

## Washington State PTA Uniform Bylaws

### Approved Amendments from 105<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, May 18 – 20, 2018

Amendments to the *WSPTA Uniform Bylaws* were proposed and brought to the floor of the WSPTA Convention. Following are those amendments approved by the attending delegates and will take effect on July 1, per Article 12, Section 2 of the current *WSPTA Uniform Bylaws*:

<b>#1:</b>	<b>This addition gives the WSPTA Board of Directors the authority to change the <i>WSPTA Uniform Bylaws</i> to comply with National PTA Standards of Affiliation, as well as to comply with state and federal law.</b>
<b>Current bylaws state:</b>	This would be an addition to the <i>WSPTA Uniform Bylaws</i> : <b>Article 7, Section 6(E)</b> Washington State PTA – Board of Directors Adding a brand new E7
<b>Rationale for change:</b>	Per the <i>WSPTA Uniform Bylaws</i> (Article 7, Section 6(E)), “The WSPTA board of directors shall have full power and authority over the affairs of WSPTA between conventions except as otherwise provided in these bylaws.” This addition allows the board to update bylaws to remain in compliance with state/federal law and National PTA in between conventions.
<b>The new bylaw will state:</b>	<b>Article 7, Section 6(E)</b> Washington State PTA – Board of Directors <b>E7.</b> In the event WSPTA’s affiliation with National PTA requires a change for specific language in the <i>WSPTA Uniform Bylaws</i> , or the bylaws need to be updated to be in compliance with state or federal law, the WSPTA board of directors shall have the authority to make said changes prior to convention. If changes of this nature occur, the board shall inform the membership within 30 days of said change(s). The board shall report this information to the membership at the next convention.
<b>Effect on your PTA or council if adopted:</b>	No direct effect to your local PTA or council.

<b>#2A:</b>	<b>Defines who can submit resolutions for Legislative Assembly, the requirement for local PTAs and councils to be in good standing, and that resolutions cannot conflict with National PTA positions.</b>
<b>Current bylaws state:</b>	<b>Article 9, Section 5(A)</b> Washington State PTA Legislative Assembly - resolutions A. Resolutions approved by local PTAs, councils, or WSPTA committees may be considered at legislative assembly providing the following criteria have been met. Resolutions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Shall be submitted to the resolutions committee by the deadline date as prescribed by WSPTA policy.</li> <li>2. Shall be statewide in scope.</li> <li>3. Shall supplement but not conflict with the WSPTA legislative platform.</li> </ol>
<b>Rationale for change:</b>	Aligns <i>WSPTA Uniform Bylaws</i> with current resolutions practice.
<b>The amendment will now state:</b> (new wording in <b>bold</b> ):	<b>Article 9, Section 5(A)</b> Washington State PTA Legislative Assembly – resolutions A. Resolutions <b>submitted</b> <del>approved</del> by <b>PTA members</b> , local PTAs, <del>or councils</del> <b>in good standing</b> , or WSPTA committees may be considered at <del>legislative assembly</del> providing the following criteria have been met. Resolutions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Shall be submitted to the resolutions committee by the deadline date as prescribed by WSPTA policy.</li> <li>2. Shall be statewide in scope.</li> </ol>

	3. Shall supplement but not conflict with the WSPTA legislative platform <b>or with National PTA resolutions or position statements.</b>
<b>Effect on your PTA or council if adopted:</b>	No direct effect to your local PTA or council.

