

**Massachusetts PTA Bylaws and Policy Committee’s Proposed Amendments and Rationale
2018 Annual Massachusetts PTA Convention**

1. ARTICLE III – BASIC POLICIES

Amend Article III – Basic Policies by updating them to bring them into alignment with National PTA’s Bylaws.

Section 1 changes the term “basic policies” to principles,

Section 1: b. changes language to mirror National PTA bylaws,

Section 1: d. added language to mirror National PTA bylaws,

Section 1: e. was formerly f.

Section 2: created to delineate Massachusetts PTA principles from National PTA principles

Section 2: a through d separated out for clarification from previous Section 1:

Current Wording	Effect of Proposed Amendment
<p>The following are basic policies of Massachusetts PTA in common with those of National PTA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The association shall be noncommercial, nonsectarian, and nonpartisan. b. The association shall work with the schools and community to provide quality education for all children and youth and shall seek to participate in the decision-making process establishing school policy, recognizing that the legal responsibility to make decisions has been delegated by the people to boards of education, state education authorities, and local education authorities. c. The association shall work to promote the health and welfare of children and youth and shall seek to promote collaboration between parents, schools, and the community at large. d. No part of the net earnings of the association shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, directors, trustees, officers, or other private individuals except that the association shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article II hereof. e. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the association shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (i) by an association exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or (ii) by an association, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code. f. Upon the dissolution of this association, after paying or adequately providing for the debts and obligations of the association, the remaining assets shall be distributed to one or more nonprofit funds, foundations, or associations that have established their tax exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and whose purposes are in accordance with those of Massachusetts PTA. 	<p><u>Section 1. The following are principles of Massachusetts PTA in common with those of National PTA:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The association shall be noncommercial, nonsectarian, and nonpartisan. b. <u>The association shall work to engage and empower children, families, and educators within schools and communities to provide quality education for all children and youth, and shall seek to participate in the decision making process by influencing school policy and advocating for children’s issues, recognizing that the legal responsibility to make decisions has been delegated by the people to boards of education, state education authorities, and local education authorities.</u> c. The association shall work to promote the health and welfare of children and youth and shall seek to promote collaboration between parents, schools, and the community at large. d. <u>Commitment to inclusiveness and equity, knowledge of PTA, and professional expertise shall be guiding principles for service in Massachusetts PTA.</u> e. <u>Upon the dissolution of this association, after paying or adequately providing for the debts and obligations of the association, the state constituent association’s financial holdings, property, all records and all remaining assets shall be distributed to National PTA in order to establish a new entity to service the state membership.</u> <p><u>Section 2. The following are the Principles Massachusetts PTA</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. <u>No part of the net earnings of the association shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, directors, trustees, officers, or other private individuals except that the association shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article II hereof.</u> b. <u>Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the association shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (i) by an association exempt</u>

**Massachusetts PTA Bylaws and Policy Committee’s Proposed Amendments and Rationale
2018 Annual Massachusetts PTA Convention**

<p>g. The association or members in their official capacities shall not, directly or indirectly, participate or intervene (in any way, including the publishing or distributing of statements) in any political campaign on behalf of, or in opposition to, any candidate for public office; or devote more than an insubstantial part of its activities to attempting to influence legislation by propaganda or otherwise.</p> <p>h. The Massachusetts PTA is a self-governing association with independent legal existence.</p>	<p><u>from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or (ii) by an association, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code.</u></p> <p>c. <u>The association or members in their official capacities shall not, directly or indirectly, participate or intervene (in any way, including the publishing or distributing of statements) in any political campaign on behalf of, or in opposition to, any candidate for public office; or devote more than an insubstantial part of its activities to attempting to influence legislation by propaganda or otherwise.</u></p> <p>d. <u>The Massachusetts PTA is a self-governing association with independent legal existence.</u></p>
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Rationale: Updates Massachusetts PTA bylaws to be in alignment with the changes to the National PTA bylaws, as amended June 25, 2017. These changes require the need to separate the Article into two sections for clarification.

2. ARTICLE IV – CONSTITUENT ASSOCIATIONS

Amend Article IV – Constituent Associations, inserting new Section 6. to read “Section 6. Upon the dissolution of a constituent association, after paying or adequately providing for the debts and obligations of the association, the remaining assets shall be distributed to the Massachusetts PTA or to one or more nonprofit funds, foundations, or associations that have established their tax exempt status under Section 501 c 3 of the Internal Revenue Code and whose principles are in accordance with those of Massachusetts PTA.”

