



The Solon Early Childhood PTA Newsletter: www.secpta.net

The Solon Early Childhood PTA is a unit of the Ohio Parent Teacher Association (PTA), organized for the parents of preschool age children (birth-5) regardless of what school the child will attend. Expectant parents are also welcome.

We always welcome new members from Solon and the surrounding communities. If you are the parent of a preschool age child or infant, we have something for you!

MEMBERSHIP REMINDER: Our new membership year started on July 1, so for more fun with SECPTA, please renew your membership for 2020-2021! You can register online at bit.ly/SECPTAMembership. If you previously had an online SECPTA account, you will be asked to log-in first. While some things might look different, we are still planning on a fun year with many outings, field trips, fitness, and more (both virtual and in-person)! Have questions? Email Kelly at membership@secpta.net.



SECPTA's AUTUMN ADVENTURE



Don't forget that the fun Autumn Adventure is still going on through the end of October! Check out the last page of this newsletter for a list of fun activities you can do with your kids during October. As your kids complete the activities, please comment or post a picture in the designated post on our SECPTA Events Facebook page. Any current member that participates and comments/posts at least once will be entered into a drawing for a \$10 Amazon gift card at the end of October (there will be TWO winners!)

We don't expect anyone to do them all and hope it is stress-free for you! This is just a fun way to stay active and give you ideas of things to do with your kids as the weather gets cooler. **Have questions? Email Kelly at membership@secpta.net.**

KATE'S SECTION

Notes from the SECPTA President:

Hello Hello - This last month has been a busy one for us! For those of you who know me, I am a list maker and I love to check things off as done. It's how I live life and for the most part has worked out well. But I recently lost my father and it's helped put things in perspective. As a parent, we hear all the time "enjoy the time while you can, they are only little for so long, etc." But I am putting the challenge out to you to actually do those things and **MAKE THE MEMORIES!** No one shares stories about the things we've gotten done but rather about the experiences we have had. So, sign up for events, go make some memories, and let's live our lives to the fullest! SECPTA is a great place to make those memories and build relationships. The type of relationships that have amazing stories and help you through the tough times. Trust me, I know!

Kate

president@secpta.net

SECPTA GENERAL MEETINGS

SECPTA General Meetings are held once each month and are a place to socialize, build community, learn something, and meet new people. The meetings are open to the public, free of charge, and do not require an RSVP. Virtual meeting will be available this year due to social-distancing regulations. In-person and virtual meeting options are now available!

Emily Wallen VP of Programs, programs@secpta.net

October's General Meeting and Program:

Natural Solutions for Better Health

Tuesday, October 27th at 6:15 pm

Join us to meet and speak with Jackie Potter, owner of JPotter Health LLC, who will talk about CBD and other natural solutions for better health.

Join us using this link: <https://meet.google.com/yqz-bxbw-sce>

Schedule:

6:15 pm	Arrivals: in-person and Google Meet
6:30 pm	Business meeting will begin
6:45 pm	Better Health Program



SAVE THE DATE!



October's General Meeting on **Tuesday**, November 24th at 6:15 pm

More information to come!

NOVEMBER ADULT OUTINGS

MOMS OUTING

Glassblowing at Glass Asylum
Thursday, November 5th at 6:00pm



Even through the heat, fire, and excitement, the Glass Asylum is approachable, fun, collaborative, casual, accepting of everyone, non-judgmental, relaxed, welcoming, inclusive and most of all, creative. Your creation will reflect your individual tastes and the collaboration with the artist you're paired with. Guests have creative control over the shape, size, and color of their piece of art. All guests must sign a safety waiver before attending a workshop. Safety waivers will be emailed to you, upon registration. There is complimentary valet out front or you are welcome to use the parking lots designated for M Italian off N. Main St. and Williams St. Please arrive 10 minutes early. **Cost: \$40 (the original cost is \$50 to make an ornament)** Register by October 23rd at www.secpta.net. If you have any questions, please email adultoutings@secpta.net.



