



Leadership News

Washington State
PTA
everychild.one voice.®

February 4, 2021

Student Programs - Deadlines Approaching

Student Engagement. Powered by PTA.

Make sure to get the word out to the parents in your school about the opportunities available for the kids to participate:

- [WSPTA Essay Contest](#)
- [Game Development Competition](#)
- [Scholarship Program](#)



There is still time to create a submission in time for the **March 1 deadline** for each of these programs. It would be a shame for your families to miss out!

Self-Declare Window Closes February 6

Governance. Powered by PTA.

The 2020-2022 Washington State PTA [Nominating Committee Report](#) is posted as of January 22, 2021.

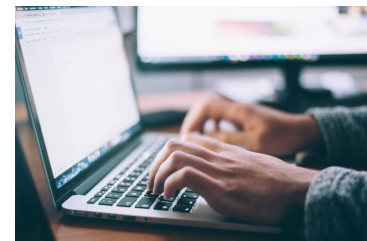
In accordance with WSPTA bylaws and policy, a member wishing to self-declare their intention to run as a candidate must submit the required information **no later than 11:59 pm February 6, 2021**. View the [WSPTA Election Information webpage](#) for more information.



Online Financial Review

Governance. Powered by PTA.

Conducting financial reviews online can be an overwhelming prospect. As a treasurer, you want to make sure the review committee can access all documents easily with the added difficulty of doing the review over a video call. As the review committee, you want to stay organized and have a good system for including all committee members in the process. [Read more for pointers for both treasurers and financial review committees.](#) Thank you to Northshore Council PTSA for sharing their recent blog post.



WSPTA Executive Director's February Message

Leadership. Powered by PTA.

Executive Director Estep shares his thoughts on what it takes to be a leader. One key learning is to listen more than you speak.

Volunteering helps those who take up the challenge to learn to be great executive leaders. [Read the full article here.](#)



Session Presenters Wanted for Convention!

Opportunity. Powered by PTA.



Have a program or practice that you want to share with others? Want to share your knowledge with a wide audience of state leaders? WSPTA is now seeking session proposals for Convention 2021! We ask that any local, council, state or outside organization presenters with a desire to present their session at Convention 2021, May 18-23 submit a proposal describing their session so that the Convention and Leadership Committees can select the sessions that will best complement our Convention Program for 2021. [Start your submission today.](#)

We seek presenters with strong content knowledge, presentation skills, and a willingness to share their ideas with others for the betterment of our PTAs. Sessions proposals are **due no later than February 26**. Final presentation materials will be due closer to Convention - you do not need to have your slides, handouts, or content finalized by February 26. If you have questions or need help developing your session content, please contact [WSPTA Leadership Director Shelby Reynolds](#).

Si habla español y está interesado en presentar una sesión propia o una que WSPTA ha creado, ¡lo necesitamos! Nos gustaría ofrecer sesiones en la Convención 2021 en español para los asistentes que buscan sesiones en español. Puede presentar contenido que ya esté desarrollado o presente nuestro contenido. Si está interesado, envíe un correo electrónico a Shelby Reynolds, ptaleaddir@wastatepta.org.

Grassroots Advocacy

Focus on Advocacy

Advocacy. Powered by PTA.



- [2021 Focus on Advocacy - February 1 Report blog post.](#)
- In the past week, WSPTA has testified on a number of issues including broadband, transportation funding, school resource officers, LAP funding, youth reporting system, and gun violence. Information and links to the testimony are [located on our blog](#).
- The issue handouts can be found on the [Advocacy webpage](#). These are great to use when speaking with your legislators, school board members, etc.
- Short education videos on the issues are also being created and can be found in the [Advocacy 2021 Session YouTube playlist](#) and under the specific issue dropdowns on the Advocacy page.
- Check out the [Focus on Advocacy webpage](#) for special resources available for your advocacy efforts, including a new infographic (see above) encapsulating the WSPTA legislative priorities into one terrific visual.

PTA. Now More Than Ever.

OSPI Extends Eligibility for K12 Free Internet Program

Information. Powered by PTA.

The OSPI K–12 Internet Access Program connects students in need to internet access at home with no cost to the student or their family. Through the program, students whose families are low-income and are not currently connected to the internet can get connected through the end of the 2020–21 school year for free. This spring, through the federal CARES Act, Congress provided funds to local school districts and state education agencies to provide support in covering emergency COVID-19 costs. As additional families face economic challenges and some experience homelessness in the coming months, families of students eligible for free or reduced-price meals that do not have internet access can continue to sign up for this assistance. Along with a time extension, OSPI has removed the initial requirement that families did not have internet access prior to August 2020. [Click here](#) for more information.



