

Let's Talk Membership!!

Submitted by Helen Hoffman, Nassau Region PTA Membership Chair

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Membership is going through many changes this year. There seems to be a lot of confusion. For the next couple of months I will address the most "asked" questions to help alleviate this confusion and give units the tools they need to succeed.

Question: I did not get my membership cards. How can I get them?

Answer: Membership is totally online and virtual this year. Physical membership cards are no longer being sent to units. Instead, members will now receive an eCard via email, which can be saved to their mobile device or printed. In order for a Membership Chair to get started, their president must update the chair information on the Unit's Portal. Once the President has completed that information, the membership chair needs to go to the New York State PTA web page - www.nyspta.org. In the bottom right hand corner of that page is the *Online Membership System Unit Portal Access* button, click on this button and enter your unit code. Your unit's name will appear and a drop down box with the names of the individuals in your unit who will have access to the Unit Portal. Click on unit Membership Chair and an email will be sent to the Membership Chair at the email provided. This email will contain the link the Membership Chair will need to gain access the Unit's Portal and get started with the membership drive.

Question 2: We offer "Family Membership" to our members. How do I input them?

Answer: There is no such thing as a "Family Membership". As per the bylaws, a unit must vote on the dues that they will charge. Family Membership is not an option on the Bylaws EZ. However, there is an option on the Bylaws EZ to offer "an additional family member", a membership at a lesser cost. Both dues amounts are separate and apart from each other. Each member is issued a card in their name.

If you have language on your membership envelopes that states \$15.00 for Family Membership, in actuality your bylaws probably state \$10.00 for the first member and \$5.00 for each additional family member. You need to check your bylaws to ascertain the amount of dues your unit charges. And next year update your envelopes.

Please contact Helen Hoffman at membership@nassauppta.org if you need more information.