Current Wording	Effect of Proposed Amendment
<p>ARTICLE IV: CONSTITUENT ASSOCIATIONS</p> <p>Section 1. The constituent associations of Massachusetts PTA include local PTAs/PTSAs organized under the authority of the state PTA.</p> <p>Section 2. The Massachusetts board of directors shall determine criteria for establishing constituent associations and setting standards for continuing affiliation with state and National PTA.</p> <p>Section 3. There shall be no proxy voting by any constituent association of Massachusetts PTA.</p> <p>Section 4. The purposes and basic policies of Massachusetts PTA shall in every case also be the purposes and basic policies of each constituent association.</p> <p>Section 5. Each constituent association shall adopt bylaws for the government of the association. Such bylaws shall not be in conflict with National PTA or Massachusetts PTA Bylaws; shall include an article on amendments; shall include a provision establishing a quorum; and shall include those articles and sections identified by the number symbol (#) as found in Massachusetts PTA suggested local PTA/PTSA unit bylaws. The Massachusetts PTA Bylaws Committee shall approve bylaws of each constituent association.</p>	<p>ARTICLE IV: CONSTITUENT ASSOCIATIONS</p> <p>Section 1. The constituent associations of Massachusetts PTA include local PTAs/PTSAs organized under the authority of the state PTA.</p> <p>Section 2. The Massachusetts board of directors shall determine criteria for establishing constituent associations and setting standards for continuing affiliation with state and National PTA.</p> <p>Section 3. There shall be no proxy voting by any constituent association of Massachusetts PTA.</p> <p>Section 4. The purposes and principles of Massachusetts PTA shall in every case also be the purposes and principles of each constituent association.</p> <p>Section 5. Each constituent association shall adopt bylaws for the government of the association. Such bylaws shall not be in conflict with National PTA or Massachusetts PTA Bylaws; shall include an article on amendments; shall include a provision establishing a quorum; and shall include those articles and sections identified by the number symbol (#) as found in Massachusetts PTA suggested local PTA/PTSA unit bylaws. The Massachusetts PTA Bylaws Committee shall approve bylaws of each constituent association.</p> <p><u>Section 6. Upon the dissolution of a constituent association, after paying or adequately providing for the debts and obligations of the association, the remaining assets shall be distributed to the Massachusetts PTA or to one or more</u></p>

**Massachusetts PTA Bylaws and Policy Committee’s Proposed Amendments and Rationale
2018 Annual Massachusetts PTA Convention**

	<u>nonprofit funds, foundations, or associations that have established their tax exempt status under Section 501 c 3 of the Internal Revenue Code and whose principles are in accordance with those of Massachusetts PTA.</u>
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Rationale: Adds Section 6 to bring Massachusetts PTA bylaws to be in alignment with the changes to the National PTA bylaws, as amended June 25, 2017.

3. ARTICLE V – MEMBERS AND DUES

Amend Article V – Members and dues,

Section 5. b changes to “Statewide Partnership members shall not have voting rights nor be deemed to be members of Massachusetts PTA as stated in Section 1 of this Article V”

Adding Section 5. c. “Such Statewide Partnership members shall be entitled to attend Massachusetts PTA Annual Convention”

Adding Section 5. d. “Individual representatives of Statewide partners are eligible to be active members of Massachusetts PTA and National PTA through membership in, and payment of dues to a local PTA, PTSA or Cranberry PTA.”

Current Wording	Effect of Proposed Amendment
<p>ARTICLE V: MEMBERS AND DUES Section 5. The board of directors may by resolution provide one or more classes of Statewide Partnership</p> <p>a. These partnerships shall be granted to firms or institutions making an annual financial contribution to Massachusetts PTA in an amount determined by the board of directors with respect to each such class.</p> <p>b. Statewide Partnership members shall not have voting rights nor be deemed to be members of Massachusetts PTA as stated in Section 1 of this Article V. Such Statewide Partnership members shall be entitled to attend Massachusetts PTA Annual Convention and may be active members of Massachusetts PTA and National PTA through membership in, and payment of dues to a local PTA, PTSA or Cranberry PTA.</p>	<p>ARTICLE V: MEMBERS AND DUES Section 5. The board of directors may by resolution provide one or more classes of Statewide Partnership</p> <p>a. These partnerships shall be granted to firms or institutions making an annual financial contribution to Massachusetts PTA in an amount determined by the board of directors with respect to each such class.</p> <p>b. <u>Statewide Partnership members shall not have voting rights nor be deemed to be members of Massachusetts PTA as stated in Section 1 of this Article V.</u></p> <p>c. <u>Such Statewide Partnership members shall be entitled to attend Massachusetts PTA Annual Convention.</u></p> <p>d. <u>Individual representatives of Statewide partners are eligible to be active members of Massachusetts PTA and National PTA through membership in, and payment of dues to a local PTA, PTSA or Cranberry PTA.</u></p>