DADS OUTING

Rage Room
Friday, November 20th at 7:00 pm

Rage Room, also known as a smash room or anger room, is a room designed to vent anger and destroy items within the room. Clients can break items by throwing them against hard surfaces or destroy items by smashing them with tools. These tools include sledgehammers, baseball bats, golf clubs or crow bars. Waivers must be filled out before entering the room. You must wear closed toed shoes. Things to bring - Photo ID, Closed Toed Shoes. Arrive 10 minutes prior to your scheduled time. Please feel free to go and grab drinks afterwards at a local restaurant/bar. Rage Room 2517 Mogadore Rd Akron, Ohio 44312. **Cost: \$20 (save \$5 off with SECPTA)** Register by November 5th at www.secpta.net. If you have any questions, please email adultoutings@secpta.net.

COUPLES OUTING

Burntwood Tavern
Saturday, November 14th at 6:00 pm



Enjoy a couple's night out with other SECPTA couples. SECPTA will pay for appetizers and other food and drinks will be at your own expense. We will have a private room. Burntwood Tavern is located at 33675 Solon Rd, Solon, OH 44139. Register by November 7th at www.secpta.net. If you have any questions, please email adultoutings@secpta.net.



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Katie Theobald, 216.454.1308, ktheobald@teecleve.org • www.teecleve.org

The graphic features a yellow background with various children's toys like blocks, a train, and a hot air balloon. It includes four photos of smiling children and a central text box with enrollment details.

Check out SECPTA Book Club!

SECPTA Book Club meets the third Friday of every month (*unless noted otherwise*) and members get to recommend and vote on the books we read.



Anyone that wants to join the Facebook group can request it here:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1685461198337422/?ref=share> (*must be a current SECPTA member to join*) Contact Kristen C. for more information at bookclub@secpta.net



❖ **Thursday 11/5 @ 6:00 – 7:00pm for “Pilates” at Meraki Studio in Aurora (class can be attended in-person or virtually)**

Fusing the methods of Joseph Pilates mat program, mini balls, light weights, foam rollers, and body resistance exercises this class focuses on lengthening and strengthening your muscles, challenging balance and working on flexibility and engaging your core in every exercise. **Cost \$6/person.**

If you register for the virtual class, a link will be emailed prior to the event. Make sure to bring your own mat and a water! If you have blocks or a blanket at home, it can be helpful to bring those as well since the studio is currently not offering props for sharing.

Deadline to register is Friday, October 30.

**Sign-ups for November classes will be conducted online. For questions, please e-mail Michelle at fitness@secpta.net. A 24-hour cancellation policy applies for all fitness classes to receive a refund.*

**All fitness classes will practice social distancing guidelines. We will be 6 feet apart. Hand sanitizer will be available. Bring your own mat, towel, and water. Stay home if you or anyone in your household is showing COVID-19 symptoms.*

SECPTA Walking Group

Join us for a weekly, kid-friendly walking group! We will meet at a different, paved walking path each week. All ages and abilities (and strollers) are welcome! We will go at the pace of the kids present. Walks will last approximately one hour. If a walk is canceled due to weather, it will be announced on the SECPTA Events page. Email fitness@secpta.net with questions!

❖ **Monday, 10/19 @ 10:00:** Orange Village Park to walk the All-Purpose Trail (4600 Lander Road Orange Village)



SECPTA OUTDOOR HALLOWEEN COSTUME PARADE



Saturday, 10/24/2020

2:30 pm - 3:30 pm

7000 Cochran Rd, Glenwillow, OH 44139

Dress your little ghouls and goblins for an outdoor parade for the nursing home and assisted living residents of Stratford Care and Rehabilitation.

Enjoy balloon twisting, an ice cream truck, some surprises and fun at a safe distance. There will also be a service project craft for the residents. Masks will be required for all ages 6 and up and we will adhere to social distancing guidelines so space will be limited.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED!

Please REGISTER on www.secpta.net

by 10/15 to allow us to plan appropriately ☺





SECPTA SERVICE!



This month's service activity will take place at the Halloween parade on October 24th at Stratford Rehabilitation. Come join the parade fun and decorate a pumpkin for the residents of the center.

