



As we anticipate the start of the 2019-2020 school year that is just around the corner, we are excited to announce that we are resurrecting The Beacon-Lite!! We want this to be a resource for our local units and provide important information for our PTA members from here in Western New York, New York State PTA and National PTA.

This year, our units will have access to their own Associate Director or Assistant Director who they can contact, in addition to the Region Chairs who are in place to help with specific areas such as renewing your bylaws or running your Reflections program. We are anxious to hear your ideas, answer your questions, and share your enthusiasm! If you haven't heard from your AD yet, contact info@westernregionpta.org and we can put you in touch with your assigned person.

Is your unit ready to start the year?

- ❖ Officer Training - Watch your email for more information on our annual Summer Leadership Academy in August. This is an excellent opportunity to refresh your PTA training or to learn best practices if you are new to your position!
- ❖ PLEASE update all of your officers on MemberHub. It is so important that we know how to reach you and your team! Feel free to contact us at the Region and we can help if needed.
- ❖ Make sure you've reviewed your MemberHub account and you're ready to begin registering your new members! There is TONS of help available through the MH site, or you can reach out to the Region for more help.
- ❖ Make sure your audit from the 2018-2019 year is complete. As a reminder, in addition to being required by your bylaws, your unit must complete an annual audit and monthly reconciliations of your bank statements by non-account signers to protect your insurance coverage. Guidance on completing your audit is available at <https://nyspta.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/RG-05A-Finance-LZ.pdf>
- ❖ Make sure your PTA is insured! Did you send in your insurance premium to AIM?
- ❖ It's a great time of the year to do a quick review!
 - Take the time to go over your unit bylaws with your executive committee and your executive board. Note the expiration date and plan accordingly if they need to be renewed.
 - Review the PLAY-PAUSE-STOP list for recommendations regarding your insurance coverage. The lists can be reviewed at: <https://nyspta.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/RG-05-B-Insurance-AIM-2018.pdf>

Finally (and most important)...have fun this year!! What we all have in common is that we want the absolute best for not only our own kids, but ALL children! Being a PTA leader is hard work, but it is probably the most rewarding work I've ever done. Join me this year, as we move forward with fresh ideas and open minds, and let's begin to see change happen!

Candy Ditekowski

Region Director