



Seminole County Council PTA

RISE UP

SEMINOLE COUNTY COUNCIL

Letter from the Board

APRIL 2023 NEWSLETTER

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Spring has sprung and your SCCPTA Board has been busy recognizing our students and advocating for all children!

In this issue you will see our amazing Florida PTA Reflections winners - 14 students overall. One student won in two categories and three of our SCPS students are moving on to the National Reflections Competition.

Awards submissions are now open for the 22-23 SCCPTA Awards. Submissions are available for programs as well as for individuals who have gone above and beyond this school year. **All submissions are due by Friday, April 28.**

March 26-28 was the Florida PTA Legislative Convention. PTA leaders from across Florida were briefed on newly approved legislation, proposed legislation and legislation in the process of being drafted. There are over 40 bills in consideration. Each bill has the potential to impact our students. Those who attended the conference were surprised at the number and speed at which our current legislature is voting on bills related to education.

PTA is, above all, advocates for our children. The best way to advocate is to know about proposed legislation. So many of us are volunteering in the school and classrooms; we know the school systems - it's roses and it's thorns. So, take a moment to review the proposed legislation and consider learning more! You can contact legislation@sccpta.com for more information or to get involved.

We close with the mission as a reminder that this is our ultimate goal and why we volunteer and do what we do and that is:

... to make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children.

#riseup

22-23 SCCPTA Board



School Board Meeting
5:30 p.m.

Educational Support Center
400 E. Lake Mary Blvd.,
Sanford, FL 32773
Tuesday, April 25



School Board Meeting
5:30 p.m.

Educational Support Center
400 E. Lake Mary Blvd.,
Sanford, FL 32773
Tuesday, May 9



22-23 SCCPTA
Awards Ceremony

Our Annual Year-End
Celebration for local units
Coming in May -TBD



LAST DAY OF SCHOOL
Thursday May 25

WOOHOO!

REMINDERS

Interested in having an SCCPTA Board Member Attend a PTA/PTSA Meeting, Spirit Night or Program?

SCCPTA on the Road! We want to visit your local unit!

Seminole County Council PTA wants support to PTA/PTSA in person or virtually! We would love to come to you General meeting or special events. Our goal is to visit each local unit this year.

- You can [click here to submit a visit request](#)
- The Select the "Question" option on the form
- Enter the Event Information or copy the link to the event invite under the question "Please document your question...here".
- Be sure to let us know if it is in person or virtual.



Invite us to visit by submitting a request on the Google Form



March 11
CroomsCon



March 28
Milwee Middle School
General Meeting &
STEM Night



March 26-28
Florida PTA
Legislative Conference



April 1
Compliance Training &
General Meeting



**Seminole County
Public Schools**

April 4
SCPS Board Meeting



NATIONAL PTA® REFLECTIONS®

FLORIDA PTA AWARD WINNERS

Congratulations to our Florida PTA Reflections Winners!

14 Students from SCCPTA won at the State Level!

- 1 of those won awards in two categories!
- 3 of those students won the Award Of Excellence and will be moving on to National PTA Reflections!

Florida PTA
Reflections Winners
**Dance
Choreography**

Penelope Miller, Bear Lake Elementary
Award of Merit

Eeshika Arora, Wilson Elementary
Award of Merit

Cecilia Rice, Carillon Elementary
Award of Excellence

Florida PTA
Reflections Winners
**Film
Production**

Luke Staton, Layer Elementary
Award of Merit

Daniel Salinas, Hagerty High School
Award of Excellence

Joelle Jackson, Hagerty High School
Award of Merit

Florida PTA
Reflections Winners
**Dance
Choreography**

Myaraa Gupta, Wilson Elementary
Award of Merit

Victoria Rice, Carillon Elementary
Award of Merit

Florida PTA
Reflections Winners
**Music
Composition**

Aisiri Bhat, Midway Elementary
Award of Merit

Sana Prakash, Heathrow Elementary
Award of Merit

Florida PTA
Reflections Winners
Literature

Hannah Seth, Sanford Middle School
Award of Excellence

Divya Mishra, Sanford Middle School
Award of Merit

Julia Bochkarev, Hagerty High School
Award of Merit

Florida PTA
Reflections Winners
Visual Arts

Alessandra Mejia, Eastbrook Elementary
Award of Merit

Julia Bochkarev, Hagerty High School
Award of Merit

Good luck at the National PTA Reflections Competition!