Rationale: Separated item ‘b’ into b, c, and d for clarification. Also clarified that individuals from Statewide partners may vote if the individuals are members of a constituent association.

4. ARTICLE VI – OFFICERS AND THEIR ELECTION

Amend Section 2 replace “president with “president-elect.”

Amend Section 3 to insert Cranberry PTA.

Amend Section 3 to insert that members must maintain a PTA membership throughout their term of service.

Current Wording	Effect of Proposed Amendment
<p>ARTICLE VI: OFFICERS AND THEIR ELECTION Section 2. Individuals wishing to run for the office of president shall have served two years on Massachusetts PTA board of directors.</p>	<p>ARTICLE VI: OFFICERS AND THEIR ELECTION Section 2. Individuals wishing to run for the office president-elect shall have served two years on Massachusetts PTA board of directors.</p>

**Massachusetts PTA Bylaws and Policy Committee’s Proposed Amendments and Rationale
2018 Annual Massachusetts PTA Convention**

Section 3. Only a member of a local PTA or PTSA shall be eligible to hold office on Massachusetts PTA board of directors or in any of its divisions.	Section 3. Only a member of a local PTA/ PTSA or <u>Cranberry PTA</u> shall be eligible to hold office on Massachusetts PTA board of directors or in any of its divisions. <u>Individuals must maintain a PTA membership throughout their term of service.</u>
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Rationale: This amendment clarifies that the office of president-elect (as opposed to president) that is actually elected at Annual Meeting. Section 3 added Cranberry PTA and membership requirement clarification.

5. ARTICLE VII – DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Amend the bylaws by inserting and clarifying sections to read:

Section 2.

- c. Appoint regional liaisons, chairs of standing and special committees after consulting with president-elect and vice president for leadership, and with approval of the board of directors.
- d. Assign duties to president elect and immediate past president.
- e. Approve all material distributed in the name of Massachusetts PTA.
- f. Sign all contracts
- g. Submit all documents requested by National PTA’s Standards of Affiliation.
- h. Submit an annual report to Massachusetts PTA Annual Convention.
- i. Appoint consultants with approval of the board of directors.
- j. Serve as an ex-officio member of all committees of Massachusetts PTA except the nominating committee.

Current Wording	Effect of Proposed Wording
<p>ARTICLE VII: DUTIES OF OFFICERS Section 2. The president shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Preside at all meetings of Massachusetts PTA board of directors. b. Preside at Massachusetts PTA Annual Convention. c. Appoint chairs to standing and special committees after consulting with president-elect and vice-president for leadership, and with approval of the board of directors. d. Approve all material distributed in the name of Massachusetts PTA. e. Submit all documents requested by National PTA’s Standards of Affiliation after consulting with the board of directors. f. Submit an annual report to Massachusetts PTA Annual Convention. g. Appoint consultants with approval of the board of directors. h. Serve as an ex-officio member of all committees of Massachusetts PTA except the nominating committee. 	<p>ARTICLE VII: DUTIES OF OFFICERS Section 2.The president shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Preside at all meetings of Massachusetts PTA board of directors. b. Preside at Massachusetts PTA Annual Convention. c. Appoint <u>regional liaisons</u>, chairs of standing and special committees after consulting with president-elect and vice president for leadership, and with approval of the board of directors. <u>d. Assign duties to president elect and immediate past president.</u> <u>e. Approve all material distributed in the name of Massachusetts PTA.</u> <u>f. Sign all contracts</u> <u>g. Submit all documents requested by National PTA’s Standards of Affiliation.</u> <u>h. Submit an annual report to Massachusetts PTA Annual Convention.</u> <u>i. Appoint consultants with approval of the board of directors.</u> <u>j. Serve as an ex-officio member of all committees of Massachusetts PTA except the nominating committee.</u>

Rationale: Added regional liaisons as defined in Article VIII: Board of Directors to item c. Added item d and f to clarify the duties of the president and renumbered remaining items.

