



A Message from the President

Welcome to the 93rd Annual New Mexico Parent Teacher Association Convention!

“Parent Engagement SAFARI” It’s an Adventure!

Get your passports updated, pack your bags, don’t forget the mosquito nets and join us for two days of exciting adventures. We will navigate you through the jungles of learning, networking, and training, all geared towards enhancing your PTA and leadership skills.

Get on the fast track to leadership in an enjoyable atmosphere. Take advantage of all the workshops: Presidents, Treasurers, Bylaws, Membership, Diversity, and many more! Please refer to your visitors guide.

The New Mexico PTA board has put together a fun, informative two days for you. Network and learn new skills to take back to your communities to help with mandated “Parent Involvement” Programs. We believe that we need to go beyond *parent involvement*. “*Parent Engagement*” to be more exact! Schools need to become more parent friendly and open to the families and communities around them.

As you traverse through our exhibits and workshops, keep an open mind and take all handouts and resources back to your schools. Feel free to reproduce all material. We are also available to come out and work with you to help make PTA the best possible parent engagement resource for your schools.

New Mexico PTA is not just a resource for two days every spring. I urge you to take advantage of all the programs that NMPTA has to offer through out the year. “Embracing Fatherhood”, Reflections, Safe Teen NM and many more ... Please utilize all of our resources.

National PTA will again be sending out your “Back to School Kits” directly to your school. Share this information with all your officers, members, teachers and administrators. These kits have valuable information!

As with every PTA, there are many to be thanked. I, as the president, am only a guide in this adventure. The Board of Directors is the backbone of this organization. Each one of them is a volunteer, just as in your local PTA unit. And some traveling as many as 6 hours to come to board meetings and deal with issues to make this organization strong. My deepest thanks go out to each and every one of them.

Thanks to Lisa Sundvall, our office manager. She is a calming guru! If you have ever called or come to the office you are greeted by her smiling voice. NTTC's, non profit forms and much more are all handled by her efficiently. She is also a dedicated parent that cares about all children. Thanks, Lisa!

Thank you, the MEMBERS of the largest, strongest parent organization on the planet. It is an honor to serve as your president.

Last, but not least, my family. Rodney my husband, Adrian my son and Dani my daughter. No matter what I do or where I go, they support my love and dedication to all children. They are my **ROCK STARS!**

Please remember this: "KEEP YOUR EYE on the PRIZE ~ The KIDS"! They are why we all do what we do!

Angi Gonzales-Carver

New Mexico PTA President