2022-23 SCCPTA AWARDS

SCCPTA Awards application due [April 28, 2023](#). When you are ready, select the award name to apply.

While you can submit one program for multiple program award categories, you are still required to submit separate applications for each program you want considered for judging. For instance, if you have an International Night, you may want to submit that program for all three award categories on a single application. But if you also want a STEM night considered, you would submit that as a separate application.

TOP PROGRAM AWARDS:

One Elementary School, one Middle School and one High School each will be recognized for each program award category (Family Engagement, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, and Health & Wellness). A program may fall into multiple categories.

[Click this link to apply for the three awards below.](#)

- Outstanding Family Engagement Award
- Outstanding Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Efforts
- Outstanding Health & Wellness Program Award

Individual Award Applications

Click the specific link to apply for each award below.

- [Outstanding Communication](#)
- [Outstanding Student Volunteer](#)
- [Outstanding Male Volunteer](#)
- [Top Principal Award](#)

Membership Awards Applications:

Click the specific link to apply for each award below.

- [Community Membership Award](#)
- [Faculty Membership Award](#)
- [Grandparent Membership Award](#)

Special Recognition Awards

Click the specific link to apply for each award below.

- [Rise Up Award - Support from Admin, Staff, Parents, Students in PTA](#)
- [Top Mission of the PTA Award](#)
- [Top Business/Community Partnership Award](#)






This past March, Florida PTA held its Legislative Conference. PTA leaders from around the state gathered to hear updates on proposed legislation and Florida PTAs positions as we advocate for all children.

As parents and educators please review the items below - over 40 bills - all being accelerated through the Florida Congress. One way we can advocate for our children is to know the proposed freedoms, laws and restrictions being considered for adoption. And then to contact your legislators!

For more information or to get involved, contact legislation@sccpta.com.

Education and Equity Bills	
FLA PTA SUPPORTS	FL PTA OPPOSES
<p>CS/CS/HB 7039/SB 1424 emphasize identifying math deficiencies in primary grades.</p> <p>CS/HB 733/SB 1112 Middle School and High School Start Times— Healthy Sleep for Adolescents.</p> <p>HB 891/SB 1564 Year-round School Pilot Program</p> <p>HB 551/SB 804 Required African-American Instruction</p> <p>HB 287/SB 294 Instruction in the History of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders</p> <p>HB 863/SB 832 Holocaust Remembrance Day</p> <p>HB 141/SB 196 Guidance Services on Academic and Career Planning enhances knowledge of acceleration and CTE options</p> <p>CS/HB 455/SB 1468 Career-themed Courses enhances awareness of CTE offerings from middle school</p> <p>CS/HB 703/CS/SB 478 Early Childhood Music Education Incentive Program introduce to the arts at a young age</p> <p>CS/CS/HB 19/CS/SB 636 Individual Education Plans— parents and developmentally challenged students to be aware of legal changes at age 18.</p> <p>CS/HB 223/CS/SB 290 Public School Student Progression for Students with Disabilities— students who have been held back through parental choice at the PreK and who have still failed the 3rd grade ELA exam to be promoted to 4th grade without being held back a 2nd time.</p>	<p>CS/CS/CS/CS/HB 1 Education—PASSED Legislature; next action will be by Governor.</p> <p>HJR 31/SJR 94 Partisan Elections for Members of District School Boards school board members/candidates according to political ideologies</p> <p>CS/CS/HB 633/SB 1236 this bill eliminates school district financial penalties for exceeding class sizes.</p> <p>CS/CS/HB 1069/CS/SB 1320 expansion of HB 1557 (Parental Rights in Education) that does not correct the vagueness of last year’s bill by defining what constitutes “instruction” in sexual orientation or gender identity.</p> <p>HB 1423/SB 1438 Gender Clinical Interventions interferes with parent’s right to determine the care of their child.</p>
	
FLA PTA WATCHING FOR MORE INFORMATION	
<p>HB 459/SB 1654 Allowing computer science credits to be substituted for foreign language credits.</p>	

Funding Bills

FL PTA OPPOSES

[HB 1259/SB 1328](#) Education Funding would make sharing of public school capital outlay tax revenues with charter schools mandatory, regardless of how much money given by state; no requirement for charter school capital plan; amount of allocation determined by number of enrolled charter school students rather than by need.

