



Kristin Massey Kramer - Slated Candidate for President Elect

Kristin is currently serving as the Illinois PTA DuPage West Region Director and the District 41 Council Safety Chair. She has been involved with PTA since 2008 when her youngest son entered first grade. She has served in the secretary, vice president, and president positions in her local PTAs in Glen Ellyn, as well as president of the Glen Ellyn District 41 PTA Council.

She has also served on several nominating and audit committees along with chairing Room Parents, Fundraising, Hobby Night, Yearbook, Student Ambassadors (co-chair), Fitness Night (co-chair), Parent/Teacher Auction, Becoming Amazing Men (co-chair), and Safety Fair.

Kristin joined the state board in 2014 and since has served on various committees including Scholarship, Convention, Leadership Development, Hospitality, and Family Engagement. She has also served as the Convention Chair, Local Unit Packet Chair, Pages/Ushers Chair, Elections Chair, and Board Development and Nominating Committee Chair.

In addition to her PTA experience, she has volunteered in various other roles in the community including serving as the Team Manager for her son's hockey team for five seasons, the Teams Administrator for the Golden Eagles Football program for four years, teaching religious education and as a member of a successful school referendum committee for the high school district.

She works full-time as a licensed insurance agent and also helps her husband with his baseball training facility managing his eight (8) travel teams.

As president elect, she looks forward to continuing to further the recent successes of our advocacy efforts in Springfield, increasing our on-line training programs and database of programs to go and developing new and re-vitalizing past partnerships with cooperating agencies.



Carolyn McCarty - Slated Candidate for Vice President of Field Operations

Carolyn is currently serving as the Illinois PTA Southern Region Director as well as the president of the Abraham Lincoln PTA in Belleville. She has served on the state board since 2010. As a Region Director, she has brought new programs to Southern Region and expanded their relevance in the community. The Back-to-School BASH and Membership

Benefit programs have added visibility to the PTA brand and aided in maintaining region membership levels not realized in the rest of the state. The Illinois PTA Southern Region board has been recruited to serve on advisory boards, planning committees, and to serve as local liaisons for other like-minded state organizations focused on children and families. In addition to her work in the Southern Region, she has also been the Illinois PTA Bulletin Editor, the Spotlight Task Force Chair, Convention Rules Chair and a member of various committees including: Legislation Policy, Convention Rules, Board Development and Nominating, Strategic Plan Task Force, Editorial Board, Convention, and Audit committees.

As the VP of Program Services, Carolyn would continue to find ways to provide resources and services to our members. As the VP of Field Services she would focus on helping other Region and District Directors to create and develop new programs within their areas and to raise PTA awareness.



Connie McElyea - Slated Candidate for Vice President of Program Services

Connie is currently serving on the Moline-Coal Valley School District #40 Board of Education and will be retiring in April after almost 10 years. She believes, with the challenges our families face today, it takes a “village to raise a child” and that any additional resources we can provide to the stakeholders including families, communities, schools and even politicians will assist our children in becoming contributing and productive citizens.

Connie will bring her experience from previously serving on the Illinois PTA Executive Committee as Secretary for two years and VP Dept. of Education for two years. As the VP Dept. of Education her responsibilities included providing guidance and assistance to various Program Chairman. During her tenure on the State Board, she served on many committees which currently fall under the VP Programs Department therefore she has knowledge of the programs.

She has also served in Leadership Roles at all PTA levels as well as the School Board President for 6 years. She is a very organized person and has financial knowledge through PTA positions as well as in her personal career as an Office Administrator in the Management Office of a large shopping center.



Lillian A. Ball- Slated Candidate for Secretary

Lillian is currently serving as Secretary of the Illinois PTA. During her 17 years as a volunteer for PTA, she has served in several positions in her local PTAs. She is currently serving as council president. Lillian is very familiar with the State Board of Directors; in 2005-2007 she served as District Director for PTA District 19 and in 2007-2011 she served Illinois PTA as the Parental Engagement Chair. She volunteers as an AARP Driver Safety Instructor, is an active member in her church, and at her local community’s League of Women Voters. When not volunteering for the Illinois PTA, Lillian cruises the seas and is always learning something new. She holds a degree in Psychology and a Paralegal Certificate. Lillian has over 30 years of experience as an office manager and legal administrative assistant. She hopes to be re-elected to the position of secretary to help Illinois PTA fulfill its mission and advocate for all children.



Michelle Lassak – Slated Candidate for Treasurer

Michelle is currently serving as Treasurer of the Illinois PTA. She received her B.S. in Mathematics from East Central University (Ada, OK) in 1995. She also received her B.S. in Business Administration with emphasis in Accounting from the University of Northern Colorado (Greeley, CO) in 1999. She was a tax auditor for the City and County of Denver for two years before moving to Charleston, Illinois in 2001.

Michelle joined her local PTA board, the Charleston Joint PTA, in 2006. She has served in many different offices while on this board (president, vice-president, treasurer and secretary). She has also served as the chair of an array of committees (book fair, membership, public relations, bylaws, nominating and finance).

Michelle's years as the Charleston Joint PTA Treasurer gave her several opportunities to organize budgets, prepare financial statements, and maintain multiple accounts. She also initiated a multiple year savings project that helped one of their schools purchase playground equipment.

In addition to her work with the Charleston Joint PTA, she assisted a local CPA over the last 11 years with tax preparation for individuals and farmers. This experience, along with her past two years as District 10 Director, has enabled her to become well versed in relevant IRS tax code and laws as they relate to PTAs. As a district director Michelle has helped five PTAs initiate the process to regain tax-exempt status, educated several PTAs on proper accounting practices and helped some PTAs rebuild their relationship with their school community.

As treasurer for a second term, her goal is to continue to maintain the accountability of the budget that was approved by the delegates. She looks forward to assisting local units with regaining their tax-exempt status, creating reasonable accounting processes that work for their PTAs, and supporting Directors with financial questions they might have regarding a local unit in their area.



Darvel Stinson- slated candidate Board Development and Nominating Committee

Darvel is currently serving as the Juvenile Justice Program Chair. As a child, his mother was a PTA president. Inspired by her and her work with the PTA, Darvel was a member of the Lansing Coolidge Elementary PTA from 2005-2012, the Lansing Memorial Jr High PTA from 2011-2015 and is currently a member of the Thornton Fractional South PTA. He is serving his second two-year term as the treasurer for District 19. Through his involvement with the PTA, he has met and worked with a large number of wonderful, passionate people in leadership positions as well as local unit members which have inspired him to continue being a part of such a wonderful team as the Illinois PTA State Board. He believes his diligence, passion, and commitment to advocating and collaborating with others to make sure we have the best for our children in Illinois will make him an asset to the BDNC.



Kristin Klis - slated candidate Board Development and Nominating Committee

Kristin is currently serving as on BDNC as a general member filling a vacancy beginning October of 2015. She officially began as a PTA volunteer in 1996 as a PTSA Secretary. She has also served as an Illinois PTA Youth Representative 1998-1999. When her daughter began kindergarten, she started the PTA at her Elementary School serving as president from 2012-2014 and as treasurer from 2014-2016 as well as the Reflections chair from 2013-2016.

She has enjoyed being an active member on BDNC and would like to continue working with BDNC to help bring future leaders to Illinois PTA.