

# In Praise of PTAs and PTOs

THE UNSUNG HEROES of the Humble ISD are the parent volunteers who donated more than 300,000 hours of their time last year. That's the equivalent of more than 150 full-time employees – *for free!*

The Council of PTAs plus the PTAs and PTOs each contribute in their own ways.

The Council, for instance, organizes and hosts College Night. It sponsors a VIPS (Volunteer In Public Schools) Conference; provides training for local PTAs; assists them with bylaws, guidelines, taxes, and insurance; and offers workshops. It also helps coordinate volunteers. For example, when Summer Creek High School volunteers helped North Belt Elementary and their PTSA helped Kingwood Middle School with their CommUNITY Fair, or when the Kingwood Park HS PTSA provided free immunizations, the Council helped.

The Council of PTAs also provides a traveling closet for Title 1 schools for Manners Banquets every year. This

allows students to have new or gently worn, Sunday-best clothes for the banquet.

The PTAs and PTOs themselves host programs for schools, such as Reflections, newsletters, parent workshops, Box Tops, and teacher luncheons.

They also provide volunteers for Super Kids Day, Science Fairs and Project Graduation. They help with reading, science labs, and Junior Achievement. Some even offer scholarships. All seek business sponsors to help with projects and luncheons for teachers and staff. And on a daily basis, these selfless volunteers labor in libraries and copy rooms.

The presence of volunteers every day in every school says to students, "We care. You matter." They are role models of selflessness and testaments to what makes a community great – the hearts of its volunteers. Each and every one of you deserve the thanks of the school district and our entire community.

## **BOB REHAK FOR SCHOOL BOARD**

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