

SHARE:

[Join Our Email List](#)

To ensure you see the full content, please click

'[Message Clipped] View Entire Message' at the bottom of this email.

Happy February!

It's hard to believe we have now made it halfway through the school year. Now that we had a chance to rest over the holidays, we are coming back from the break with a full schedule of activities, many of which are covered in this newsletter, so please keep reading!

In February we will have a special membership challenge, specifically for our units. Make sure to check it out below.

Did you know PTA is celebrating 129 years of advocacy on February 17? To learn more about Founders Day and the history of PTA, click [here](#). Ninth District PTA looks forward to seeing you at our Annual Meeting and Founders Day Event on March 11. See below for more details.

California State PTA has extended the Graduating High School Senior Scholarship APPLICATION DUE DATE to February 15, 2026. Graduating High School Seniors who are PTA members are encouraged to [apply here](#). For information about the Scholarship visit <https://capta.org/programs-events/scholarships/graduating-high-school-seniors/>

I want to thank Madison Middle PTA for inviting me to attend their Family Day on January 16. It was great to see so many students and families enjoying time together. As I have said before, please keep inviting us to your events. We love to see the amazing things you all are doing for your schools and communities.

In this month of celebrating love, I encourage you all to show yourselves love, too. As schedules get busy it is easy to forget to practice self-love and self-care. Make sure to take care of yourselves!

- by Anne Emfinger, Ninth District PTA, President
president@ninthdistrictpta.org





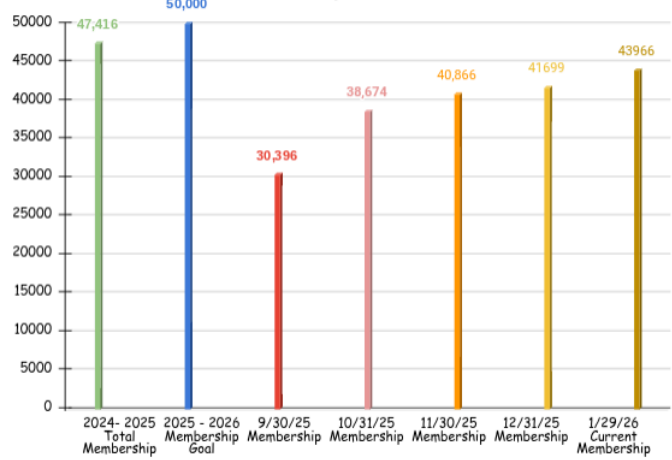
Ninth District PTA 2025-2026 Membership Goal

During 2024-2025 we had a total of 47,416 (green) PTA members. Our goal for 2025-2026 is 50,000 (blue) PTA Members.

- September 30, 2025 - 30,396 (red) PTA members.
- October 31, 2025 - 38,674 (pink) PTA members.
- November 30, 2025 - 40,866 (orange) PTA members.
- December 31, 2025 - 41,699 (yellow) PTA members.
- January 29, 2026 - 43,966 (mustard) PTA members.

Keep up the great teamwork, and your membership drive!

Ninth District PTA Membership Goal 2025-2026



FOUNDERS DAY

February 17, 2026

Celebrating 129 Years



Ninth District PTA Annual Meeting & Founders' Day Breakfast Celebrating 129 Years of PTA!

Wednesday, March 11, 2026
8:00 am Doors open / 8:30 am-9:30 am Breakfast / 10:00 am Meeting

Sharp Prebys Innovation & Education Center
8695 Spectrum Center Blvd. San Diego, CA 92123

\$35.00 - Reservations received by February 20, 2026
\$50.00 - Reservations received between February 21- March 6, 2026

REGISTER

Online (Pay by ACH or with Credit Card) at:



[Click Here to Register](#)

Registration note: To avoid extra online processing fees, simply select "Other" in the optional fee section when checking out on Zeffy.