<b>#2B:</b>	<b>Defines who can submit resolutions for convention, the requirement for local PTAs and councils to be in good standing, and that resolutions cannot conflict with National PTA positions.</b>
<b>Current bylaws state:</b>	<b>Article 10, Section 5(A)</b> Washington State PTA Convention – resolutions A. Resolutions approved by local PTAs, councils, or WSPTA committees may be considered at convention providing the following criteria have been met. Resolutions: 1. Shall be submitted to the resolutions committee by the deadline date as prescribed by WSPTA policy. 2. Shall be statewide in scope. 3. Shall supplement but not conflict with the WSPTA legislative platform.
<b>Rationale for change:</b>	Aligns <i>WSPTA Uniform Bylaws</i> with current resolutions practice.
<b>The amendment will now state:</b> (new wording in <b>bold</b> ):	<b>Article 10, Section 5(A)</b> Washington State PTA Convention – resolutions A. Resolutions <b>submitted</b> <del>approved</del> by <b>PTA members</b> , local PTAs, <b>or councils in good standing</b> , or WSPTA committees may be considered at <del>convention</del> providing the following criteria have been met. Resolutions: 1. Shall be submitted to the resolutions committee by the deadline date as prescribed by WSPTA policy. 2. Shall be statewide in scope. 3. Shall supplement but not conflict with the WSPTA legislative platform <b>or with National PTA resolutions or position statements.</b>
<b>Effect on your PTA or council if adopted:</b>	No direct effect to your local PTA or council.

<b>#3A:</b>	<b>Adjusts the required number of regions represented for quorum at Legislative Assembly.</b>
<b>Current bylaws state:</b>	<b>Article 9, Section 3</b> Washington State PTA Legislative Assembly – quorum One hundred voting delegates with at least three-fourths of the regions represented shall constitute a quorum for transacting business at the WSPTA Legislative Assembly.
<b>Rationale for change:</b>	Assures WSPTA’s ability to conduct business at Legislative Assembly.
<b>The amendment will now state:</b> (new wording in <b>bold</b> ):	<b>Article 9, Section 3</b> Washington State PTA Legislative Assembly – quorum One hundred voting delegates with at least <b>a majority</b> <del>three-fourths</del> of the regions represented shall constitute a quorum for transacting business at the WSPTA legislative assembly.
<b>Effect on your PTA or council if adopted:</b>	No direct effect to your local PTA or council.

<b>#3B:</b>	<b>Adjusts the required number of regions represented for quorum at convention.</b>
<b>Current bylaws state:</b>	<b>Article 10, Section 3</b> Washington State PTA Convention – quorum One hundred fifty voting delegates with at least three-fourths of the regions represented shall constitute a quorum for transacting business at the WSPTA Convention.
<b>Rationale for change:</b>	Assures WSPTA’s ability to conduct business at convention.
<b>The amendment will now state:</b> (new wording in <b>bold</b> ):	<b>Article 10, Section 3</b> Washington State PTA Convention – quorum One hundred fifty voting delegates with at least <b>a majority</b> <del>three-fourths</del> of the regions represented shall constitute a quorum for transacting business at the WSPTA convention.

<b>Effect on your PTA or council if adopted:</b>	No direct effect to your local PTA or council.
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<b>#4A:</b>	<b>Change the name from Legislative Director to Advocacy Director throughout the bylaws.</b>
<b>Current bylaws state:</b>	The legislative director title is currently referenced in bylaws in the following places: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Article 7, Section 3(A)</b> Washington State PTA – officers and their election</li> <li>• <b>Article 7, Section 3(F6)</b> Washington State PTA – officers and their election</li> <li>• <b>Article 7, Section 4(F3)</b> Washington State PTA – duties of officers</li> <li>• <b>Article 9, Section 2(D4)</b> Washington State PTA Legislative Assembly – voting delegates</li> </ul>
<b>Rationale for change:</b>	Washington State PTA is a child <b>advocacy</b> association. We train our families and communities to <b>advocate</b> for children. The job description and actual work of the legislative director encompasses more than simply legislative issues and the legislative session in Olympia. It also coordinates the overall advocacy and advocacy training of the association and our local PTAs and councils. Ultimately, moving from “legislative” to “advocacy” is to help broaden the awareness, relevance, and participation in the advocacy activities at all levels of WSPTA.
<b>The bylaws will be updated as follows:</b>	The title of legislative director would be changed to advocacy director in bylaws in the following places: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Article 7, Section 3(A)</b> Washington State PTA – officers and their election</li> <li>• <b>Article 7, Section 3(F6)</b> Washington State PTA – officers and their election</li> <li>• <b>Article 7, Section 4(F3)</b> Washington State PTA – duties of officers</li> <li>• <b>Article 9, Section 2(D4)</b> Washington State PTA Legislative Assembly – voting delegates</li> </ul>
<b>Effect on your PTA or council if adopted:</b>	No direct effect to your local PTA or council.

