

March 5, 2013

Dear Huntington School District Families,

As the March advocacy season approaches for PTA, our Board of Education and Central Administration are in the process of putting together the school budget for the 2013/2014 school year. While this process is always a very arduous task, this year, like last, they are faced with the challenge of creating a budget that adheres to the governor's tax levy limit while also addressing reduced state and federal aid and an increase in unfunded mandates. It will require considerable effort to build a budget that meets the needs of our children in a fiscally responsible manner.

To help in this process the PTA Council has organized a calendar of PTA meetings which during the month of March will feature our superintendent, Mr. James Polansky to inform the pta community about the budget process. He will discuss all components of the budgets and will also allow time for questions, concerns and feedback. This is a great opportunity that we don't normally get at board of education meetings. Please see the list of pta meeting dates, times and locations below. I also recommend attending the board of ed meetings and the budget workshops that are listed on the district calendar as well to have a clear understanding of how the budget process works.

As PTA members, we are advocates for our children and give a voice to those who may not be able to do so themselves. I encourage you to become a PTA member at your child's (or children's) school to be part of this voice. We are facing unprecedented challenges in these difficult fiscal times as well as dealing with the emotional challenges as a result of Superstorm Sandy and Sandy Hook. Please attend our meetings and take advantage of the many events and presentations that PTA provides!

DATES FOR PTA BUDGET MEETINGS:

March 7, Southdown Primary PTA – 7:30pm

March 12, Flower Hill Primary PTA – 9:30am, Jefferson Primary PTA – 9:45am, Woodhull Intermediate 7:30pm

March 13, Finley Middle School PTA/Huntington High School PTSA Joint meeting 7:30pm @HHS

April 3, Washington Primary PTA – 7:30pm

April 8, SEPTA – 7pm (Location TBD)

On behalf of the Huntington PTA Council, I look forward to seeing you!

Bari Fehrs

Huntington PTA Council President