

My name is Teri Davis, and I am the Nominating Committee selection for Area D Vice President for the 2021-23 term. It has been my privilege to serve in a variety of PTA roles in the past 14 years. I started as a kindergarten parent who wanted to be involved with their child's education, but I worked full time. With PTA I discovered I could be involved in my spare time. Newsletter chair evolved into Membership chair, then Secretary, Vice President and more. From there I served on the board at Vancouver Council PTA and the Region 3 Service Delivery team as Membership Chair. That led to being on the WSPTA Board of Directors for 6 years, as a Region Director, Membership Director and Vice President.

After taking my daughter's senior year (2019-20) off from PTA, I am back as Region 3 Director and Acting RD for Region 4. As a new Region Director in 2013 I remember feeling unsure if I was ready for the role, but I learned that figuring out where to find information was more important than having everything memorized. I like the Region Director role as it develops leaders. While we are enduring a pandemic, virtual meetings have made it possible to work with leaders in any location. Technology enables us to connect with those we have been unable to reach at in-person events. Today I feel ready for the challenge of AVP and hope to continue to impact local PTAs by mentoring our Region Directors in Area D, regions 3, 4, 11 and 12, over Zoom and in person.

All PTA leaders and members have a common love for their children and want to be part of a group that supports positive outcomes for all kids. Some leaders are passionate and knowledgeable go-getters, while others need encouragement to fulfill their roles and achieve their goals. Serving as the Area Vice President I will be able to continue to support leaders as they 'do PTA'. National PTA's membership messaging this year made PTA a verb and stated 'There is no wrong way to PTA.' I believe there are many right ways to 'do PTA', and I want to make sure the leaders are provided the knowledge they need to feel empowered and prepared as they PTA in their community.

PTA has been a constant in my life for 14 years, with the friendships I formed years ago continuing today. The training I received from our state board over the years, the support of the other leaders across the state, as well as our staff in Tacoma have developed my skills and knowledge. You learn and grow as you go, and that is my hope for all PTA volunteers at every level of the association. Keep learning, keep going and remember a positive attitude and a sense of humor can take you a long way.

I ask for your vote for the position of Area D Vice President.

