



Membership: Thanking Members

Show your appreciation through actions: Be genuine in your appreciation. A simple verbal thank you is a great start. A typed or hand written note attached to their membership card adds a personal touch. If a note is not possible, an e-mail can still relay your appreciation. *(A thank you is not the reason most people volunteer, but it's nice to know your support is appreciated.)*

Give a visible reminder and thank you to those that join at school events. Hand out "I joined PTA" stickers to the kids and adults when they join the PTA (available at www.ptabrandedmerchandise.com/IL.html).

The PTA provides great benefits to thank PTA members. These benefits and discounts can more than pay for the small PTA membership dues:

- Promote National PTA membership benefits/discounts (see full list and descriptions at www.pta.org/benefits).
- Promote Illinois PTA membership benefits/discounts (see full list and descriptions <https://illinoispta.org/member-benefits/>)
- Promote local unit benefits.

WHAT IS OF VALUE TO YOUR MEMBERS? Each local unit can look at their membership and see what your parents, staff, and community believes is valuable:

- Family programming or events
- Educational programs for students and/or parents
- Resources the PTA provides students, families, classrooms and school
- Discounts or Promotions for PTA members from National/State/Local retailers or businesses
- State and National Legislation that protects **all** children and families.



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What benefits would members value that you could offer to them? (See ideas below)

Promote the benefits provided to your Local Unit Members (possible ideas)

Benefits do not have to cost your PTA anything or cost very little- just be of value to your members:

- PTA Member Appreciation Event
- Free or discounted admission to certain PTA events
- PTA member directory
- PTA Fridge Magnet with School address, office/absence phone numbers and PTA web address/social media sites
- School Car Magnet or Decal
- Monthly giveaways to PTA members (ideas):
 - Free book certificate for book fair
 - Free School spirit-wear
 - Free Yearbook
 - Front row seats to school play/show
 - VIP Parking Spot- reserved parking in front of school – different winner for each PTA Event
- Giveaway to classroom or grade with most members:
 - Extra Recess, movie party, classroom party, ask your school administrators for acceptable ideas, etc.

Recognize your members by posting their names as PTA members and supporters Ask members if they give the PTA authorization to publish their name and/or contact information. Be respectful of the privacy of your members by not publishing information without authorization.

When parents give the PTA authorization to use their name or contact information, the PTA can publically recognize their support:

- Create a Bulletin Board with last names recognizing your PTA members.
(Check your parent volunteer list: If another parent likes to paper craft, they might help make a bulletin board for you)
- Welcome new members monthly by last name in your newsletter, etc.

It is never too late to thank your members. Our members help give the PTA a voice on behalf of all our children. Their membership makes a difference each and every day.



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