Dates - Deadlines - News

Important Dates

February 15

Office closed in observance of Presidents' Day

February 28

[Annual Corporation Renewal](#)

PTAs incorporated this month, click *File Online* for nonprofits

Quick Links

[PTA.Now More Than Ever.](#)

[SOA Information](#)

[February Leader Checklist](#)

[Leader Resources](#)

Username: Every

Password: Child

[PTA Store](#)

Membership Database

[Success Site](#)

[WSPTA membership database webpage](#)

Training and PTA and the Law

Leadership Development. Powered by PTA.



- February 8 (7:00 pm to 9:00 pm) - [Region 6](#) Budget Committee Training
- February 11 (6:30 to 8:00 pm) - [Region 7, 8 & 15](#) Nominating Committee
- February 23 (7:00 pm to 9:00 pm) - [PTA and the Law](#) webinar (**last opportunity for 2020-21**)
- February 25 (7:00 pm to 8:30 pm) - [Nominating Committee](#) webinar

News in Brief

Information. Powered by PTA.

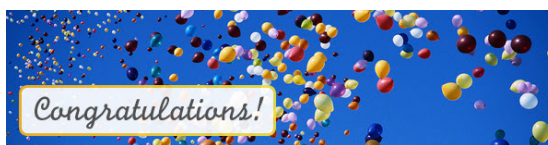
- Read President Kutzera's thoughts on the upcoming Founders' Day [here](#).
- View this article on the [updated guidance for reopening schools](#).
- Check out our [blog post](#) on membership subsidies, which has FAQs, a sample standing rule, and a policy template to simplify the process.
- See the [February leader checklist](#) for information to help run a healthy and organized PTA/PTSA.



National PTA News

National PTA Honors Outstanding Advocacy Efforts

Advocacy. Powered by PTA.



National PTA has announced the recipients of the 2021 Outstanding Advocacy Awards who will be honored during the 2021 National PTA Virtual Legislative Conference in March.

Please join us in congratulating the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advocacy Award honoree, Seattle Council PTSA! Seattle Council PTSA demonstrated leadership and dedication to diversity, equity, and inclusion through their advocacy for better school policy. [Read more about their efforts here.](#) It's not too late to [register for LegCon](#) to participate.

National PTA Quick Links

- [Register for LegCon 2021](#), March 9-11, 2021, cost is \$50. **Register by February 4** to participate in the Hill Day visits.
- [Make Your PTA Virtual](#)
- [Notes from the Backpack](#)
- [Increasing Family Engagement in Diverse Schools](#)
- [New Membership Campaign Materials](#)
- [Tips for How to Fundraise in These Times](#)

Partner News and Promotions

Vendor Marketplace

Opportunities. Powered by PTA.

Check out the [vendor marketplace](#) on the WSPTA website offering products, services, and resources for PTAs and schools.



- [Great Western Reserve](#) - specializes in student-pack gift brochure programs and more.
- [Hibernate Bed Sheet Fundraiser](#) - profitable fundraiser that is 100% online.
- [L'il Shoppers](#) - an in-school holiday store.
- [Lynnwood Convention Center](#) - available for auctions or trainings.
- [Northwest Playground Equipment](#) - the premier provider of playground equipment for schools.

UW College of Education Learning Opportunities about Media Literacy!



How do we support children to become critical consumers, sharers, and creators of print and digital media? We welcome K-12 teachers, librarians, families, and other educators to join us in learning together about the importance of media literacy, how to stay safe as

digital citizens, and ways to incorporate these ideas into your work with children. Register today for one of these amazing learning opportunities hosted by the University of Washington College of Education: [Staying Safe Online: Teaching Elementary Students to Practice Digital Citizenship & Media Literacy](#) (Feb 16-19), [Spotting & Resisting Misinformation: Teaching Secondary Students to Practice Critical Media Literacy](#) (Feb 16-19 or April 21- May 5), [Grown-ups and Kids Together: Let's Examine What We Consume and Create on Our Screens](#) (Feb 18).

Tip of the Week

Fast Approaching! - Last PTA and the Law Opportunity for the Year

Affiliation. Powered by PTA.



Each PTA is required to do certain things as part of the standards of affiliation. Item number 12 is about the annual training requirement. It says:

"Annually, at least one elected officer attends PTA and the Law, and all other elected officers attend at least one WSPTA-approved training before the year's WSPTA convention. Maintain documentation showing each elected officer satisfied the annual training requirement."

For those still needing to complete the training requirement portion of the Standards of Affiliation for 2020-2021 make sure to register for the [final PTA and the Law webinar](#) of the year coming up on February 23.

Convention is the start of the training requirement for the 2021-2022 year.

[Website](#)

[About Us](#)

[Get Involved](#)

WSPTA provides a variety of newsletters to keep leaders informed and provide resources to be successful. If, for some reason, you choose to no longer receive a newsletter, we recommend that you use the "Update Profile" link provided at the bottom of this newsletter. If you choose "Unsubscribe," you will automatically be unsubscribed from all newsletters.

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