

During the 2026 Washington State PTA (WSPTA) Annual Meeting, voting delegates will consider one (1) amendment to the *Washington State PTA Uniform Bylaws* and two (2) new resolutions. To be considered, motions to amend the proposed bylaw amendment must use a motion form and be pre-submitted by 1:30pm on Saturday, May 16. Motions to amend the shaded sections of the resolved clauses of the proposed new resolutions must be in writing on a motion form and will be taken from the floor during the general session at which they are considered.

[Proposed Bylaw Amendment](#)

The *Washington State PTA Uniform Bylaws* are the rules adopted by members of Washington State PTA for the operation of WSPTA, local PTAs, and councils. They provide an outline of our basic purposes, a structure for the governance of the association, and a description of the rights and responsibilities of membership. Amendments to the *Washington State PTA Uniform Bylaws* are effective on July 1st after the annual meeting at which they were adopted.

[Bylaw Amendment #1](#) – Adding a Communications Director to the WSPTA Board of Directors

[Proposed New Resolutions](#)

Resolutions are a long-term part of our legislative platform that guides state and local advocacy work for WSPTA and its local PTAs and councils. New and amended resolutions may be submitted for consideration twice per year; see the [Submissions webpage](#) for more details. The 2026 Annual Meeting delegates will consider adopting two proposed new resolutions.

The only parts of the new resolutions that will be open for amendment and debate are the parts in **shaded boxes**. While they are not voted on by the delegates, the resolutions committee has provided the whereas clauses as they will appear to give delegates additional information to inform their vote. If a resolved clause of a resolution is amended by delegates, the resolutions committee will edit the whereas clause(s) as necessary.

New resolutions are added to our platform immediately after the annual meeting.

[New Resolution #1](#) - Reducing Youth Exposure to Violence in All Environments

[New Resolution #2](#) - Ensuring Access to Healthcare

Proposed Amendment to the *WSPTA Uniform Bylaws* [\[back to top\]](#)

Changes are shown as a ~~strikethrough~~ for deletions and as **bold/underlined font** for additions.

To be considered, motions to amend the proposed bylaws amendment must use a motion form and be pre-submitted by **1:30pm on Saturday, May 16.**

Bylaws Amendment #1	Adding a Communications Director to the WSPTA Board of Directors
WSPTA Board of Directors Recommendation	ADOPT
# of Parts	Proposed bylaw amendment #1 is in three parts. Together these parts form a complete proposal; a single vote should be taken on all parts. The rationale for all parts follows amendment 1.3.
Bylaws Amendment #1.1	
Bylaws Article, Section, and page #	Article 7 Washington State PTA, Section 3 Officers and their election – WSPTA, Subsection A <i>WSPTA Uniform Bylaws 2025-2026</i> (effective July 1, 2025) Page 14
Proposed Amendment 1.1	A. The officers of WSPTA are president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, advocacy director, <u>communications director</u> , family and community engagement director, two field service directors, leadership director, membership director and program director.
If adopted, will read	A. The officers of WSPTA are president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, advocacy director, communications director, family and community engagement director, two field service directors, leadership director, membership director and program director.
Bylaws Amendment #1.2	
Bylaws Article, Section, and page #	Article 7 Washington State PTA, Section 3 Officers and their election - WSPTA, Subsection E, add bullet point #5 and move others down accordingly <i>WSPTA Uniform Bylaws 2025-2026</i> (effective July 1, 2025) Page 14-15
Proposed Amendment 1.2	<u>5. For the office of communications director, before taking office a member shall have served on the WSPTA board of directors for at least one year, or on the WSPTA communications committee for at least one year, or as a member of a local PTA or council board of directors for at least two separate years.</u>
If adopted, will read	5. For the office of communications director, before taking office a member shall have served on the WSPTA board of directors for at least one year, or on the WSPTA communications committee for at least one year, or as a member of a local PTA or council board of directors for at least two separate years.
Bylaws Amendment #1.3	
Bylaws Article, Section, and page #	Article 7 Washington State PTA, Section 4 Duties of officers – WSPTA, Subsection F State Directors <i>WSPTA Uniform Bylaws 2025-2026</i> (effective July 1, 2025) Page 16
Proposed Amendment 1.3	F. STATE DIRECTORS Each of the following WSPTA state directors shall provide oversight for their respective committees and may serve as the chair: 1. Advocacy director

