

# Wake SEPTA News

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***Great ability develops and reveals itself increasingly  
with every new assignment. – Baltasar Gracian***

Our new membership year began on July 1<sup>st</sup> and with that comes the time for membership renewal as well! Renewals need to be received by August 15<sup>th</sup> to stay on the YahooGroups discuss forum. I hope you all will not only re-join our PTA but also join your school's PTA as well. Be an active voice for children with disabilities and their teachers!

Our goal this year (again) is member recruitment and community awareness to extend our reach to those who may be interested in or benefit from the information we provide. Tell your friends and teachers!

We are looking for volunteers to serve as Liaisons between the school PTA and SEPTA. Your help is greatly needed for us to make contacts with each of the 150 schools in the district. Contact information is at the bottom of the page.

As specified in our by-laws, we will have 3 general membership meetings during the year: October, January and April. We also plan to schedule more frequent, smaller meetings with topics that address the concerns of parents with children at particular academic ages/stages rather than the broader topics at the general meetings. This will help form the networks of parents and educators who face similar issues within and between schools in the district.

Many people have asked me what SEPTA does for fundraising. The answer is, *not much*. We don't emphasize it because many families are financially stretched in support of our children's special needs. But we're going to have to do *something* to support SEPTA's ongoing costs. We receive less than 50% of the \$5 annual membership dues; the rest goes to the National and State PTA. We have expenses that school PTAs don't: voicemail, a post office box, website hosting, newsletter printing/postage. We also anticipate that we will soon have to pay for meeting space.

It would be difficult for us to hold a fundraiser selling merchandise because there is no easy distribution method over such a large area. We relied on donations and grants for 68% of our income this past year. (If you know of any grants or generous donors, please let us know!)

We have added a PayPal donation link to our website for those of you who want to donate. Please ask your employer if they match employee donations. Some will donate based on volunteer service hours as well.

Thanks to all of you who have joined and especially to those who have volunteered for even the smallest of tasks. It doesn't take much!

Leigh Menconi  
President

**The Wake County Special Education PTA** is a county-wide PTA that creates a network of parents and educators of children with IEPs in the Wake County Public School System

To learn more call 788-2500 or visit our website at [www.WakeSEPTA.org](http://www.WakeSEPTA.org).

Annual dues are \$5

## **NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING:**

October 2006  
Date & Location TBD  
7:00-8:30

***The IEP at Home: How to Adapt the Home  
Environment for Successful Outcomes***

**Community Resource Exhibits**  
6:00-7:00

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