Discount code

Add your discount code here

Order	\$35.00
1x Early Bird	\$35.00

Help keep Zeffy free for Ninth District PTA ❤️
(optional)

Your generosity allows Ninth District PTA to use Zeffy's 100% free fundraising and emailing platform with unlimited support, making your impact even stronger.

[Learn more](#)

Other ^

- 17.00% (\$5.95)
- 20.00% (\$6.95)
- 22.00% (\$7.70)

Total Other

Thank you to all units that submitted their **Insurance** and **Workers' Compensation** reports by the required deadlines.

If you have not yet filed your [Workers' Compensation Report](#), you may access the form using the provided link. If your PTA did **not** pay any vendors or independent contractors, the form typically takes **5–10 minutes** to complete. If vendors or independent contractors were paid, it will take a bit longer. A short [instructional video](#) is available to guide you through completing the form.

-- Deborah Childers, Ninth District PTA, Treasurer
treasurer@ninthdistrictpta.org





Please join us for Ninth District PTA's Reflections Art Showcase

We warmly invite you to join us in celebrating the creativity and talent of our students.

March 12, 2026

Anytime between 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

[Click Here to RSVP](#) or RSVP from the Ninth District PTA [Website/Calendar](#)

--Jemima Dutra, Ninth District PTA, Reflections Chairperson
reflections@ninthdistrictpta.org

Reviewing Your Budget

How is your budget doing? Remember, your budget serves as the financial guide for your PTA's income and expenses. If an item is not included in your approved budget, funds should not be received or spent on it.

Your PTA is now **slightly more than halfway through the fiscal year**, making this an ideal time to review your budget and determine whether amendments are needed. Below are recommended steps to get started:

1. Form a budget review committee, with the **treasurer serving as chairperson**.
2. Compare **actual income and expenses** to the **budgeted amounts** for each category.
3. Identify categories that are close to their budgeted limits.
 - If additional funds are needed, the committee may recommend an **increase**.
 - If there is excess funding in a category, the committee may recommend a **decrease** to free up funds for other programs.
4. Review the **Unallocated Reserve** category.
 - This fund is intended to cover unexpected or unplanned expenses during the fiscal year, with approval of the association.
 - Any use of these funds should be reflected through a **budget amendment**, transferring money from Unallocated Reserves to the appropriate expense category.
5. Identify categories that have not yet been funded.
 - Does your unit still plan to carry out these programs?
 - If not, should funds be reallocated to existing programs that need additional support, or to a new program the board would like to add?

Once the committee completes its review, it should present recommendations to the **executive board** for approval using the motion:

"The budget committee recommends, and I move to..."

At the next **Association meeting**, a motion must be made to approve the proposed budget amendments:

"The executive board recommends, and I move to..."

Please remember that **only the Association may ratify budget amendments**, so plan accordingly to allow time for review and proper approval.

-- Deborah Childers, Ninth District PTA, Treasurer
treasurer@ninthdistrictpta.org

Approval and Procedures for PTA Debit Card Use

Did your PTA unit approve the use of debit cards?

Please remember that debit card use for the PTA is only permitted when proper procedures are included in the standing rules and approved by both the executive board and the association (If you update to the new 2025 bylaws, the procedures are included.). The California State PTA Toolkit provides detailed information on debit card usage. <https://toolkit.capta.org/finance/banking/debit-and-credit-cards/>

The procedures must include the following:

- **Only elected and authorized bank signers, as specified in the bylaws, may be issued or have access to a debit card. The debit card must be issued with the name of the PTA and the officer.**

- An **Authorization for Payment via Electronic Services** form must be completed **before the debit card is used**. This ensures the required two-signature approval for all expenditures.
- **Receipts must be attached to the completed Payment Authorization form.**
- All debit card **expenditures** must be **approved and ratified** by the executive board and the association during treasurer reports.
- **Cash withdrawals from the PTA account are not allowed, as they violate the required two-signature approval for all expenditures.**
- The monthly bank statement review must be completed to ensure that no unauthorized transactions are processed against the PTA's bank account with the debit card. The monthly bank statement review is required by the California State PTA insurance provider.

