

## Proposed Amendments to the Pennsylvania PTA Bylaws 2018

### Amendment #1

Amend **Article XII: Committees, Section 3. Other Committees shall include;** subsection a. **Committee on Nominations**, by striking the words “~~post-convention~~” and by inserting the words “**pre-convention**” as follows:

| CURRENT FORM   | PROPOSED FORM   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>Section 3.</b> Other Committees shall include:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">a. <b>Committee on Nominations</b> - The committee shall be elected by the board of managers by ballot at the post-convention meeting in even numbered years. It shall consist of five (5) current board members. If only five (5) board members are nominated, the election shall be held by voice vote. No name shall be placed in nomination without the written consent of the nominee. No more than two (2) members shall be from the same region. No member shall serve on this committee for consecutive terms.</p> | <p><b>Section 3.</b> Other Committees shall include:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">a. <b>Committee on Nominations</b> - The committee shall be elected by the board of managers by ballot at the <del>post-convention</del> <b>pre-convention</b> meeting in even numbered years. It shall consist of five (5) current board members. If only five (5) board members are nominated, the election shall be held by voice vote. No name shall be placed in nomination without the written consent of the nominee. No more than two (2) members shall be from the same region. No member shall serve on this committee for consecutive terms.</p> |

**Rationale:** Approving this amendment would permit the board of managers to elect the Committee on Nominations at the pre-convention board of managers’ meeting. The board then would be permitted to leave the convention site at the conclusion of the convention, thus eliminating the expense of the board staying later, as electing the Committee on Nominations is the only order of business to be brought to the board.

### Amendment #2

Amend **Article VIII: Board of Managers, Section 9. Meetings, subsection e.** by inserting the words “**in an election year**” as follows:

| CURRENT FORM   | PROPOSED FORM   |
|--|---|
| <p style="padding-left: 40px;">e. Regular meetings of the board of managers shall be held immediately preceding each state convention, following each state convention, and in the spring, summer, and winter of each year (convention to convention).</p> | <p style="padding-left: 40px;">e. Regular meetings of the board of managers shall be held immediately preceding each state convention, following each state convention <b>in an election year</b>, and in the spring, summer, and winter of each year (convention to convention).</p> |

**PROVISO: This amendment shall only be on the floor if the above mentioned amendment is adopted.**

**Rationale:** There isn't any required business for the board to conduct in an even-numbered year (non-election year). Approving this amendment will permit board members to return home immediately following the conclusion of convention, which has always been after the breakfast event on Sunday. Depending on where convention is held, some board members have a longer ride home than others and this, at the very least, would alleviate the burden, once per term, of driving home late after having been at the convention site since Thursday afternoon.

**Amendment #3**

Amend by substitution **Article XIII: State Convention, Section 2. and Section 3.** as follows:

| <b>CURRENT FORM</b>   | <b>PROPOSED FORM</b>   |
|---|--|
| <p><b>Section 2.</b> Voting body of the state convention shall consist of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. members of the board of managers;</li> <li>b. council presidents or alternates;</li> <li>c. local unit presidents or alternates; and</li> <li>d. one (1) accredited (or alternate) delegate for every ten (10) members within each local unit, as shown on the records of the state treasury fourteen (14) days prior to the opening day of convention.</li> </ul> <p><b>Section 3.</b> The convention of the Pennsylvania PTA shall be open to all members upon payment of registration fee determined by the board of managers, but the privilege of making motions, debating and voting shall be limited to the voting body as listed above in section 2.</p> | <p><b><u>Section 2. The voting body shall consist of all Pennsylvania PTA local and council members as shown on the records of the state treasury for the current calendar year, upon payment of the registration fee determined by the board of managers.</u></b></p> |

**Rationale:** Holding convention in September or October, as per the Pennsylvania PTA Bylaws, finds our local and council unit members at a disadvantage and at the same time, in a quandary, as they have personally paid their local unit dues, but the unit they joined has not submitted a dues payment to the Pennsylvania PTA. The current wording in the bylaws specifically states the unit shall have paid a portion of their dues on or before fourteen (14) days prior to the opening of convention, which quite literally, could be found to be an impossible task should the state convention be held in September. The 2017 state convention was held in October and certain board members had to literally knock on doors to collect dues checks from local units so that their members could be delegates at convention instead of non-voting guests. Board members also went door-to-door to collect dues to make sure there was a quorum of delegates registered for convention so business could be conducted during convention. A quorum was in jeopardy up until the 11<sup>th</sup> hour, with the possibility looming that convention may have to be postponed. Approving this amendment provides local and council unit members themselves to be

held accountable to join a local unit anytime in the current year up to the opening day of convention. This alleviates members from depending on when the unit they joined submits a dues payment. The rules of the association do not provide a written process for the state office to accept credit card payments over the phone from units to submit dues, which is another obstacle for units. Convention attendance has declined drastically over the years and approving this amendment may prove beneficial to both the members and the association. All local and council unit members who have secured a PTA membership card in the year convention is being held, would be permitted to pay the convention registration fee determined by the board of managers and attend convention as a delegate. The current wording in the bylaws limits and restricts each local unit to only sending one (1) delegate to the state convention for its required annual meeting, for every ten (10) members on the books of the state treasury fourteen (14) days prior to the opening of convention. Why would the association not permit all local and council unit paid members to attend the annual convention, which includes not only business but trainings and workshops **as a delegate**? Adopting this amendment may increase attendance at convention, which in turn, may increase the amount of vendors who pay a fee to reach a greater audience.