	<p><u>2. Communications director</u></p> <p><u>3.</u> Family and community engagement director</p> <p><u>4.</u> Leadership director</p> <p><u>5.</u> Membership director</p> <p><u>6.</u> Program director</p>
If adopted, will read	<p>F. STATE DIRECTORS</p> <p>Each of the following WSPTA state directors shall provide oversight for their respective committees and may serve as the chair:</p> <p>1. Advocacy director</p> <p>2. Communications director</p> <p>3. Family and community engagement director</p> <p>4. Leadership director</p> <p>5. Membership director</p> <p>6. Program director</p>
Rationale	<p>Communication is now a core operational need, not just a support task. WSPTA needs to be able to mobilize members to engage with advocacy efforts, provide local and council leaders with important information to help them run their PTAs, advertise our programs and events and much more.</p> <p>By directing the communications work to a dedicated position rather than piece meal coverage from multiple volunteers, WSPTA would have a cohesive and more efficient communication strategy. A dedicated position could focus on making sure that our communications are engaging, relevant, and timely.</p> <p>Adding this elected position would ensure a more consistent and transparent selection process. Candidates would go through the same vetting and interview process as other officers, helping the nominating committee to identify individuals with the skills and experience needed to effectively lead WSPTA’s communications work.</p> <p>Adding this position would benefit the mission and vision of WSPTA by allowing it to focus on creating engaging messaging to reach a broader audience about the importance of PTA.</p> <p>If this proposed bylaws amendment is adopted, the change would go into effect for the 2027-2029 WSPTA board of directors term. Between the bylaws amendment passing and the election, the current board of directors would work to update policies and create internal job duty documents for the position.</p>
Group(s) Affected if adopted	WSPTA

Proposed New Resolutions [\[back to top\]](#)

The only parts of the resolution that will be open for amendment and debate are the parts in shaded boxes. While they are not voted on by the delegates, the resolutions committee has provided the whereas clauses as they will appear to give delegates additional information to inform their vote. If a resolved clause of a resolution is amended by delegates, the resolutions committee will edit the whereas clause(s) as necessary.

Motions to amend the shaded sections of the resolved clauses of the proposed new resolutions must be in writing on a motion form and will be taken from the floor during the general session at which they are considered.

New Resolution #1	Reducing Youth Exposure to Violence in All Environments
WSPTA Board of Directors Recommendation	ADOPT
NOTE	If delegates at the 2026 Annual Meeting vote to approve this proposed new resolution, current resolution 2.11 would be retired.
Title	Reducing Youth Exposure to Violence in All Environments
Whereas Clauses	<p>Whereas, Washington State PTA is an organization that promotes safety and welfare for all children and works to secure adequate laws for the protection of youth; and</p> <p>Whereas, children and youth are exposed to violence not only in their homes, schools, and communities, but increasingly through social media, online gaming, streaming services, online platforms, digital spaces, and emerging artificial intelligence technologies; and</p> <p>Whereas, children and youth are adversely affected by violence they experience and witness, whether online or in-person; and</p> <p>Whereas, exposure to violence, whether direct, witnessed, or through digital media, can contribute to negative education, physical and psychological outcomes, trauma, desensitization, fear, mental health challenges, and can constitute an adverse childhood experience associated with increased risk of anxiety, depression, substance abuse, and suicidal thoughts among children and youth; and</p> <p>Whereas, the safety and well-being of our children is jeopardized by incidents of violence, the prevalence and accessibility of dangerous weapons, gang recruitment and activity, and exposure to physical and digital violence, including hate, intimidation, `bullying, harassment, self-harm, and abuse.</p> <p>Therefore, be it</p>
Resolved Clauses	Resolved , that Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils will actively support legislation and other efforts that aim to reduce or eliminate all forms of violence by or against youth and to ensure the safety of schools, neighborhoods, and communities that preserve individual civil and privacy rights; and be it further

