

Position Paper

Goals



Region 2

A third way to help yourself out is to **set meaningful goals**. Attend any great time management or productivity seminars lately? In my working life I attended plenty of them, culminating with presentations from the likes of Stephen Covey and David Allen, and every last one of them included basic goal setting. PTA is no different. We can't go on a trip without a map, or at least some rudimentary directions. Sit down with your Board and establish three or four important goals. You can start by thinking about what's happening at your school - what is going well? What is going poorly? What needs to be modified or improved? What will happen in the coming year or two that will create changes that must be addressed? These vary from school to school and from year to year - so meet with your Board and talk about what's important this year at your school.

Your budget should then enable you to meet these goals. Do your programs help you carry out your goals? Are you raising the money you'll need to achieve your goals? Tailor your budget to your goals and you'll set yourself up for success.

As the year goes by, in fact, you're far less likely to find yourself at loggerheads - divided into two or three camps about the "right" thing to do - and in need of advice from a member of the Service Delivery Team. The clear path you've laid out will help your PTA make coordinated, thoughtful decisions throughout the year, based on your goals.

You'll also want to communicate your goals, as well as the progress you make on achieving them, to your members. When May rolls around and you're writing that last President's letter for the newsletter, it will feel great to be able to write about all the ways your PTA has succeeded throughout the year.

And don't worry about abandoning your Service Delivery Team members. There will still be plenty of questions for us to answer, training for us to offer, advice for us to dispense. We'll have plenty to do!