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## President's Message

It was so great to see so many new faces at the Summer Leadership Conference this month! So many PTA leaders showed up to get a jump start on the next school year! If you missed it, please visit our website or California State PTAs website for the various online resources such as previously recorded trainings and the Toolkit to prepare for next year.

Before you close everything up for *this* year, don't forget to remit ALL of the dues that were manually collected for this year. The \$1 increase to the per capita portion of the membership dues collected needs to be forwarded starting July 1st. Double check your accounting now to be sure it goes through channels and arrives at Ninth District PTA's office by June 26th.

It has been a very busy two years as the President of Ninth District PTA. There is a large group of people in Ninth District PTA, from the officers, to the council PTAs and many administrators that support our unit PTA leaders and I appreciate all of the time and talents that they have contributed the past two years. I thank you for all you do to support the students and families in your community and hope you will continue next year, even if it isn't in the same role. There is always more to be done!

Shawna Straw, [president@ninthdistrictpta.org](mailto:president@ninthdistrictpta.org)



**Who Are Your Officers for the 2025-2026 PTA/PTSA?**

Ninth District PTA is actively seeking the names and contact details of your PTA/PTSA leaders for the 2025-2026 term.

Important updates from the National PTA, California State PTA, and Ninth District PTA will be distributed to these leaders over the summer to help them prepare for the upcoming year.

Please send your information to [office@ninthdistrictpta.org](mailto:office@ninthdistrictpta.org) and to your council, if your PTA/PTSA is part of one.

If you have already submitted this information to your council or entered it into the Officer Contact System, we sincerely thank you!



**2025-2027 Ninth District PTA Board Term Begins July 1st**

- President – Anne Emfinger
- Executive Vice President – Shawna Straw
- Leadership – Dena Senise
- Membership Director – Jemima Dutra
- Communications Director – Sonya Vargas
- Education – Jacqueline “Kiki” Bispo
- Community Concerns – Betsy Mueller
- Health & Safety – Mary Patterson
- Advocacy / Legislation – Amy Flicker
- Secretary – Christina Hicks
- Treasurer – Deborah Childers
- Financial Reviewer – David Rogers
- Financial Secretary – Holly Butte
- Historian – Lori Fentress



**Treasurer**

June has arrived, and it is time to finalize your books for the transition to the new treasurer. Please work with the new treasurer to ensure a smooth transition. If you have not already created a document that outlines routines and procedures, please do so. This not only assists the new treasurer but the unit as a whole.

Here are some things to check before you close the books for the year.

Verify that all membership dues collected outside of Totem have been paid forward to either your council or, if your unit is out-of-council, to Ninth District PTA. These need to be submitted by June 20th to avoid the \$1.00 dues increase.

Contact members or vendors that may still have outstanding checks and encourage them to deposit the checks before June 30th to avoid outstanding checks at the end of the year.

Make sure all expenditures for this fiscal year have been paid.

In the May newsletter, I reminded everyone to be sure to close your books and file the 2024-2025 filings with the [IRS](#) (990N, 990-EZ or 990), with the [FTB](#) (199N or 199), and the [Attorney General](#) (RRF-1 with the CT-TR-1 or the 990-EZ/990 form). I have included links to all these organizations and the slides from the training, [No Need to Fear Tax Filings](#).

Finally, prepare your books for the financial review. Here is the [financial review checklist](#). I find it very useful to help me make sure I have all the signatures and documents the financial review committee will need to review my books.

Thank you for your service to the students, families, and staff at your school. I know being the treasurer can be challenging, but without you, the PTA could not provide the benefits to all the people you support!

Deborah Childers, Ninth District PTA Treasurer  
[treasurer@ninthdistrictpta.org](mailto:treasurer@ninthdistrictpta.org)

## Parliamentarian

### End of Term? It's time to pass along knowledge!

End of term for almost all Parliamentarian's is pretty simple: if anything is in-progress, such as bylaws revisions that are awaiting approval by the State, or bylaws changes that your unit is considering, then be sure to document that and let the new Parliamentarian know of that status. Remember, I'll be terming off with the rest of you, and your new Ninth District PTA Parliamentarian will be Sue King (again), so she will take over for me. You can still reach us at the same address, which won't be changing: [parliamentarian@ninthdistrictpta.org](mailto:parliamentarian@ninthdistrictpta.org).

The backlog queue for PTA bylaws review is still quite large, and they're working to get them all done and out. Please be patient. Hopefully you'll get any pending bylaws approved over the summer, and you can have them adopted by your Association on the first meeting of the Association after July 1. You'll need to make sure it's on the agenda for that meeting to adopt the bylaws amendments, and it requires a 2/3 vote from your Association.