A station will be set up for decorating with plenty of space to social distance. Children will be given individual kits to decorate their pumpkin in order to eliminate the need to share decorating supplies. Hope to see you there!

For any questions about the activity please email Megan at service@secpta.net.

Do you know a SECPTA member who could use a friend? Did they just have a baby? Is a medical issue taking away their time and attention?

HELPING



HANDS

If so, please let us help them! The Helping Hands Committee looks forward to preparing a home-cooked meal for a fellow SECPTA member who may need the extra hand! Whether it is for a new mother or a family going through a tough time, we are here to help.

Also, if you would like to join the Helping Hands Committee, please contact Tru for more information. We are always looking for new members! **E-mail Tru at helpinghands@secpta.net for more information!**

SECPTA'S BABYSITTING CO-OP

The SECPTA Babysitting Co-op is a great way for families to trade babysitting using a point system. Whether it's a date night, shopping trip, or appointments, you can request a sit for any reason.

To join contact Ruth Diaz at babysittingcoop@secpta.net

The next meeting will be held virtually on Monday, November 9, 2020.
This meeting is open to new and current co-op members.

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Did you know? The American Association of
Orthodontists recommends all children receive an
orthodontic evaluation by age 7.

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ADVERTISE WITH US!



Do you have a business or event
that you would like to promote?

Let SECPTA help you get the word
out!

Contact Maya at
waysandmeans@secpta.net

Please ask about special member
pricing!

Did you know that SECPTA has two private Facebook groups? If you aren't already a member, join today!

- **SECPTA Events**: this group is for current members only. It is where you will find official SECPTA business including updates on SECPTA events, event cancellations, meeting reminders, and fun posts where you can win monthly prizes!
- **SECPTA Swap**: this group is for current and past SECPTA members. You can use this page to "swap" just about anything! You can buy and sell items and ask questions or get advice.

These pages are a great way to stay up to date on the latest SECPTA news and to take advantage of our community of parents with plenty of great advice and clothes and toys to sell. If you have any questions regarding general membership or how to access these Facebook groups, feel free to contact Kelly at membership@secpta.net.



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At its core, SECPTA is about creating unique and enriching activities for families in and around the Solon community.

Welcome SECPTA Adventurers!



SECPTA provides access to fun, age-appropriate field trips as one of the many great benefits for members.

The 2020-2021 Field Trips Committee is hard at work planning some fantastic outings and virtual fieldtrips for the coming year and we hope that you will join us!

A special thank you to the members of the Field Trips Committee:

- Pavika Wilson (Chair)
- Julie Best
- Jenna Hoover
- Becky Kastner
- Heven Pfeifer
- Jamie Routman
- Melissa Stapel
- Rainy Titus

Our committee's goal is to provide fun, kid-friendly activities and events to help keep you and your family busy! Many of our trips are subsidized, so you can participate in activities with your family you've always wanted, but maybe found too costly. Other trips provide access to places and events that only large groups typically attend. And for those wanting to stick closer to home, each month we will offer virtual fieldtrips or classes that you can register for and will always give resources of free virtual ones you can check out anytime. Come with us and enjoy outings with your children and the camaraderie of other SECPTA families whether in person or online!

We are always open to ideas and suggestions, especially at the beginning of the year, when we still have openings in the schedule. Please e-mail any trip suggestions you may have to fieldtrips@secpta.net.

Looking forward to meeting you on a SECPTA field trip!

Pavika Wilson
Field Trips Chair
fieldtrips@secpta.net

IMPORTANT SECPTA EVENT POLICIES

SIGN-UP POLICY:

Event sign-ups are FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE. Sign-ups will be accepted in the following order:

1) BOARD MEETINGS:

As a privilege to Board members, sign-ups will be made available online to members by the monthly board meetings.

2) GENERAL MEETINGS:

Attendance will be taken at each general meeting. Following the conclusion of the monthly general meetings, online event registration will open to members that attend the meeting (in person or virtual).