**Massachusetts PTA Bylaws and Policy Committee’s Proposed Amendments and Rationale
2018 Annual Massachusetts PTA Convention**

6. ARTICLE VII – DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Amend Article VII – DUTIES OF OFFICERS by inserting to Section 6 d. “the treasurer and the president or if the president is not available, then the president-elect. The president and president-elect must sign all checks when the payee is the treasurer regardless of check amount.”

Adding Section 6 e. “Treasurer shall not signed checks payable to themselves. Checks over the amount of \$500.00 shall bear 2 (two) signatures, the treasurer and the President or if the president is not available then the president-elect. The President or President -Elect must sign all checks when the payee is the treasurer regardless of check amount.”

Adding Section 6 f. “Treasurer and President or Treasurer shall not sign checks payable to themselves”

Current Wording	Effect of Proposed Wording
<p>ARTICLE VII: DUTIES OF OFFICERS Section 6. The treasurer shall:</p> <p>d. Be the custodian of the funds of Massachusetts PTA and shall deposit the same in a depository approved by the board of directors. The treasurer shall disburse funds of Massachusetts PTA in accordance with the budget approved by the board of directors. All checks over the amount of \$500.00 shall bear 2 (two) signatures.</p>	<p>ARTICLE VII: DUTIES OF OFFICERS Section 6. The treasurer shall:</p> <p>d. Be the custodian of the funds of Massachusetts PTA and shall deposit the same in a depository approved by the board of directors. The treasurer shall disburse funds of Massachusetts PTA in accordance with the budget approved by the board of directors. All checks over the amount of \$500.00 shall bear 2 (two) signatures, <u>the treasurer and the president or if the president is not available, then the president-elect. The president and president-elect must sign all checks when the payee is the treasurer regardless of check amount.</u></p> <p>e. <u>Treasurer shall not signed checks payable to themselves. checks over the amount of \$500.00 shall bear 2 (two) signatures, the treasurer and the President or if the president is not available then the president-elect . The President or President -Elect must sign all checks when the payee is the treasurer regardless of check amount.</u></p> <p>f. <u>Treasurer and President or Treasurer shall not signed checks payable to themselves.</u></p>

Rationale: Defines and clarifies who is able to sign checks for the Massachusetts PTA and at what dollar amount.

7. ARTICLE VIII: – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Amend Article VIII – BOARD OF DIRECTORS, Section 14. By striking out the words “extension/membership chair”

Current Wording	Effect of Proposed Wording
<p>ARTICLE VIII: BOARD OF DIRECTORS Section 1. The board of directors of Massachusetts PTA shall be president, president-elect, vice president of leadership, secretary, treasurer, immediate past president, extension/membership chair, regional liaisons, student members (not to exceed 2), and chairs of standing committees. All board of directors must be paying members of a constituent association of the Massachusetts PTA as well as attend all regular meetings and special meetings of the board and the annual convention unless excused for a valid reason by the president or presiding officer of that meeting.</p>	<p>ARTICLE VIII: BOARD OF DIRECTORS Section 1. <u>The board of directors of Massachusetts PTA shall be president, president-elect, vice president of leadership, secretary, treasurer, immediate past president, regional liaisons, student members (not to exceed 2) and chairs of standing committees.</u> All board of directors must be paying members of a constituent association of the Massachusetts PTA as well as attend all regular meetings and special meetings of the board and the annual convention unless excused for a valid reason by the president or presiding officer of that meeting.</p>

Rationale: The roles of the extension/membership chair falls under the duties of the VP of Leadership.

**Massachusetts PTA Bylaws and Policy Committee’s Proposed Amendments and Rationale
2018 Annual Massachusetts PTA Convention**

8. ARTICLE X – STANDING COMMITTEES

Amend Article X – Standing Committees, Section 2. amending the name of the “Health and Wellness” committee to be “Health, Safety and Wellness” committee

Current Wording	Effects of Proposed Amendment
Section 2: Standing committees of Massachusetts PTA shall be, but not limited to: Budget, Bylaws/Policies and Procedures, Convention, Diversity/Inclusion, Extension/Membership, Federal and State Advocacy, Health and Wellness, Nominating, and Reflections.	Section 2: Standing committees of Massachusetts PTA shall be, but not limited to: Budget, Bylaws/Policies and Procedures, Convention, Diversity/Inclusion, Extension/Membership, Federal and State Advocacy, Health, Safety and Wellness , Nominating, and Reflections.