If a card is stored on a device or linked to an account, it increases the possibility of accidental use. It is strongly recommended that the card not be linked to an account, and the card must be stored securely and kept separate from personal credit or debit cards.

While debit cards can be convenient, they also increase the risk of misuse. Following these procedures protects PTA funds and safeguards board members from personal liability.

Let's keep our PTA finances—and our board—secure.

-- Deborah Childers, Ninth District PTA, Treasurer
treasurer@ninthdistrictpta.org



Getting Ready for The Annual Election

It's that time of year again! To make sure PTA/PTSA elections run smoothly, it's time to form the Nominating Committee.

According to our bylaws (Article V, Section 4), this committee needs to be elected at least 60 days before our annual election. Since PTAs/PTSAs hold elections in March or April, now is the perfect time to add "Electing the Nominating Committee" to the January or February meeting agenda.

Remember, electing this committee is a required step to keep the PTA/PTSA in good standing and ensure there are great leaders for next year.

Need a hand? We are here to help! If you have any questions about the process, please reach out to:

- Your Council Parliamentarian - if you're in a council
- District Parliamentarian: parliamentarian@ninthdistrictpta.org

-- Sue King, Ninth District PTA, Parliamentarian
parliamentarian@ninthdistrictpta.org

10 Reasons to Conduct Elections Per Bylaws Timeline, Part 2

Your bylaws indicate when elections are held. But WHY is it important to elect new officers before the current school year ends and not when the new school year starts? If the new school year begins without officers elected in the spring: **4 months of transition and planning time is lost**. The new board can begin meeting and planning right after their election. Here are the second 5 issues you will experience if you don't conduct elections when specified in the bylaws (you can find 1-5 in the January 2026 Newsletter):

6. Mailings of valuable resources and materials from National PTA and California State PTA are missed or not received in a timely manner. The opportunity to promote PTA, build a relationship with the school, and publicize the PTA's role on campus is delayed and momentum is lost.
7. Administrators and school staff may be confused as to whom the PTA leaders are and how valuable the PTA is to the school community.
8. Opportunities for valuable community building, networking and volunteer recruitment, which normally begin when officers take office, are lost.
9. The membership campaign begins too late for the PTA to qualify for membership awards and may prevent the PTA from remitting the first required dues payment on time.
10. Units lose the opportunity to apply for PTA grants, and to participate in Reflections, because there is inadequate time to plan and meet entry deadlines.

By following your bylaws and electing officers this spring, your PTA guarantees a strong start to the next school year, maximizing every opportunity to support your students and school community.

If you need help with elections or don't know where to begin, now is the time to ask! Please contact me:

-- Denae Senise, Ninth District PTA, Vice President, Leadership Services Director
leadership@ninthdistrictpta.org

Ready to Lead? Make Your Mark on the 2026-2027 School Year!

Have you ever thought about joining the PTA Executive Board? Whether you want to lead the charge as an officer or simply ensure your voice is heard during our annual elections, **now is the time to get involved.**

To run for a position or cast your vote at any PTA meeting, you must be a member for at least **30 days**. Joining today ensures you're eligible to help shape the future of our school!

For the fine print on eligibility, check out Article V, Section 5a of our bylaws.

-- Sue King, Ninth District PTA, Parliamentarian
parliamentarian@ninthdistrictpta.org

Election Season Timeline Clarification

Does the PTA election calendar feel like a puzzle to you? You aren't alone! To ensure the elections are fair and follow the bylaws, here is a simplified breakdown of the key dates and requirements.

Check in the bylaws for the Annual Election Meeting – Article V, Section 2. That month drives all of the other dates.