School & Community Safety Bills

FL PTA Supports

[HB 39/SB 542](#) would provide for opioid antagonists on Florida College campuses
[CS/HB 783/SB 704](#) allows additional trained personnel to administer opioid antagonists
[CS/CS/HB 121/SB 246](#) Florida Kidcare Program Eligibility raises income cap from 200% to 300% of the federal poverty level
[HM 581/CS/SM 814](#) Prohibit Use of SNAP Benefits to Purchase Soft Drinks
[CS/HB 721/CS/SB 670](#) Paid Family Leave Insurance
[CS/CS/HB 143/CS/SB 204](#) Monitor of Children in Out-of-Home Care
[HB 1339/SB 1306](#) mandate adoption agencies to pre-screen prospective parents that a list could be established in advance of need.
[HB 1007/CS/SB 1064](#) Children Removed from Caregivers provide trauma-informed medical and mental support
[CS/HB 1557/SB 1690](#) this would require the posting of signage warning of human trafficking in state-supported facilities housing children and abused women.
[HB 195/SB 178](#) allow schools that serve as emergency shelters to install solar panels
[HB 263/SB 1544](#) provide for defibrillators on school campuses as well as training of school staff
[HB 1211/SB 1374](#) increasing the age requirements for child restraint devices in personal vehicles.
[CS/HB 657/CS/CS/SB 588](#) allow for electronic monitoring of school zones and the issuance of citations for violations of 10 mph over the limit.
[CS/HB 741/SB 766](#) allows for monitoring of vehicles passing a school bus stopped
[CS/HB 301/CS/SB 212](#) providing funds to school districts to create standardized maps of school campuses for use during emergencies.
[CS/HB 379/CS/CS/SB 52](#) enhances student safety by requiring instruction in proper use of social media.
[CS/HB 591/SB 792](#) Social Media Protection for Minors
[HB 699/SB 662](#) Student Online Personal Info Protection
[CS/HB 655/SB 914](#) Suicide Prevention

FL PTA OPPOSES

[CS/HB 221/CS/SB 214](#) **Sales of Firearms and Ammunition** disallowing credit card companies from flagging large purchases of firearms and/or ammunition with a special code.
[CS/HB 543/CS/SB 150](#) allowing for permitless carry. Already passed the House.
[HB 1543](#) lowering the age increase in long gun purchase eligibility back down from 21 to 18.



News From Around Seminole County

Join us for a morning of inspirational stories and discover how YOU can play a pivotal role in the lives of homeless and former foster youth!

THURSDAY, MAY 4, 2023

Longwood Community Building
200 W Warren Avenue, Longwood, FL 32750

7:45 AM REGISTRATION & NETWORKING

8:30 AM COMPLIMENTARY BREAKFAST & PROGRAM

RESERVE YOUR SEAT
impowerfl.org/breakfast-registration

FOR MORE INFORMATION
events@impowerfl.org or 407.215.0095 x 215

Since 2006, The Village, a program of IMPOWER, has served as a supportive housing option for homeless and former foster youth. Through safe housing and comprehensive wraparound supports, vulnerable young people are given the chance to achieve the goals and obtain the skills necessary to transition successfully into adulthood.

8th Annual IT TAKES A VILLAGE

T.E.A.M. DAD  **Healthy Start**
Fatherhood Initiative of Florida
Coalition of Seminole County

FATHERHOOD PROGRAM

Many new fathers struggle to figure out their role when expecting a baby or becoming new parents.

Our new fatherhood program offers education, training, and support to help men become the responsible, engaged, and empowered fathers their children need them to be.

Our program can help with:

- Parenting & Co-Parenting Education
- Improving Child Development
- Building Healthy Family & Community Relationships
- Workforce Development & Economic Stability
- Personal Development



Enroll at
www.healthystartseminole.org/t-e-a-m-dad
or scan the qr code.



NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION

Family Friendly Resource Fair

Brought to you by The Children's Cabinet of Seminole County



Saturday April 15, 2023
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM EST

Altamonte Mall
451 E. Altamonte Dr
Altamonte Springs, FL 32701

For further details and sponsorship opportunities
[email seminale.children@gmail.com](mailto:seminole.children@gmail.com)

5th Annual
Creating A Resilient Community:
From Trauma to Healing Conference

May 11 & 12, 2023

Moving Towards a
Transformative Approach:
From Punishment to
True Discipline

Speakers:

Dr. Lori Desautels
Nationally Acclaimed Author & Speaker
Honorable Monique Worrell
State Attorney, 9th Circuit, FL
Sheriff John Mina
Orange County, FL
Honorable Steven Leifman
Judge, 11th Circuit, FL
Ruben Saldaña
Credible Messengers, Orange County, FL

DAY ONE

From Punishment to True Discipline
Winter Park Events Center
8:30am- 4:00pm

The 5th Annual CRC Conference focuses on the strides our criminal justice, public safety, and educational sectors are making to move from punishing individuals towards true discipline. Participants will hear from national experts and local change makers on their efforts to create systems that prevent trauma, restore, heal, and transform. Join us to envision the community in which we all want to live!

DAY TWO

Local Voices: Change Happening in Central Florida
Valencia College,
Winter Park Campus
9:00am- 4:00pm

Day two offers two concurrent tracks:
1) How Our Brains Learn: A Journey Through Development, Adversity, Trauma and Resiliency; an all-day track for educators and 2) Local Voices: Change in Central Florida, one to two hour workshops for all sectors

CREATING A
Resilient
COMMUNITY
NETWORK

The CRC Network is supported by the Peace and Justice Institute
CEUs and Professional Development Points available



Register by scanning
the QR Code



2023 University Behavioral Center Scholarship for High School Seniors



University Behavioral Center is dedicated to promoting the future champions of mental health within our community. We are very pleased to announce the 7th annual University Behavioral Center Scholarship for High School Seniors.

The UBC scholarship is purely based on your story and how you have triumphed/coped with mental illness personally or related to someone close to you.

AWARD:

THIS SCHOLARSHIP RECOGNIZES TWO GRADUATING SENIORS FROM CENTRAL FLORIDA. THIS AWARD IS TO BE USED TO ASSIST THE STUDENT WITH HIS/HER COLLEGE EXPENSES.

REQUIREMENTS:

APPLICANTS WILL BE JUDGED BASED ON AN ESSAY (NO LONGER THAN 750 WORDS) ON HOW MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES HAVE AFFECTED THEIR LIVES OR SOMEONE CLOSE TO THEM AND HOW THEY PLAN ON HELPING OTHERS IN THEIR FUTURE CAREER.

DEADLINE:

COMPLETED APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED NO LATER THAN MAY 1, 2023. APPLICATIONS CAN BE OBTAINED [BY CLICKING HERE](#).

COMPLETED APPLICATIONS/ESSAY MAY BE TURNED IN TO YOUR GUIDANCE COUNSELOR/THERAPIST/CASE WORKER OR EMAILED DIRECTLY. IF YOU ARE A PROVIDER PLEASE EMAIL APPLICATIONS TO THE SAME EMAIL LISTED ON THE APPLICATION OR BY [CLICKING HERE](#).

RECIPIENTS WILL BE ANNOUNCED AND CONTACTED ON MAY 6, 2023.

Healthy Meals Incentives Grants for Small and/or Rural School Food Authorities (SFA)

GRANT APPLICATION AVAILABLE SOON

As part of a cooperative agreement to implement the USDA Food and Nutrition Service's [Healthy Meals Incentives Initiative](#), Action for Healthy Kids is offering competitive grants, up to \$150,000 per SFA, to small and/or rural school food authorities to support efforts to improve the nutritional quality of their school meals. Learn more at www.healthymealsincentives.org



Don't miss these important dates:

- April 10, 2023: Grant Application Portal opens at 12:00 pm EST
- April 11, 2023: Grant Application Launch Webinar - [Register Now](#)
- May 10, 2023: Grant FAQ Webinar - [Register Now](#)
- May 26, 2023: Grant Application Portal closes at 5:00 pm EST

Is your SFA eligible to apply? See the Grant Eligibility Requirements below:

- Must participate in the National School Lunch Program and/or School Breakfast Program
- Must meet the definition of small and/or rural (see below).

Small School Food Authority: SFA with an enrollment of less than or equal to 5,000 students.

Rural School Food Authority: The majority of students within the SFA are enrolled in a rural school as defined by a locality code of 41, 42, or 43, according to the [National Center for Education Statistics online tool](#).

You must apply as a school food authority for this grant; individual schools are not eligible entities.

