk Region PTA Spring Conference. The information for both the Unit/Council Award can be found on our website at www.suffolkpta.org under *Awards and Recognitions*.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR SECTIONS

Every PTA unit in Suffolk Region belongs to a specific section. Each section is assigned an AD (Assistant Director). The ADs are a direct link between the unit/council and the region. The ADs are very knowledgeable about PTA policy. If you have questions or concerns, you can contact your AD. The following are Suffolk Region sections with their ADs:

1. Babylon, Bay Shore, Connetquot, Copiague, Deer Park, Fire Island, Lindenhurst, West Babylon, Kings Park, Wyandanch and Western Suffolk BOCES SEPTAs – Linda Pomerantz
2. Bayport-Blue Point, Central Islip, East Islip, Islip, North Babylon, Sayville and West Islip – Maureen Shanley
3. Brentwood, Smithtown, Huntington and South Huntington – Laura Paehr
4. Commack, Elwood, Half Hollow Hills, Harborfields, Hauppauge and Northport/East Northport – Kathy Williams
5. Comsewogue, Middle Country, Patchogue-Medford, Rocky Point, and Sachem – Debbie Epifane
6. Amagansett, Center Moriches, Easthampton, Eastport-SouthManor, East Quogue, Greenport, Hampton Bays, Longwood, Mattituck-Cutchogue, Montauk, Oysterponds, Quogue, Riverhead, Sag Harbor, Shoreham-Wading River, Southhampton, South Country, Southold, Shelter Island, Three Village and West Hampton Beach – Cindy Cristman