

The logo features the acronym 'PTA' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font with a registered trademark symbol. Below it is the tagline 'everychild. one voice.' in a blue, italicized serif font, also with a registered trademark symbol. The text is centered within a white circle that is partially framed by dark blue corners.

PTA[®]

everychild. one voice.[®]

How School Boards can work with PTAs to Support All Children

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Rochester School Board Member
and
Heather Starks, Bloomington Council PTA
Vice-President



What is PTA?

PTA (Parent Teacher Association) is the oldest and largest child advocacy organization in the country.

PTA's mission is to make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children.

Minnesota PTA supports three councils in Bloomington, Duluth, and Rochester, along with over 200 local units in early childhood centers, elementary, middle and high schools and charter schools.

PTA provides schools and families with advocacy measures, membership benefits, leadership, parent education and empowerment tools and the ability to impact change through collaboration and partnership.



Why Should School Boards work with PTAs?

Communication

Used effectively, it builds trust and support.

Partnership

Provides an ability to leverage resources.



Why should School Boards work with PTAs?

Referendum

While PTA is a non-partisan organization, it can be political.

Finance

Budgets of local units fluctuate, but virtually all money raised goes toward the building.



Why should School Boards work with PTAs?

Policy

Invite and involve parents when there are policy creations or revisions.

Committees

Don't use participation just for statute or policy requirements.



How can School Boards work with PTAs?

1. Offer to attend meetings
2. Listen
3. Answer questions and provide facts
4. Ask for feedback on important topics
5. Share with board colleagues



What School Boards can do for PTAs

1. Explain governance and policy work
2. Clarify how to communicate concerns
3. Engage them early to help with referendum efforts
4. Become a individual member



Other ways School Boards can work with a PTA

Advocacy

Consider involving PTA in developing legislative agendas and meeting with legislators.

Elections

Host School Board Academies or community classes for those interested in running for office.



Additional Information

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