3) AFTER GENERAL MEETINGS:

Online registration will open to the remaining members 24 hours after the general meeting.

*Please note that some events may have sign-up deadlines or limited availability. After these deadlines, we cannot accept any further sign-ups or additions to the waitlist. We apologize for any inconvenience.

PAYMENT POLICY:

Online payments by credit is required at the time of registration. Please contact the treasurer with any questions – treasurer@secpta.net Refunds will not be issued for any ticketed events unless the ticket can be transferred to another SECPTA member. Refunds will not be issued for “no-shows” who do not provide 24-hour notice of cancellation.

WAITING LIST POLICY:

The Field Trips Committee will make their best effort to accommodate all members who have an interest in attending field trips in one or more of the following ways:

WAITING LISTS CREATED – Online waiting lists may be created for “full” field trips. Members will be contacted if spots become available.

INCREASING TICKET NUMBERS - If there is an overwhelming demand for a particular field trip, the committee will make their best effort to accommodate members by increasing the tickets/spots available. Please understand that some field trips have a limited amount of space/tickets available, and an increase may not be possible.

ADDITIONAL DATES SCHEDULED - If there is an overwhelming demand for a particular field trip, the Field Trips Committee will make their best effort to schedule additional dates if possible.

CANCELLATION POLICY:

Attendance will be taken at all field trips, adult outings, fitness, parties, and any other SECPTA events that registrations are required.



If you need to cancel a registration for an event please submit through your online member account at www.secpta.net in order to minimize SECPTA's expense for "No-Shows".

No refunds will be given for "no-shows" who have not given 24-hour notification of cancellation. We will be sending at least one reminder e-mail prior to each trip.

Refunds will not be issued for any ticketed events unless the ticket can be transferred to another SECPTA member.

Please also remember that many trips are subsidized, so a "free" trip to you may not have been free to SECPTA.

ILLNESS POLICY:

Children and/or parents should not attend any SECPTA events if they exhibit any of the following symptoms: Diarrhea more than once within 72 hours of the event; severe coughing; difficult or rapid breathing; yellowish skin or eyes; redness of the eye or eyelid including discharge, eye pain, matted eyelashes, burning or itching; temperature of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher; infected skin patches; unusual spots or rashes; unusually dark urine and/or gray or white stools; stiff neck with an elevated temperature; sore throat or difficulty swallowing; vomiting within 72 hours of the event; evidence of untreated lice; scabies, or other parasitic infestations. Please do not attend any SECPTA events if you or your family members have any other symptoms related to COVID-19 or have any exposure to COVID-19.

COVID-19 POLICY:

SECPTA requires that all individuals participating in our events follow the state-wide mask mandate that became effective on July 23, 2020. Our organization is also requiring any children 6 and up to wear masks at any SECPTA event. In addition, children under the age of 6 are not required to wear masks but are encouraged to do so! This policy can change and is based on the most current health & safety guidelines. SECPTA will communicate any changes when a change has been made to the policy.

By participating in any SECPTA events you voluntarily assume all risks related to the exposure of COVID-19. We have taken enhanced health and safety measures to meet all recommended COVID-19 safety guidelines, however, an inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19 exists in any public place where people are present. COVID-19 is an extremely contagious disease that can lead to severe illness and death. According to the CDC, senior citizens and people with underlying medical conditions are especially vulnerable. If you are exhibiting any COVID-19-related symptoms, you should not attend a SECPTA event. Please help keep each other healthy.

LOOKING FOR NEW IDEAS AND MEMBERS!

As we already stated, our committee is continually looking for new ideas for field trips. If you have any leads for future events or are interested in joining the committee, please e-mail us (fieldtrips@secpta.net). Your help is always appreciated!!

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please email fieldtrips@secpta.net to contact us for general questions or suggestions. For trip-specific questions, please email individual Field Trip coordinator as listed in the newsletter for each trip.





NOVEMBER FIELD TRIPS



11/3/2020 (Tuesday) Fall Leaf Scavenger Hunt

Enjoy the changing leaves and take a walk, ride bikes, or play on the playground. This park and playground has a walking/bike path and walking trails for any age to explore. A scavenger hunt challenge will be provided for your child to complete for a small prize from SECPTA! Bring a picnic lunch and enjoy a nice walk or bike ride.