New dues take effect on July 1st, 2025 as well, so be prepared to adjust your budget to either absorb (collect the same dues as before, but send an additional \$1 to the National PTA per member), or pass along (collect your current dues + \$1, and the amount your unit will receive is the same as before). If you've changed your dues to something more than \$1, remember that **you cannot collect the new dues amount until after your bylaws have been approved by the State, AND adopted by your Association.**

Look for a new 2025 bylaws template this fall! The California State PTA Bylaws Committee has been meeting monthly for the past two years, and hopes to make some clean up and clarity changes that will help all units. These should be included in the new template, if all goes well. Timing will depend on the new incoming California State PTA Board of Managers.

I've enjoyed being your Ninth District PTA Parliamentarian this past two years! Feel free to say hello if you see me in passing, or if you happened to attend the Summer Leadership Conference and have any follow on questions.

Bruce, [parliamentarian@ninthdistrictpta.org](mailto:parliamentarian@ninthdistrictpta.org)



## Historian

What a year it has been! As we reach the grand finale of our PTA calendar, let's take a moment to celebrate the incredible victories we've secured together. This year's triumphs would not have been possible without the unwavering dedication of our extraordinary PTA volunteers across San Diego and Imperial Counties. You are the very foundation of our success; without you, our mission would be unfulfilled. We offer our deepest gratitude for your tireless efforts and look toward the future with a profound sense of anticipation for what we will achieve together.

In this closing chapter, we stand in awe of a recorded 517,506 volunteer hours. This staggering number, as immense as it is, represents but a fraction of the true dedication, as many councils and out-of-councils have yet to report. Imagine the true magnitude of your collective power.

Sonya Vargas [historian@ninthdistrictpta.org](mailto:historian@ninthdistrictpta.org)



## Next Chapter: Membership & the Arts!

As my term as Communications Director comes to a close, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to the incredible members of our Communications Committee: Angel Casabar, Janice Oani, Marcella Reyes, Shawna Straw, and Sonya Vargas. Your dedication, creativity, and teamwork made this year's work not only successful but also so much fun!

It's been a true pleasure supporting our units and councils—whether through sharing communications tips, crafting newsletters, updating our website, or keeping everyone in the loop on social media. I've loved helping tell our PTA story and watching our community connect and thrive.

While I'll be passing the communications baton, I'll still be right here with you—next term, I'm excited to support your membership efforts as Membership Director and to share my passion for the arts as the Reflections Art Program Chair. I'm looking forward to celebrating your successes and highlighting the incredible creativity of our students!

Here's to a fun, collaborative, and inspiring year ahead! Let's make it one to remember. 🤝🎨📺  
Jemima Dutra, Ninth District PTA Communications Director

## Community Concerns



**2025 Attendance Awareness Campaign**  
 A project organized by [Attendance Works](https://www.attendanceworks.org)

Upcoming Webinar: Student Connectedness Fosters Attendance and Engagement Part 3 of 4

Wednesday, August 6, 2025

12pm-1:30pm PT | 1-2:30pm MT | 2-3:30pm CT | 3-4:30pm ET

Register here:  
<https://www.attendanceworks.org/resources/webinars/>



Summer Movies in the Park is the largest free and family-friendly outdoor movie series in San Diego, with over a hundred screenings at dozens of parks across the region. The program launched in 2007 as a 'take back our parks' initiative, providing residents with unique opportunities to visit their local recreation destinations after hours to watch blockbuster hits under a starry night sky. Shows run May through October, with pre-show activities before dark and movies beginning about 15 minutes after sunset.

For more information visit [www.summermoviesinthepark.com](http://www.summermoviesinthepark.com)



**Summer Sun Safety: Protect Your Skin While Enjoying the Outdoors** ☀️

With the school year behind us and outdoor activities in full swing, it's important to take steps to stay safe in the sun. Ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun can cause sunburn, premature skin aging, and increase the risk of skin cancer—even on cloudy days.

Follow these key sun safety guidelines:

- Wear protective clothing such as lightweight, long-sleeved shirts and pants.
- Use a wide-brimmed hat to shield your face, ears, and neck.
- Wear UV-blocking sunglasses to protect your eyes.
- Apply a broad-spectrum sunscreen with SPF 30 or higher. Reapply every two hours, or more frequently if swimming or sweating.
- Seek shade, especially between 10 AM and 4 PM when the sun's rays are strongest.
- Stay hydrated by drinking plenty of water throughout the day.

Enjoy your summer while minimizing the risks of sun exposure. A few simple precautions can help keep you and your family healthy and safe all season long.



How did you like this newsletter?



### Ninth District PTA Linktree

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[www.ninthdistrictpta.org](http://www.ninthdistrictpta.org)

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