



### **Brian Minsker – President Elect**

Brian Minsker has been involved with PTA since 1999 when his oldest son entered kindergarten. He has served in the secretary, treasurer, vice president, and president positions in local PTAs in Champaign, as well as president of the Champaign PTA Council. He became the District 10 director in 2008, and served as the East Central Field Service Area Representative and Region Director from 2009 to 2013. He is currently the Illinois PTA Vice President of Program Services. He is a 2008 National PTA Training Capacity Building Initiative graduate and has served on several organizations representing the Illinois PTA. He is currently appointed to the Illinois State Board of Education State Assessments Review Committee.

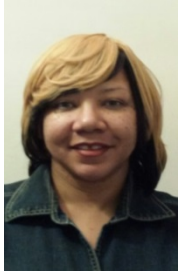
As President-Elect (and President), he plans to continue efforts to modernize the Illinois PTA's approach to meeting the needs of its members, as the parents of today do not engage with schools and PTA in the same way that parents did even ten years ago. This means being more mobile-friendly in our communications, providing more turnkey programs that allow busy PTA leaders to engage families with less effort, and providing more online training opportunities for PTA leaders. He also intends to increase awareness and effectiveness of PTA advocacy efforts, including educating families on how advocacy is more than contacting legislators—it is speaking up for your child at their school.



### **Michele Sheppard – Vice President of Field Operations**

Michele is a member of Virginia Lake PTA. She has served at all levels of PTA; local, council, district and state level (beginning in 1995). She has served PTA locally as a board member, local unit vice president, local unit president, council board member, council vice president, and council president. On the state level she has been a district assistant, district director for five years, district secretary, district and region directors' chairman, general member of the Board Development and Nominating Committee and Illinois PTA secretary. She is currently the Vice President of Field Operations.

As Vice President of Field Operations for a second term, she plans to work with the region and district directors to serve all the local units and councils as well as be a resource to all members. She will assist the region and district directors to meet the needs of the membership throughout the state including providing training, answering questions, and listen to their needs and concerns. Her active participation in all levels of PTA has provided her with the first hand experience that will guide her in this role.



### **Lillian Ball - Secretary**

Lillian A. Ball is currently serving as Secretary of the Illinois PTA, having been elected in fall of 2014 to fill a vacancy in that position. 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

District 19 and in 2007-2011 she served Illinois PTA as the Parental Engagement Chair. She volunteers as an AARP Driver Safety Instructor, an active member in her church and 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 – Treasurer**

Michelle 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.

With these experiences Michelle is excited at the opportunity to serve as the next Illinois PTA Treasurer. She believes her background in financial management and degree in Accounting, as well as her work experiences make her suited for this position.