<b>#4B:</b>	<b>Change the name of the WSPTA Legislative Committee to the WSPTA Advocacy Committee throughout the bylaws.</b>
<b>Current bylaws state:</b>	The WSPTA legislative committee is currently referenced in bylaws in the following places: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Article 7, Section 3(F6)</b> Washington State PTA – officers and their election</li> <li>• <b>Article 9, Section 4(B)</b> Washington State PTA Legislative Assembly - cancellation</li> </ul>
<b>Rationale for change:</b>	Washington State PTA is a child <b>advocacy</b> association. We train our families and communities to <b>advocate</b> for children. The job description and actual work of the legislative committee encompasses more than simply legislative issues and the legislative session in Olympia. It also helps the state director to coordinate the overall advocacy and advocacy training of the association and our local PTAs and councils. Ultimately, moving from “legislative” to “advocacy” is to help broaden the awareness, relevance, and participation in the advocacy activities at all levels of WSPTA.
<b>The bylaws will be updated as follows:</b>	The WSPTA legislative committee name would be changed to WSPTA advocacy committee in bylaws in the following places: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Article 7, Section 3(F6)</b> Washington State PTA – officers and their election</li> <li>• <b>Article 9, Section 4(B)</b> Washington State PTA Legislative Assembly - cancellation</li> </ul>
<b>Effect on your PTA or council if adopted:</b>	No direct effect to your local PTA or council.

<b>#4C:</b>	<b>Change the name of the Region Legislative Chair (RLC) to the Region Advocacy Chair (RAC) throughout the bylaws.</b>
<b>Current bylaws state:</b>	<b>Article 9, Section 2 (D4)</b> Washington State PTA Legislative Assembly – voting delegates The WSPTA region legislative chairs and legislative director shall be voting delegates at legislative assembly.
<b>Rationale for change:</b>	Washington State PTA is a child <b>advocacy</b> association. We train our families and communities to <b>advocate</b> for children. The job description and actual work of the region legislative chair encompasses more than simply legislative issues and the legislative session in Olympia. It also helps the state director and the region director to coordinate the overall advocacy and advocacy training of the local PTAs and councils in their region. Ultimately, moving from “legislative” to “advocacy” is to help broaden the awareness, relevance, and participation in the advocacy activities at all levels of WSPTA.
<b>The amendment will now state:</b> (new wording in <b>bold</b> ):	<b>Article 9, Section 2 (D4)</b> Washington State PTA Legislative Assembly – voting delegates The WSPTA region <b>advocacy</b> legislative chairs and <b>advocacy</b> legislative director shall be voting delegates at legislative assembly.
<b>Effect on your PTA or council if adopted:</b>	No direct effect to your local PTA or council.

<b>#5:</b>	<b>Add the words “advocacy or” before the word legislative chair.</b>
<b>Current bylaws state:</b>	<b>Article 7, Section 3(F6)</b> Washington State PTA – officers and their election For the office of legislative director, before taking office a member shall have served on the WSPTA board of directors for at least one year, or on the WSPTA legislative committee for at least one year, or as a local PTA or council legislative chair for at least two separate years.
<b>Rationale for change:</b>	Clarify that local PTAs and councils may call it either an advocacy chair or legislative chair and either title will count for eligibility for the WSPTA legislative (advocacy) director.
<b>The amendment will now state:</b> (new wording in <b>bold</b> ):	<b>Article 7, Section 3(F6)</b> Washington State PTA – officers and their election For the office of legislative director, before taking office a member shall have served on the WSPTA board of directors for at least one year, or on the WSPTA legislative committee for at least one year, or as a local PTA or council <b>advocacy or</b> legislative chair for at least two separate years.
<b>Effect on your PTA or council if adopted:</b>	No direct effect to your local PTA or council – local PTAs and councils may continue to call it either an advocacy chair or legislative chair.