Time: 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Location: East Idlewood Park: 9797 E Idlewood Dr, Twinsburg, OH 44087, USA

Cost: Free

Ages: All Ages

Contact: melissa@secpta.net

Sign-up Deadline: 11/1/2020



11/6/2020 (Friday) Splatter Painting in the Park

Let the little ones come and do some messy fall theme art! If you have never tried splatter painting before, here is your chance. Each child will be given their own canvas and paintbrush, and paint will be provided. Kids can spread out in Liberty Park field and splatter away. Afterwards as we wait for the masterpieces to dry, the little artists can play on the playground. Everyone (kids and adults) should come dress for a mess!

Time: 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Location: Liberty Park (Field near Pavilion): 9437 Liberty Road, Twinsburg, OH 44087

Cost: \$5.00 per child

Ages: All Ages

Contact: fieldtrips@secpta.net

Sign-up Deadline: 11/1/2020



11/8/2020 (Sunday) Winter Family Photo Mini Sessions

Winter Mini Sessions 🌲 by SECPTA Alum and local photographer, Amanda Bellan. Just in time for holiday cards, a limited number of specially priced winter mini sessions will be available for members only at an outdoor location. Each session will be 15 minutes and include 3 edited high-resolution digital images with the ability to purchase more if desired. Props will not be used due to COVID-19. Sessions will take place between 2:00-4:30pm. Max: 8 families. Check out Amanda's work at www.amandabellanphotography.com

Time: 2:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Location: TBD – near Solon/Twinsburg/Hudson area

Cost: \$60.00 per family

Ages: All Ages

Contact: fieldtrips@secpta.net

Sign-up Deadline: 10/30/2020



11/9/2020 (Monday) Virtual Storytime with the Cleveland Aquarium

Settle in and listen to a story about sharks. Participants can view an aquarium exhibit in the background. After storytime, see the living versions of the animals on your screen and have the chance to ask the experts plenty of questions! A link for the session will be sent prior to the field trip.

Time: 9:30 AM - 10:10 AM

Location: VIRTUAL

Cost: \$5.00 per family

Ages: All Ages

Contact: jamie.routman@secpta.net

Sign-up Deadline: 10/25/2020



****This is a ticketed event. No refunds or credits will be given for cancellations or no-shows unless tickets are purchased by another family on the wait list. ****

11/13/2020 (Friday) Virtual Music Jam Session with Jesse

Gather up some instruments and come rock out online with Jesse Friedberg of Jesse's Jukebox in an exclusive SECPTA Zoom interactive class. Jesse Friedberg is on a mission to inspire children and their parents to be creative, compassionate, freethinking, and a little bit smarter than he is (which is pretty darn smart). Based out of Cleveland, Ohio, Jesse accomplishes his mission by writing and recording original children's music. He puts on amusing, thrilling, and interactive live shows that entertain children and adults alike. Currently, Jesse is offering virtual classes via zoom where kids can rock out with Jesse (virtually) and learn musical skills, self awareness, language, listening, collaboration, fine motor skills, and attention.

Time: 10:00 AM - 10:45 AM

Location: VIRTUAL

Cost: \$7.00 per family

Ages: All Ages

Contact: fieldtrips@secpta.net

Sign-up Deadline: 11/5/2020



****This is a ticketed event. No refunds or credits will be given for cancellations or no-shows unless tickets are purchased by another family on the wait list. ****

11/13/2020 (Friday) Reminderville Athletic Club (RAC) Pool Party

Join us at the RAC for a private SECPTA Pool & Splash Pad Party! Bring the family for an evening of swimming, splashing, and fun! Maximum of 30 people (children and adults), must wear a mask/face covering when entering the building, on the pool deck, or interacting near other pool guests. Masks should be removed prior to swimming as wet masks can cause difficulty breathing.

