

## THE OHIO PTA STORY

The Ohio PTA, a branch of the National PTA, is composed of over 90,000 members, 586 units and 41 councils in 15 districts. The Ohio PTA was organized in May 1901.

The Ohio PTA Board of Directors, includes executive committee, directors, district advisors and immediate past president. All are volunteers.

## SOME OHIO PTA HIGHLIGHTS

- 1901 The fifth annual convention of the National Congress of Mothers was held in Columbus, Ohio and on that occasion, those who had been called together from all over the state, organized the Ohio Branch.
- 1918 Ohio PTA endorsed the Teacher's Pension and Retirement Law which passed by the state legislature.
- 1920's Ohio PTA endorsed an amendment to the Being Law and state ratification of the National Child Labor Amendment; endorsed a bill that provided special classes for developmentally handicapped children. The Ohio Parent – Teacher became a monthly bulletin.
- 1930's Ohio PTA helped to organize the "Save Ohio Schools" committees and endorsed the School Foundation Program.
- 1940's PTA members worked to assist the war effort and the convention body authorized the purchase of a mobile canteen unit for the Red Cross. The Memorial Scholarship Program for teacher training was initiated and twenty-five \$200 scholarships were awarded.
- 1950's Honorary State Life Memberships were initiated. University workshops emphasizing parent education and leadership training were held in cooperation with six universities.
- 1960's Ohio PTA took the leadership role in the formation of the Ohio Council for Education, a group of education organizations.
- 1970's The IRS officially classified Ohio PTA as a tax-exempt charitable organization. Ohio PTA published a report on "A Look at Public Funds for Nonpublic Schools," a study of public monies which were being used for private schools in Ohio and the nation.
- 1980's Legislative concerns were collective bargaining and school funding. The "Come Back to School" project was launched through funding by the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation to improve parent involvement. Big Cities Task Force began studying ways to build involvement in big cities.
- 1990's Ohio PTA was instrumental in obtaining legislation which mandated that school districts develop policies for parent involvement in the schools. Ohio PTA initiated the Citizens Against Vouchers coalition comprised of nearly 30 organizations and individuals to oppose voucher proposals which would divert public funds to private schools. Ohio PTA hosted the Ohio Parent Involvement Summit for teams of educators, parents, business and community leaders.
- 2001 Ohio PTA celebrates its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

- 2003 Restructured Ohio PTA Board of Managers
- 2005 Hosted 109th National PTA Convention in Columbus
- 2006 Ohio PTA celebrates 100<sup>th</sup> Convention and held first Spring Convention
- 2007 Ohio PTA became involved in Getting It Right, a constitutional amendment proposing a high quality education as a fundamental right for all Ohio's children through the implementation of a new school funding model.
- 2008 Ohio PTA and the Ohio Secretary of State's office were co-sponsors of Mock Election, the opportunity for children grades K-12 to participate in the democratic process