<b>#6:</b>	<b>Amendment failed.</b> Allow local PTAs and councils to have one person hold two elected offices, if permitted in their standing rules.
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<b>#7:</b>	<b>Standardizes the language regarding uncontested officer elections.</b>
<b>Current bylaws state:</b>	<b>Article 5, Section 6 (B) and (H)</b> Officers and their election – local PTA and council (B) The local PTA and council officers shall be elected by ballot prior to the end of the fiscal year for a term of one year and until their successors are elected. A majority vote is necessary to elect. If only one candidate is nominated for an office, the candidate shall be declared elected.  (H) If a vacancy occurs in a local PTA or council office, the executive committee may appoint a member to fill the vacancy until the next membership meeting. At the next membership meeting, nominations shall be made from the floor with the consent of the nominee. The election shall be

	by ballot vote. A majority vote is necessary to elect. The election may be by voice vote if only one candidate is nominated for an office. The newly elected officer shall immediately assume the duties of the officer.
<b>Rationale for change:</b>	Gives local PTAs and councils flexibility and choice on how to handle uncontested officer elections.
<b>The amendment will now state:</b> (new wording in <b>bold</b> ):	<b>Article 5, Section 6 (B) and (H) Officers and their election – local PTA and council</b> (B) The local PTA and council officers shall be elected by ballot prior to the end of the fiscal year for a term of one year and until their successors are elected. A majority vote is necessary to elect. <del>If only one candidate is nominated for an office, the candidate shall be declared elected.</del> <b>The election may be by voice vote if only one candidate is nominated for an office.</b>  (H) If a vacancy occurs in a local PTA or council office, the executive committee may appoint a member to fill the vacancy until the next membership meeting. At the next membership meeting, nominations shall be made from the floor with the consent of the nominee. The election shall be by ballot vote. A majority vote is necessary to elect. The election may be by voice vote if only one candidate is nominated for an office. The newly elected officer shall immediately assume the duties of the officer.
<b>Effect on your PTA or council if adopted:</b>	Check your standing rules and other legal documents and update as needed.

<b>#8:</b>	<b>Aligns the language for elected officer removal with the RCW 24.03.103.</b>
<b>Current bylaws state:</b>	<b>Article 5, Section 6 (I) Officers and their election – local PTA and council</b> An officer of a local PTA or council may be removed from office by a two-thirds vote of the membership present at a regularly scheduled meeting or at a meeting called for such purpose, should there be cause for removal, such as violation of the ethics, policies, or principles of PTA.
<b>Rationale for change:</b>	Removes specific cause for officer removal and aligns with current RCW language and requirements.
<b>The amendment will now state:</b> (new wording in <b>bold</b> ):	<b>Article 5, Section 6 (I) Officers and their election – local PTA and council</b> An officer of a local PTA or council may be removed from office, <b>with or without cause</b> , by a two-thirds vote of the membership present at a regularly scheduled meeting or at a special membership meeting called for such purpose, <del>should there be cause for removal, such as violation of the ethics, policies, or principles of PTA.</del> <b>Best practices for officer removal can be found in current WSPTA Policy.</b>
<b>Effect on your PTA or council if adopted:</b>	Check your standing rules and update language as needed.

<b>#9:</b>	<b>Amendment sent back to bylaws committee.</b> Allows mail or electronic ballots for PTA business in addition to the election of local PTA and council officers and nominating committee positions.
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