Rationale: National PTA has deemed the committee for Health is called the Health, Safety and Wellness committee. This change aligns our committee name to that of National’s.

9. ARTICLE XII – STATE CONVENTION

Amend Article XII – State Convention, Section 4. “The voting body of the annual meeting shall be composed of any Massachusetts PTA member registered for annual meeting and verified by the Massachusetts PTA as a member by 30 days prior to the start of the Massachusetts PTA annual meeting as shown in the records of the Massachusetts PTA”

Current Wording	Effects of Proposed Amendment
Section 4. The delegates of the convention shall be vested in the members of the board of directors, the presidents of PTA councils or their alternates, chosen by their councils, the president and one vice president of each local PTA or their alternates, and one delegate for every twenty-five (25) members or a major fraction thereof, as shown on the books of the state PTA treasurer on December 31 preceding Massachusetts PTA Annual Convention.	<u>Section 4. The voting body of the annual meeting shall be composed of any Massachusetts PTA member registered for annual meeting and verified by the Massachusetts PTA as a member by 30 days prior to the start of the Massachusetts PTA annual meeting as shown in the records of the Massachusetts PTA.</u>

Rationale: The current bylaw allows for only those delegates selected by local presidents and based upon membership numbers to vote. The change to this bylaw will allow for each member who attends Massachusetts PTA Annual Convention, and has been verified, to participate and vote on the business of the organization.

10. ARTICLE XII – STATE CONVENTION

Amend Article XII – State Convention, Section 5. “Only the members who make up the voting body at the annual meeting shall have the privilege of making motions, debating, and voting. There shall be no proxy voting.”

Current Wording	Effects of Proposed Amendment
Section 5. A delegate shall have but one vote. The privilege of making motions, debating, and voting shall be limited to the board of directors and the accredited delegates.	<u>Section 5. Only the members who make up the voting body at the annual meeting shall have the privilege of making motions, debating, and voting. There shall be no proxy voting.</u>

Rationale: If amendment #9 is adopted, Massachusetts will move to a member vote instead of a delegate vote.

**Massachusetts PTA Bylaws and Policy Committee’s Proposed Amendments and Rationale
2018 Annual Massachusetts PTA Convention**

11. ARTICLE XIII – NATIONAL CONVENTION

Amend Article XII – National Convention, Section 1 remove sub-sections a and be to be replaced with “
Section 2. “The selection of the delegates, who shall be a delegate by virtue of office, shall be governed by the bylaws of Massachusetts PTA.”

Current Wording	Effects of Proposed Amendment
<p>Section 1. The following members of Massachusetts PTA shall be entitled to be delegates at the annual convention:</p> <p>a. The Massachusetts PTA representative to the National Council of States.</p> <p>b. One additional delegate from among the members of the state PTA for each 1,000 members, or major fraction thereof, of Massachusetts PTA, as shown on the books of the secretary/treasurer of National PTA as of March 31 preceding the annual convention.</p> <p>Section 2. The selection of the delegates, other than Massachusetts PTA representative to the National Council of States, who shall be a delegate by virtue of office, shall be governed by the bylaws of Massachusetts PTA.</p>	<p>Section 1. The following members of Massachusetts PTA shall be entitled to be delegates at the annual convention:</p> <p>a. <u>President of the Massachusetts PTA</u></p> <p>b. <u>Five (5) delegates plus one (1) delegate per one thousand (1,000) members, or major fraction thereof, of the Massachusetts PTA, as shown on the books of the secretary-treasurer of National PTA as of March 31 preceding an annual meeting.</u></p> <p><u>Section 2. The selection of the delegates, who shall be a delegate by virtue of office, shall be governed by the bylaws of Massachusetts PTA.</u></p>

Rationale: National PTA modified its determination of the number of delegates that any state constituent association can send to the National Annual Meeting and this amendment changes the language within Massachusetts PTA’s bylaws to be in line with National PTA.

National PTA has dismantled the National Council of States and replaced it with National Constituent Association Advisory Council which requires the State President to be the representative of the state association.