

Who Should Attend?

Local Unit, Council and District

Presidents – You are the most familiar voice and face of your PTA in the school and in the community. Learn who your local and state representatives are and how to reach them. Understand the issues facing schools and families. Find out where important decisions affecting education are made—locally, at the state level or nationally. Be a strong partner with your Legislative Committee Chairperson.

Legislative Committee Chairs and

Members – Whether you're a veteran at this job or a new recruit, this conference will give you the tools you need to understand the most current issues in education in Georgia. Now more than ever, you need to be an informed advocate to be an effective advocate. Learn about the current issues and network with other PTA members to create a more effective voice on critical issues, swap ideas and build coalitions across school, district and county lines.

PTA Members — When we all have the knowledge and training to speak effectively together, our voice is stronger for our children, our schools, our neighborhoods and our communities.

Students — Students sometimes have the most compelling voice. Learn how to use your voice to make a difference at the local, state and national levels.

DIRECTIONS to Capitol

Parking is \$5.00 and up and scarce. Please carpool if you can't take MARTA.

MARTA : Exit at the Georgia State or Five Points stop. Fare is \$4 roundtrip plus Breeze card. Parking at outlying MARTA stations is free.

From the South: Take I-75/85 North to Exit 245 (Capitol Avenue). At the bottom of the exit ramp, continue straight through the stop sign. At the first traffic light, turn left onto Hank Aaron Dr. The Capitol will be approximately one mile down on the left.

From the North: Take I-75/85 South to Exit 248A (Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr). Bear right onto Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr. The Capitol will be on the left.

From the East: Take I-20 West to Exit 58A (Capitol Avenue). Turn right on Capitol Ave. The Capitol will be approximately one mile down on the left

From the West: Take I-20 East to Exit 56B (Windsor St./Spring St./Stadium). At the third light, turn left onto Central Avenue. Go to Mitchell Street and turn right. The Capitol will be two blocks down on the left.

Georgia PTA Advocacy Conference Sept. 23, 2011

**Stand together.
Power up.
Reach out.**

Georgia
PTA

everychild.one voice.

Advocacy Conference 2011

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9:00 am—1:00 pm
State Capitol, Atlanta

Does PTA really make a difference?

Can you say "popsicle stick?"

When Governor Perdue cut school nurses from the budget in 2009, PTA proved its power by flooding the Capitol with popsicle stick/tongue depressors to show how many voting parents were willing to stand up for school nurses. We got the funding.

Prior to 2006, a 16-year-old could walk into the school office on his birthday and drop out, no parental permission *or even notification* required. PTA wrote the law that now requires 16-year-olds to have a conference with parents and school officials before they can quit school.

And there's still work to do.

The Education Finance Study Committee could fundamentally change state funding for education. Will the new formulas be adequate?

Redistricting could fundamentally change the balance of power in state government for a decade to come. How will children's education and health be affected?

Our annual Advocacy Conference gives you the tools you'll need to understand the issues at the state and national levels, get started at the local level, and become equipped and trained to make a positive difference for children and families in your school, your community and throughout Georgia.

Conference Agenda

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8:30 Sign-in & Registration

9:00 Welcome & Opening Remarks

Greetings from President Donna Kosicki
Perspective from a Legislator

Rep. Tom Dickson, Chair of the Education Subcommittee of House Appropriations, brings us his unique viewpoint as a former superintendent and current legislator. He will discuss current legislative activity and how PTAs can advocate most effectively.

Hot Legislative Topics

Recap of 2011 session and what to expect in 2012 (at the state and federal levels)

Elections, Reapportionment and You

New districts, new elections and what it means to you as a voter and PTA advocate
Roadmap to Advocacy

Step by step action plans

Q&A

12:30 Lunch Q&A

1:00 Tour of the Capitol

Registration: Complete a separate registration form for each person who attends. One check may be used for multiple forms.

Fee: *Advance registration fee is \$25 for PTA members, \$30 for non-members.* Mailed registrations must be post-marked on or before **September 16**

OR

Register online at www.georgiapta.org through **September 21**. Registration fee includes a **box lunch**.

On-site registration fee is \$30. Lunch provided while supply lasts.

Questions? Call 404-659-0214 or 800-PTA-Today or email gapta@bellsouth.net. For more details, visit the Georgia PTA website at www.georgiapta.org.

Georgia PTA Advocacy Conference 2011

NAME _____

PTA POSITION _____

LOCAL (or Council or District) PTA / SCHOOL NAME _____

COUNTY _____

PTA DISTRICT # _____ LOCAL UNIT # _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

DAYTIME PHONE _____

Your registration fee includes a box lunch. Please indicate your sandwich preference below:

- Chicken Salad
- Roast Beef
- Vegetarian

Detach this form (one per person) and mail, along with your check to:

Advocacy Conference 2011

Georgia PTA

114 Baker Street, NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30308-3366

Phone: 404-659-0214

Toll-free: 800-PTA-Today

Email: gapta@bellsouth.net