

Voting Delegates vs. Attendees for the in-person WSPTACon2022

- Attendees who are not voting delegates may attend all parts of the in-person convention and have access to the live and on-demand trainings but may not participate in the voting at general sessions.
- Voting delegates have the same access as attendees but may participate in the debate and voting in the general sessions on behalf of their local PTA or council. Members selected to be a voting delegate by their local PTA or council (as specified in their standing rules) can identify themselves during registration. The local PTA or council president will have the opportunity to review the delegate list in mid-May. The voting delegate registration fee is the same as for attendees.

What will be voted on during WSPTACon2022?

- Delegates will vote on adoption of the agenda and standing rules, on proposed amendments to the *WSPTA Uniform Bylaws* and will elect at-large members of the WSPTA Nominating Committee for a two-year term.
- Voting will occur during general sessions on May 20, 21 and 22.

Proposed Amendments to the *WSPTA Uniform Bylaws*

See the [Voters' Guide](#) for full text of the proposed amendments

Amendment #1 – Article 2, Basic Policies; addresses remote meetings for WSPTA conventions, legislative assemblies, and the board of directors

Amendment #2 – Article 5, Local PTAs and Councils, Section 2; addresses remote meetings of the membership and board of directors

Amendment #3 – Article 9, WSPTA Legislative Assembly, Section 2, Voting delegates; clarifies who may attend legislative assembly.

Amendment #4 – Article 10, WSPTA Convention, Section 2, Voting delegates; clarifies who may attend convention.

Amendment #5 – Article 7, Washington State PTA, Section 3, Officers and their election; removes redundant language.

Amendment #6 – 6.1 Article 7, Washington State PTA, Section 6, Board of Directors and 6.2 Article 12, Amendments to the WSPTA Uniform Bylaws; consolidates all ways the bylaws can be amended into Article 12 and complies with new law to send notice of bylaws amendments to the entire membership.

Amendment #7 – Article 5, Local PTAs and Councils, Section 6, Officers and their election; removes the requirement in bylaws for local PTAs and councils to have a vice president, consistent with current state law.

Amendment #8 – Creates a new class of supporting membership; amends 11 sections, but a single vote will be taken on all the parts together.

Bylaws Education Sessions

There will be several Bylaws Education Sessions throughout WSPTACon2022. These are opportunities for delegates to learn and ask questions about the proposed bylaws amendments that will be considered during general sessions 3 and 4. These education sessions help voting delegates understand the proposals, so they can fully participate in the debate and voting process. Attendance is especially important for voting delegates who wish to make a motion to amend any of the proposed bylaws amendment.

Any attendee may participate in the bylaws education sessions. Only voting delegates (including student voting delegates) have the right to voice and vote in the general sessions.

Speech & Debate During General Sessions

See also [Flow Diagram of Bylaws Voting Process](#)

- Voting delegates are encouraged to participate in the debate process!
- After the introduction of a proposed bylaws amendment, one voting delegate may speak in favor, followed by one voting delegate in opposition, followed by the consideration of motions to amend, followed by the remaining debate on the main motion.
- A voting delegate wishing to speak in debate would go to the Pro microphone (#1) if they wish to speak in favor, or the Con microphone (#2) if they wish to speak against the pending motion.
- After recognition by the chair the voting delegate wishing to speak will give their name, PTA name and number and make their speech. Each speech in debate is limited to 90 seconds.
- There is a limit on the number of speakers: Debate on each debatable motion, including the main motion to adopt each proposed bylaws amendment or any motions to amend, is limited to three speakers in favor and three opposed. Once this limit has been reached on a main motion, debate ends, and the vote is taken on the main motion.

Making a Motion

- A voting delegate who wishes to make a motion must submit their motion in writing on the motion form, available in the general session room.
- Motions to Amend - The language of each proposal (main motion) has already been reviewed by the Bylaws Committee, the WSPTA Parliamentarian, the WSPTA Board of Directors and legal counsel. However, a voting delegate may propose to change the language of the proposed bylaws amendments.
 - Motion forms must be completed using the following language and format:
In proposed bylaws amendment # X, after word "xxx" strike out "xxx" and after the word "xxx" insert "xxx".
 - The delegate proposing a motion to amend would go to microphone #1 and let the monitor know they have a motion. Then they must wait to be recognized by the chair.
 - The written motion will be reviewed by the chair and parliamentarian before the motion maker is recognized to present their motion at microphone #1 during debate.
 - Amendments to correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, style, cross-references and make other technical changes will be handled by the WSPTA, so amendments to correct these items are not in order.
 - If your motion is not relevant (germane), the chair will rule the motion out of order.

- After recognition by the chair, the voting delegate making the motion will give their name, PTA name and number and read their motion.
- Before the motion can be discussed, it must be seconded by another voting delegate. The purpose of the second is to be sure that someone else wants to consider your idea. If there is no second, the matter is dropped and does not come before the meeting for decision.
- Once a motion has been made and seconded, it will be restated by the chair and debated. The maker of the motion will be the first person recognized to speak and will provide their rationale for the motion.

Points of Order/Inquiries

- A voting delegate who has a request for information, a parliamentary inquiry, or wishes to raise a point of order or a question of privilege should go to microphone #3 and wait to be recognized.
- After recognition by the chair the voting delegate will give their name, PTA name and number and state their point of order or ask their question.
- If the question is not relevant (germane), the chair will rule the question out of order at the current time.
- What is a request for information or parliamentary inquiry?
 - If a voting delegate does not understand what is happening during the meeting, they may ask a question:
 - Sometimes the issues get confusing, and you do not know which motion is being discussed.
 - You may have a question on the effect of a vote under consideration.
 - The chair will address inquiries from microphone #3 before recognizing the next pro or con speaker.
 - The inquiry must be a specific question to ask for factual information or to ask a procedural question, not to be used to debate, state an opinion, or ask rhetorical questions.
 - The chair will respond to your question or ask someone to answer; there will be no discussion or follow-up questions.
- What is a Point of Order?
 - If a voting delegate believes a procedural rule is being violated or ignored, they may raise a point of order.
 - Points of order will be ruled on by the chair, subject to appeal by the delegates.

See the [2022 Convention Standing Rules](#) for additional information.