[Learn More](#)

SCCPTA Advocating Life Safety Resolution to Florida PTA

SCCPTA will have a first at the Florida PTA Conference this July - a Resolution that our county is sponsoring for Florida PTA to consider for adoption. This initiative has been led by Leanne Briatico, SCCPTA Teacher Representative and 3rd Grade Teacher and Teacher of the Year at Crystal Lake Elementary , and Katie Murphy, SCCPTA Secretary. The details of the resolution as presented at the SCPS Board Meeting on February 21, 2023, are below. Thank you to Leanne and Katie for all your hard work!

Resolution proposed to Florida PTA:

Life Saving Training and Devices

WHEREAS, Students may experience life threatening situations in schools such as choking, drug overdose, and injuries. One leading cause of children's and teen's accidental death is choking. At least one child dies from choking on food every five days in the U.S, and more than 12,000 children are taken to the hospital emergency room each year for food-choking injuries; and

WHEREAS, The Florida Medical Examiners Commission reported almost 500 deaths of people aged 0 - 25 years old were related to opioids for a six month period from January to June 2021. Furthermore, of the deaths related to fentanyl, 95% were accidental. In the school year 2020-2021 there were over 5,000 reported incidents of students' drug possession in schools; and

WHEREAS, Over 20% of high school students in Florida reported being in a fight in 2019. In the 2020-2021 school year, there were almost 9,000 fighting incidents reported in Florida schools; and

WHEREAS, We recognize a school employee is often the only adult present with a group of children during the school day, and immediate attention from bystanders is critical during all emergency situations. Choking, bleeding, not breathing, lack of pulse, overdoses, and other emergencies can become life-threatening prior to the arrival of emergency medical services (EMS); and

WHEREAS, Bystanders need training, practice, and access to quickly and appropriately perform life-saving techniques and use life-saving devices. With this, bystanders are more likely to render first aid for emergency situations; the efficacy increases when proper life-saving devices and materials are available; and

THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that Florida PTA and its constituent associations advocate for schools to fund and expand their life saving trainings beyond the use of CPR and AEDs to include all school staff and students (with parents' permission) throughout K-12 education to be trained on emergency interventions such as choking relief, bleed kits, and overdose relief; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Florida PTA and its constituent associations advocate for the funding and placement of fully stocked first aid kits and life saving devices in readily accessible locations throughout schools and school properties. The kits should also include simple pictorial and written directions for these devices and life saving techniques, e.g. choking relief; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Florida PTA and its constituent associations facilitate trainings regarding life saving techniques and devices for stakeholders and community members.

News From Florida PTA -- Advocating & Celebrating!!!



FLORIDA PTA AWARDS

Safety Award

PTA has always advocated for children's safety and well-being. This award is to recognize the PTA units that offer effective safety programs which provide students, parents, and communities with information on keeping children safe.

APPLY NOW!



Please keep in mind, all Awards applications must be submitted by May 1st. It's never TOO early to apply - in fact, if an event or program is fresh in your mind, that's the best time to apply! To apply, visit: <https://floridapta.org/florida-pta-awards/>



LEADERSHIP CONVENTION 2023

JULY 13-16

#IMAGINEBELIEVEACHIEVE



WE ARE is > I AM

Florida PTA's Annual Leadership Convention, July 13-16, 2023 at the Omni Orlando Resort at Championsgate. Come join us and #believeinspireachieve.

LOCAL UNIT OPEN MIC NITE

ONLINE WEBINAR

Join Us

Local unit leaders here's your opportunity to socialize with Florida PTA leaders from across the state.

Join us to share information and ideas that focus on local unit PTAs. Our aim is to encourage dialogue and spread awareness by providing a platform on which ideas, thoughts and questions can be expressed and tackled in an open environment.

Register in Advance.



Follow the [Florida PTA Facebook page](#) to find out when the next Open Mic night is scheduled.



Road to Success

Wednesdays!

Please join us each Wednesday as we discuss topics related to PTA. These informative and engaging discussions will help you become a better leader, and allow you to network with other leaders across the state.