	<p>Resolved, that Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils support policies and practices that reduce children’s exposure to violence and harmful content in digital spaces, and that build children’s resilience to the impacts of such content including on social media, online gaming, streaming platforms, and AI-enabled technologies, and be it further</p> <p>Resolved, that Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils will advocate for policies, interventions and prevention programs aimed at decreasing gang-related and other forms of physical violence among youth; and be it further</p> <p>Resolved, that Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils will advocate for programs and policies that promote media and digital literacy through evidence-based education for students, families, and educators, helping students recognize, critically evaluate, and safely respond to violent or harmful content, and strengthen awareness and response to youth exposure to violence within the community.</p>
Persuasive Statement	This resolution addresses growing concerns about how youth are exposed to violence, including direct exposure as well as indirect and digital exposure resulting from the growth of social media, online gaming, smartphones, and artificial intelligence tools. The resolution supports efforts to prevent and reduce children’s exposure to violence in homes, schools, communities, and digital environments. It calls for trauma informed prevention, digital and media literacy, school-based mental health supports, and policies that address gun violence and other forms of harm, especially for youth disproportionately impacted by violence. While this resolution complements existing WSPTA resolutions on harm prevention, mental health, and trauma informed care, it is uniquely focused on exposure to violence, online and offline, as a serious risk factor and calls for coordinated prevention, education, and supports.
New Resolution #2	Ensuring Access to Healthcare
WSPTA Board of Directors Recommendation	ADOPT
NOTE	If delegates at the 2026 Annual Meeting vote to approve this proposed new resolution, current resolution 11.23 would be retired.
Title	Ensuring Access to Healthcare
Whereas Clauses	<p>Whereas, it is critical that children have their essential health needs met within the setting of their local community in order to thrive in school and in life;</p> <p>Whereas, the essential health needs of a child are defined to include all aspects of physical, mental, oral, and vision care;</p> <p>Whereas, universal coverage will not mean universal access to care unless health reform also includes clear steps to end non-financial barriers to care such as language, culture, geography, housing insecurity, and health conditions;</p> <p>Whereas, access to scientifically rigorous, evidence-based preventions and treatments, including vaccines, leads to fewer attendance and academic disruptions due to preventable illness, and protects children and community members from severe illnesses that may result in permanent disability or death;</p>

	<p>Whereas, access to affordable basic health care needs is proving difficult in underserved communities, both urban and rural, throughout the state;</p> <p>Whereas, marginalized communities and underserved populations routinely bear disproportionate impacts resulting from funding and service reductions in the areas of health and human services;</p> <p>Whereas, public schools are an integral part of every community in Washington state and often serve as hubs for social connection and access to family resources and even healthcare;</p> <p>Whereas, the shortage of healthcare workers and lack of widespread reliable high-speed internet access represents a structural barrier that negatively impacts the ability of children and families to access healthcare in every county in Washington state;</p> <p>Therefore, be it</p>
Resolved Clauses	<p>Resolved, that Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils shall advocate at the local, state, and federal levels that all Washington children and families have consistent and affordable access within their local communities to essential health services including physical, mental, oral, and vision care; and be it further</p> <p>Resolved, that Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils shall advocate for state and federal efforts that increase the healthcare workforce through methods including, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing access to education and training in healthcare disciplines; • Creating incentives to attract and retain the healthcare workforce in shortage areas; • Enacting and streamlining policies that incentivize and allow healthcare providers from outside the state of Washington to practice in Washington state; • Expanding health insurance requirements to include coverage for evidence-based treatments prescribed by practitioners; and be it further <p>Resolved, that Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils shall advocate for policies promoting school sites as access points for healthcare delivery including but not limited to screenings, vaccinations, telehealth, mobile clinics, and community-based care; and be it further</p> <p>Resolved, that Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils shall advocate for local, state, and federal policies that provide children with access to and insurance coverage for the full evidence-based vaccination schedule, following the American Academy of Pediatrics recommendations (18), while recognizing exemptions for medical and religious reasons, and require certification of immunizations to prevent communicable diseases as a condition of entry into schools, preschools, and childcare facilities.</p>
Persuasive Statement	<p>Access to comprehensive health care is a fundamental need for all children and has decades long impacts on the children, their families, and the community in which they live as children and adults. Washington State's unique geography creates added challenges in access to both health care and the communications technology that serves to mitigate shortages and access to specialists. With the federal cuts to health care funding and the disproportionate impact they will</p>

have on Washington and its most vulnerable, the time to refocus the efforts of the WSPTA on this critical long-term issue could not be more timely or impactful. Centering health care shortage access and mitigation strategies around the common element in every Washington community, schools with access to facilities and broadband technology, can act as an improving and equalizing force for all Washington students to be as healthy as possible and take part in public education to their fullest extent.