Time: 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Location: Reminderville Athletic Club: 3100 Glenwood Blvd. Reminderville, OH 44087

Cost: \$6.00 per person

Ages: All ages

Contact: julie@secpta.net

Sign-up Deadline: 11/5/2020



****This is a ticketed event. No refunds or credits will be given for cancellations or no-shows unless tickets are purchased by another family on the wait list. ****

11/20/2020 (Friday) Solon Center of the Arts - Virtual Dance Class

Join SCA for a fun Jazz dance class offered to SECPTA members. Zoom link will be sent one week before the start date.

Time: 4:30 PM - 5:15 PM

Location: VIRTUAL

Cost: \$3 per child

Ages: 4 -7

Contact: rainy@secpta.net

Sign-up Deadline: 11/09/2020



****This is a ticketed event. No refunds or credits will be given for cancellations or no-shows unless tickets are purchased by another family on the wait list. ****

Free Virtual Field Trip: Great Lakes Science Center

<https://greatscience.com/engage/virtual-field-trip>

Check out Great Lakes Science Center museum exhibits and science experiments for online for FREE !



**We can't WAIT to see you,
virtually and in person!!**





AUTUMN ADVENTURE

As your kids complete the activities, please comment or post a picture in the designated post on our SECPTA Events Facebook page. Current members who participate at least once will be entered into a drawing for a gift card at the end of October! We don't expect anyone to do them all and hope this is just a fun way to stay active and give you ideas of things to do with your kids as the weather gets cooler.

- ☐ **WATCH** a thunderstorm
- ☐ **GO** on a nature walk & find 3 nature treasures, i.e., orange leaf, flower, etc.
- ☐ **DRAW** a picture in chalk
- ☐ **SOLVE** a puzzle
- ☐ **DO** a science experiment*
- ☐ **READ** 10 books (have caregiver help you keep count!)
- ☐ **SEARCH** for cool rocks
- ☐ **JUMP** in puddles
- ☐ **HAVE** a staring contest
- ☐ **HOST** a family movie afternoon/night
- ☐ **GO** cloud watching
- ☐ **BUILD** with blocks, Legos, etc.
- ☐ **MAKE UP** a silly dance
- ☐ **LOOK** for ladybugs or fireflies
- ☐ **HELP** your caregiver or neighbor with a chore
- ☐ **DANCE** in the rain
- ☐ **PLAY** hopscotch
- ☐ **HAVE** a picnic (inside or outside)
- ☐ **PLAY** freeze dance
- ☐ **WATCH** a virtual story time*
- ☐ **TRY** some yoga*
- ☐ **PLAY** "I Spy" in your yard or neighborhood and try to spy something of all the classic crayon colors (ROYGBVBB)
- ☐ **DRESS-UP** as a character, animal, or community helper and play pretend
- ☐ **LEARN** 5 facts about your favorite animal of choice to share with your family
- ☐ **MAKE** up a story
- ☐ **COLOR** a picture
- ☐ **SHARE** a toy, snack, or book with your little/big sib, mom, dad, friend, or family member
- ☐ **CALL** a family member and ask where is the furthest place they have traveled? Look up the state or country OR Learn about a place you've never been before
- ☐ **LOCATE** a map in your house/book/online and find Ohio. Talk with your caregiver about where else you've been.
- ☐ **GO** on a shape hunt (inside or outside)
- ☐ **LEARN** a new language - ask your caregiver how to say the following in a new language: 1) food, 2) color, 3) animal, 4) place, and 5) "hello"
- ☐ **MAIL** a card or drawing to a friend or family member that you haven't seen recently
- ☐ **COOK** up a tasty treat*
- ☐ **SING** a song from a movie or show you like
- ☐ **TAKE** a silly selfie with someone you love
- ☐ **Give** a hug to your favorite stuffed animal
- ☐ **PLAY** the quiet game (see how long you can be quiet)
- ☐ **DONATE** to this month's SECPTA service project for UH Rainbow babies (see the September newsletter for more information)
- ☐ **MEASURE** three things in your house with a ruler or tape measure
- ☐ **RUN, RUN, RUN** as fast as you can