Local PTA Membership Marketing Plan

**BACKGROUND**

Developing a marketing plan for your PTA can help you attain your PTA goals in a strategic and purposeful way.

In PTA we do great things for kids at our local, council, regional, state and national levels, but sometimes our community members don’t know what we do. Marketing your PTA serves many purposes but for our marketing plan we will focus on:

* Increasing awareness
* Increasing membership
* Developing loyalty

Once you understand the principles, you can apply them to any marketing goal. Fortunately, with nearly 120 years of service, PTA has a well-known brand. Companies spend lots of money to make sure their brand is known—we have that BUT—we want to make sure PTA is known for the right reasons.

**DEVELOPING YOUR PLAN**

Ask these questions:

* Who do we want to be aware of what we are doing? (Audience)
* Who do we want to join? (Audience)
* What message you need to deliver to that audience? (Key Messages)
* Who is the best person (Key Influencer) to deliver that message?
* What is best way to deliver that message? (Delivery Method)
* How will we retain, engage, support our members?

In marketing, the goal is to deliver the right message (key message) to the right audience (potential member) by the right person (key influencer) in the right way (how).

This doesn’t mean changing your **key message**, just targeting it…**Parents** want to know what the local PTA is going for their kids at their school, **Staff** want to know what PTA is doing for them at their school and they might care about advocating for Education funding. So targeting the message helps the audience know **what’s in it for them.**

Having a **key influencer** deliver the message maximizes the input—for example a staff member can speak to fellow staff, a parent of a first grader can speak at Kindergarten orientation about how they felt the year before, a person who speaks another language can speak to parents or community members who speak that language.

**Key method** is how you will deliver the message. In person, on a flier, on social media, in an email, poster, bulletin board, broadcast etc.

**Start with your biggest potential audiences.** At a school site, your largest audiences areparents, staff, students and past/community members. Then move to target group of people in the school community who have not joined, attend ELL meetings, ASB club, booster club meetings,

**MARKETING PLAN WORKSHEET**

**Our PTA’s overall membership message is…**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Timing/Scheduling** | **Key Audience** | **Targeted Message** | **Key Influencer** | **Delivery Method** |
|  | **Parents** |  |  |  |
|  | **Staff** |  |  |  |
|  | **Students** |  |  |  |
|  | **Past Members** |  |  |  |
|  | **School Administrators** |  |  |  |
|  | **School Board Members** |  |  |  |
|  | **Community Leaders** |  |  |  |
|  | **Local Business Leaders** |  |  |  |

**EXAMPLE:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Timing**  **Scheduling**  **(When)** | **Audience**  **(Who)** | **Key Influencers**  **(Who)** | **Key**  **Messages**  **(What)** | **Key**  **Medium**  **(How)** | **Notes:** |
| Before School Starts | Past members | PTA president | Please continue to support PTA. | Emails, letters, phone calls, Social media posts |  |
| Before School Starts | Staff | Staff leaders/ PTA President | Highlights of what PTA does for the school, staff & students | Email, flyers, Welcome back events | Invitations in all staff mail boxes |
| Orientation | New Families | Parent PTA Leader | What your PTA does for your students at your school | Speech, flyer with PTA highlights | PTA Table with resources and happy PTA volunteers |
| Back-to-School Night/ Curriculum Nights | Families/ community members | Variety of PTA volunteers/  Staff | Welcome-what PTA does for students, staff, families, the community | Table, posters, resources, flyers | PTA Table with resources and PTA happy excited volunteers |
| First few weeks of school | Families | Variety or PTA volunteers | Highlight programs for students | Contests, displays, flyers, social media, emails, | Do a big push but limit it so there is a deadline – you could have a PTA table in front of school. |
| TBD | ELL Families | Someone from that group | What PTA does for your students and families | In person | Maybe a few minutes at a meeting followed by one on one |
| Year Round | New Families | School office staff | Welcome, What PTA does at the school, calendar, etc. | Welcome packet | Assemble several welcome packets and work with school to distribute to new families as students enroll. |
| November |  |  | Thank you | Social media, personal note, email blast, posters |  |
| School and PTA Events Through the Year | School Community | Happy volunteers | PTA sponsors/puts on this program and more | In person, flyers, posters pictures of events | Table at each event |
| May | Staff | Parents and students | Thank you—Staff appreciation | Social media in person | Thank you, appreciation event |
| June | Current members |  | R-join | email |  |