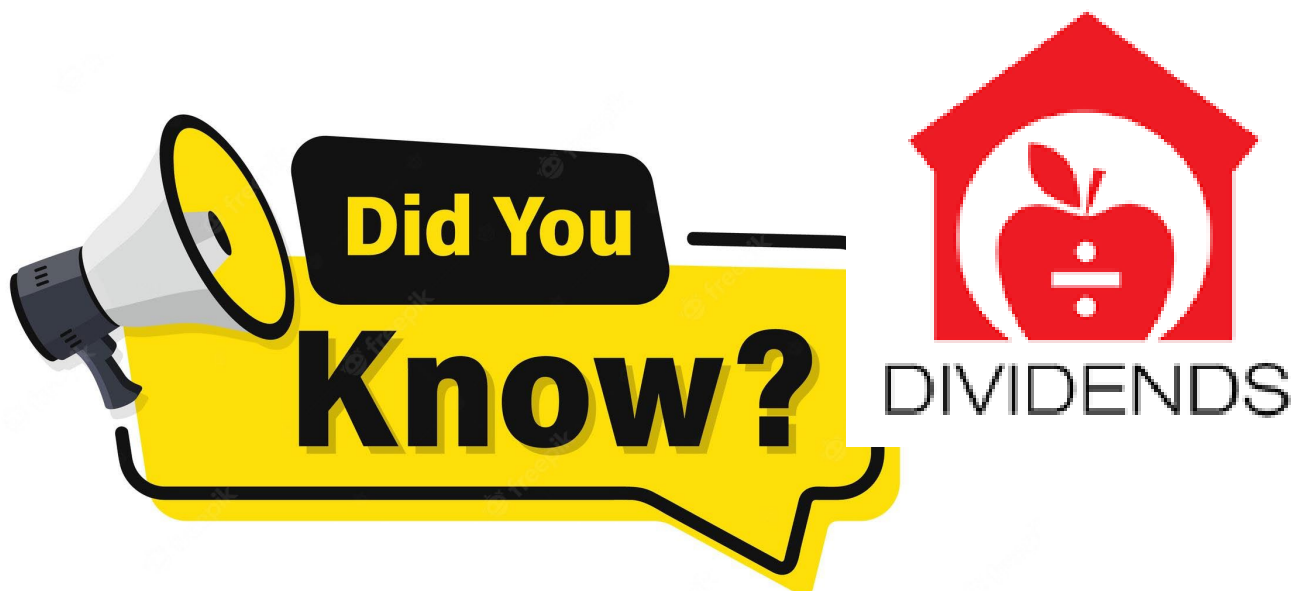
Register Today!

Registration is required!

www.floridapta.org



Road to Success Information is on the [Florida PTA website](#). [Click Here for Past Recordings](#)



The Dividends Program is the SCPS Volunteer Program for anyone who would like to volunteer with our schools. Every potential volunteer needs to apply and receive their approval prior to volunteering in-person. And, of course, each volunteer must complete a new Dividend application each school year.

The Dividends Program ensures our students are safe and that volunteers check-in when they are on campus. SCPS keeps a record of volunteer hours that helps with eligibility for grants and other programs.

And... Did You Know?

Dividends can (and should!) log hours spent volunteering from home. Dividends can log hours spent in PTSA/PTSA meetings, Board meetings, making posters and decorations, prepping budget reports (we see you Treasurers!), and so much more! When we log our off-campus hours, we will increase our eligibility for grants and educational programs for our students.

Here's how to log volunteer hours completed off campus:

1. Go to [Raptor](#) and Login using the ID and password provided by your Dividend registration. *First time Dividends will set this up once their Dividend application has been processed.* If you need assistance with your login, email misa_mills@scps.k12.fl.us
2. Upon login, you are directed to your Personal Information. If PTA/PTSA Event is not listed under Function, email misa_mills@scps.k12.fl.us to have it added to your profile.
3. Click on Hours at the top of the screen
4. Click on Add Hours
5. Enter the following:
 - a. Past Event – Event Not Listed Here
 - b. Building – Your School
 - c. Function – PTA/PTSA Event
 - d. Select the Start Date/Time and End Date/Time
 - e. Organization – None
 - f. Notes – optional such as the title of meeting or type of volunteer work.
6. Click Save

The screenshots show the Raptor Technologies interface. The first screenshot shows the login page with fields for Username and Password, and a 'Log In' button. The second screenshot shows the 'My Profile' page with various information fields. The third screenshot shows the 'My Hours History' page with a table of logged hours and an 'Add Hours' button. The fourth screenshot shows the 'Add Hours' form with fields for Event, Building, Function, Start Date/Time, End Date/Time, Organization, and Notes, along with a 'Save' button.