The Nominating Committee Election

Deadline: At least **60 days** before the Annual Election. The Nominating Committee is the "search team" for next year's leaders.

- **Eligibility: Committee members must be an association member for 30 days who did not serve on the committee last year. This includes the principal, teachers, and current board members.**
- **The Vote: If more people want to serve on this committee than the bylaws allow, a formal election is held to elect the committee members and alternates.**

The Nominating Committee Report

Deadline: At least **28 days** before the Annual Election Meeting. The committee presents its slate of nominees to the **entire** membership. This gives everyone nearly a month to get to know the candidates before the final vote.

The Notice of Election

Deadline: At least **30 days** before the Annual Election Meeting. In accordance with Article VII, Section 2, the membership must be officially notified of the date, time, and place of the upcoming Annual Election Meeting and the slate of nominated officers.

While the calendar might seem like a puzzle at first, the goal is simple: a fair, transparent process for the association. Thank you for being an active part of the PTA and for helping build a great future for students!

--Sue King, Ninth District PTA, Parliamentarian
parliamentarian@ninthdistrictpta.org

SAVE THE DATE

Summer Leadership Conference (SLC)



Sow. Grow. Lead.
Saturday, June 6, 2026
 (Registration Coming Soon!)

Day of SLC:
 Registration Opens at 7:00 a.m.
 General Meeting at 9:00 a.m.

Location:
 Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice
 University of San Diego
 5555 Marian Way, San Diego, CA 92110

Roots of Success Challenge



Growing our PTA community through new members!

Timeline: During the month of February 2026
 Challenge: In honor of Founders' Day, Units who sign up 17 new members in February, your unit will:

- Get a Roots of Success digital badge
- Be celebrated on Ninth District PTA's social media!
- *Bonus: Top performers will also be featured on the Membership page of our website!*



***TO BE ELIGIBLE YOUR UNIT MUST REMIT THE DUES UP THE CHANNELS TO NINTH DISTRICT PTA BY TOTEM OR MANUAL MEMBERSHIPS**

Questions: Contact Jemima at Membership@ninthdistrictpta.org



ATTENTION COUNCIL AND OUT-OF-COUNCIL TREASURERS

Please remember to send your membership dues up the channels monthly. \$6.25 for every unit membership you receive.

If you need another copy of the remittance form please contact Membership@ninthdistrictpta.org

Make plans to attend the California State PTA Convention May 1-3 with Ninth District PTA!

The annual state PTA Convention is the ultimate PTA leadership experience! It is also the way that local unit PTAs have the opportunity to participate in the business of California State PTA!

For the first time in our memory, the convention is being held at the Fresno Convention Center. Ninth District PTA will be your guides to where to be and what to do. In order to plan the best convention experience for our San Diego County PTA Leaders, we would like your input!

If you have attended Convention before and are planning to attend this year, please fill out this survey so we can have a better idea of what to provide. <https://forms.gle/ajPHeJX7HjV7bGBr8>

If you are new to Convention, please, read through the [highlights from last year](#), and then check your calendar and the PTA budget to make a plan to join us. Then you should also fill out the survey to let us know how we can make your experience fabulous! <https://forms.gle/ajPHeJX7HjV7bGBr8>

-- Karla Orsa, Convention Chairperson
convention-chair@ninthdistrictpta.org

PTA Spotlight

If you know of a PTA/PTSA that should be spotlighted in our February Newsletter please fill out this [Google Form](#) and submit it by midnight of February 23, 2026.

-- by Sonya Vargas, Ninth District PTA, Vice President, Communications Director
communications@ninthdistrictpta.org



6401 Linda Vista Rd., Annex A
San Diego, CA 92111 • (858.268.8077)
www.ninthdistrictpta.org

Ninth District PTA Linktree

How did you like this email?

Stay connected and follow us on social media!



Ninth District PTA | San Diego County Office of Education 6401 Linda Vista Road, Annex A |
San Diego, CA 92111 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!