



OFFICER INSTALLATION CEREMONY (*sample wording*)

This is a time when the individuals who have made a commitment to the stewardship of your PTA formally acknowledge and accept that responsibility before you – the members. And it is a time when you, the members of this PTA, also re-examine your commitment – your reason for being a unit (or council) leader in the Washington State PTA.

PTA IS EVERY CHILD'S ADVOCATE. Advocate is a powerful word. But it is only a word. To give it power and influence and potential, YOU – the elected leaders of _____ PTA must ACT!!!

As PTA leaders, you have accepted a challenge. It is the challenge to continue the growth and the leadership of this PTA. As PTA leaders, I charge you to seek out positive partnerships in your communities – attend the quality education offered by the Washington State PTA – respond to the challenges of becoming **THE** advocacy organization for children.

No one will simply hand you this role. Nobody will appoint you the caretaker for children. YOU MUST SEIZE THAT ROLE. You must capture the role of child advocate. You must be willing to take the appropriate risks – to speak up – to act – to truly be every child's advocate. Go out into your communities and seize the leadership and advocacy role on behalf of children.

There is no other organization – anywhere – that has the agenda of PTA. Your only reason for existence is to work for the health, welfare, safety and education of all children. But..... you MUST assert yourselves. You must not allow others to control the agenda for children. YOU – the parent – must act decisively. IF YOU DO NOT TAKE ON THIS RESPONSIBILITY, I CAN ASSURE YOU, SOMEONE WILL.

I conclude this installation by charging you with the duty of continuing the tradition of quality leadership which your predecessors have handed you. To continue to respond to the challenges that others create for the health, welfare, safety and education of children in the home, school, community and place of worship. I also charge you with the duty of taking full advantage and use of the opportunities and service offered by your State PTA.

Congratulations and Thank you!