The Illinois PTA Board Development and Nominating Committee (BDNC) slate the following names into nomination for Illinois PTA Board of Directors Voting Board Member positions for the 2020-2022 term:

For Program Directors:
Leadership Development: Darvel Stinson
Legislative Advocacy: Vanessa Richardson
Membership: Kristin Klis

The Illinois PTA Board Development and Nominating Committee (BDNC) was created as a result of bylaws changes at the 2008 Illinois PTA Convention. The committee is made up of seven members, four from the State Board of Directors and three from the general membership. The committee members are elected to a single two-year term at the Illinois PTA Convention, and terms are staggered to provide continuity. Two Board Member Representative positions and one General Member Representative positions are open for the election at the 2019 Illinois PTA Convention.

The Illinois PTA Board Development and Nominating Committee slate the following names into nomination for the open positions on BDNC for the 2020-2022 term:

BDNC - General Member (1): Jim Sklena

There are no slated nominees for the following Board Development and Nominating Committee position for the 2020-2022 term:

Board Member - 2 positions
General Member - 1 position

Submitted by Illinois PTA Board Development and Nominating Committee:
Darvel Stinson - Chairman
Connie McElyea
Greg Hobbs
Darvel Stinson - Slated Candidate for Leadership Development Director

Darvel has been a PTA member since 2005 and a member of the Illinois PTA State Board of Directors since 2013. First serving as Program Director of Juvenile Protection & Safety for two terms, then served as Region Director of the South Suburban Cook Region for one term and now currently serving as Program Director of Leadership Development.

While being able to engage with more local unit members as Region Director and listening to their passionate stories of how important PTA is to them, their school and their communities, Darvel became more passionate about Leadership Development. Their stories were genuinely inspiring, which has led Darvel to continue engaging, empowering and encouraging members, not just to remain active members, but to also expand on the leadership qualities that they possess. Darvel believes good members become great leaders, by being provided proper resources in order to better equip them for their positions. Darvel is also active within his own community. Darvel’s first appointment was the Lansing School District 158 Superintendent Advisory Committee from 2012-2014. During that time he was also a member of the People Advocating for Recreation of Kids Committee (P.A.R.K.). Currently, Darvel is a member and President of T.F. South H.S. PTSA, Parent Liaison-T. F. South H.S. Parent Advisory Board, Commissioner-Village of Lansing Human Relations Commission, member of the Village of Lansing Complete Count Census Committee, and member of the Ministerial Staff as Youth Pastor at Christ Universal Church of Holiness. It is Darvel’s desire to continue on as a member of Illinois PTA State Board of Directors as Leadership Development Director, to help make sure the proper Leadership Resources are accurate, efficient and conveniently accessible, in order to equip leaders and members with knowledge and structure, to effectively continue advocating to make every child’s potential a reality.

Vanessa Richardson - Slated Candidate for Legislative Advocacy Director

Vanessa L. Richardson is a mother of a 12 year old son. She works as a public relations associate in Chicago, where she focuses on business to business communications. She has been a part of PTA for 7 years, both as a local unit vice president and president and most currently as the Chicago Region Director.

Vanessa has worked with the Chicago Urban League, League of Women Voters, Parent Power Chicago and countless other parent and child focused groups. Education, juvenile justice reformation and health legislation are important issues for Vanessa.

In her spare time Vanessa volunteers with the Chicago Sports Commission and Scouts BSA. She enjoys family outings and community festivals.
Kristin Klis - Slated Candidate for Membership Director

Kristin Klis has been involved with PTA since childhood when helping her Mother organize Market Day pickups in Elementary School. Kristin’s first PTA position was as PTSA secretary for her high School where she served in that position for two years. After high school Kristin served as the IL PTA Youth Representative for a year. Kristin has attended numerous National and State PTA conventions since 1994. When Kristin’s youngest daughter started kindergarten, she chartered a PTA at the school and has served as President, Treasurer and Vice President. Kristin has served on the IL PTA BDNC as a general member for multiple years.

Currently, Kristin is the General Arrangements Chairman for the 2020 IL PTA Convention and filled an open Membership Chairman position. Kristin is looking forward to the possibility of serving on the IL PTA as Membership Chairman for a full term.

Jim Sklena - Slated Candidate for Board Development Nominating Committee, General Member

Jim believes in “community”. Jim believes strong communities create better children and make us better adults too. PTA is one of the best ways Jim knows of to create & build that sense of community. Jim has a long history of volunteering with community organizations, including the Boy Scouts, local high school's booster club, a local Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and their state-wide on-call Search & Rescue (SAR) team. Jim’s PTA experience began in 2007 simply serving pizza at a PTA Bingo Night.

Except for one year "off", Jim has served as a PTA officer every year since 2008. Jim has been a Treasurer and President at both elementary and Jr. high schools, a Council V.P., a Council President and served on multiple committees along the way.

Jim brings more than 30 years of personal experience working with not-for-profit groups and volunteers, as well as more than 15 years of experience managing volunteers
Procedure for Nominations From The Floor

1. BDNC publishes a slate and provides link to the forms for those wishing to run from the floor

2. Nominees running from the floor must complete the Letter of Interest/Signature form. The form can be found at: https://illinoispta.org/board-opportunities/

3. Forms must be received by the President and BDNC Chair at least 30 days prior to the convening of the Convention (Wednesday March 25th). Please email to: kkramer@illinoispta.org and bdncchairman@illinoispta.org

4. Notice will be released to the membership once the same information as the slated candidates publish (i.e. bio and photo) is received by BDNC Chair.

5. BDNC Chair will work with slated candidates to write the nominating speech.

Procedure for Campaigning

1. PTA resources may not be used for campaigning – email addresses, etc.

2. Candidate may not mention their nomination while representing Illinois PTA or at any PTA event prior to Convention.

3. Elections Chair shall meet with the candidates prior to Convention to discuss campaign rules.

4. Campaign free zones to include: caucuses, workshops, Convention events not specifically designated for campaigning and 50’ of convention registration.

5. Candidates may have one sided 8.5” x 11” black and white sheet of campaign literature available at the designated location in the general session area and at the Meet the Candidate Event. Cost of the literature is the expense of the candidates except for the slated candidates. No other distribution will be allowed. Campaign literature shall be sent to the Elections Chairman 15 days prior to the Convention.

6. A Meet the Candidates Event will be held prior to the election.

7. All campaign violations will be reported to the Elections Chairman. The Executive Committee will be notified of complaints or issues.