



**MS CONGRESS OF
PARENTS & TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
102ND CONVENTION**

**PATHWAYS TO EDUCATION
VIRTUAL**

JUNE 5TH, 2021



BEVERLY DUCK-DAVIS

MS PTA President



Welcome to the 1st Virtual Convention of the Mississippi Congress of Parents and Teachers Association, Inc. (MS PTA). MS PTA has served over 112 years on behalf of the children in the state of Mississippi.

In an effort to support positive educational experiences within local communities, MS PTA is reaching out to community leaders like yourself to gain your support in building and maintaining positive community relationships. As you are aware the most successful advocacy initiatives are started at the grassroots level with momentum from local advocates like yourself. It is our belief that through a combination of national, state and local PTA resources that we will be able to improve the educational experiences of our scholars. Therefore, we seek your assistance in organizing, building and sustaining community relationships through building a strong PTA/PTSA in your local schools and communities.

The last 18 months have been challenging for schools, parents and students across the country. It is our hope that each of you will find some meaningful and practical information during this event to take back to your local units to make 2021-2022 your best PTA school year. Thank you for honoring me with the opportunity to serve our great organization and the children of our nation, state and communities.

In closing, the mission of MS PTA can only be accomplished through the combined efforts of committed individuals who are seeking to improve the educational standards in our state. Please remember this...You are an important key in the recovery of your communities by supporting children and their educational success. You are MS PTA...Every child. One Voice.

Thank You!!!





ANNITA BONNER

Convention Chair



Welcome From Convention Chair

On behalf of the Mississippi Congress of Parents and Teachers welcome to the 102nd annual Mississippi PTA Convention: “Pathway to Education”

We gather virtually to safely celebrate and continue our ongoing legacy of 102 years of Mississippi PTA advocacy for children across Mississippi. We are conscious of the issues Mississippi parents, teachers, students, and our communities currently face. We have developed this virtual convention with the goal of safely engaging, empowering, informing, and assisting each of you to be the PTA change factor in your community as we return to the “Pathway to Education” together.

Collaboration is the heartbeat in all effective PTA relationships, and we hope what you hear and learn in today’s workshops provides you with tools to share and take action with your PTA unit.

There, being virtual can’t limit the PTA spirit to get ready to learn, connect and meet some Good Folks from every corner of the state on our PTA “Pathway to Education”.

I’d like to thank you for spending your time with us over the next few hours as the start of our year statewide on the MS PTA “Pathway to Education”.

Link your PTA unit and personal Facebook pages to OUR 102nd MS PTA Facebook page and spread the word about the event on your social media using #MSPTA2021

Wish You the Best,

Annita Bonner



Greetings PTA Members:

Welcome to your state convention! I hope you are staying safe and well. Thank you for setting aside this time to learn and grow as a leader. Your attendance is a testament to your commitment to our PTA mission: *to make every child's potential a reality.*

The events of the past year have brought me so many different emotions—grief, fear and uncertainty, but also hope, joy and determination. Overwhelmingly I have felt deep gratitude for this association.

For almost 125 years, our PTA family has navigated historic moments with grace and fortitude. The COVID-19 pandemic and the national racial reckoning have been no different. Part of being a family is leaning on one another when times are tough and holding close to your shared values. Your efforts to support your communities and protect our nation's children have filled me with pride.

PTAs across the country have jumped into action to provide desperately needed resources that boost families' social and emotional well-being, enhance distance teaching and learning, help to bridge the digital divide, and address food insecurity. I know I can count on you to continue to be there for the vulnerable populations in your communities as our nation recovers over the next few months.

My wish for you during your state convention is to listen and learn. I hope that what you discover will help you keep an open mind and a brave heart as we make plans for the future. Please know that you are not alone. National PTA always has your back.

Together, I know that our PTA family will take this challenging time in our history and turn it into an opportunity to build an even better future for our nation's children. One in which every child's potential can truly become a reality.

Thank you for all you do. Have a great convention!

Best wishes,



Leslie Boggs
President, National PTA



Office of the Mayor
Chokwe A. Lumumba., Mayor



219 South President Street
Post Office Box 17
Jackson, Mississippi 39205-0017
Telephone: 601-960-1084
Facsimile: 601-960-2193

June 5, 2021

Mississippi Congress of PTA
P.O. Box 1937
Jackson, MS 39215-1937

Greetings:

As Mayor of the City of Jackson, it is my distinct honor to welcome you to the 102nd Mississippi Congress of Parent and Teacher Associations Annual Convention. As one of the oldest non-profit organizations dedicated to improving the education of our youth here in Jackson and across Mississippi, we thank you for your unwavering leadership, advocacy and dedication.

It has been more than a year since our lives were abruptly changed by Covid-19, and the importance of education and resources to support children and families has never been clearer. Now, as we begin to turn the corner on this pandemic and plan for a full return to the classroom, your gathering today could not be more critical.

What have we learned from the experiment of this past year? What should we carry forward from remote learning? What should we work to change? Are there gaps we will need to make up for? There is great work to be done in support of our youth and our education system. We look toward your guidance and support to truly make meaningful strides forward and ensure every child has the ability to achieve their fullest potential.

Thank you for your important work and best wishes for a truly productive and memorable convention. Be well and continue to stay safe.

One City, One Aim, One Destiny!

Sincerely,

Chokwe Antar Lumumba
Mayor, City of Jackson



MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Carey M. Wright, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Education

June 5, 2021

Dear Mississippi PTA Members:

On behalf of the Mississippi Department of Education, I am pleased to welcome you to Mississippi PTA 102nd Convention. This year's program is designed to provide you with insights and updates about local, state and national issues that have an impact on public education in Mississippi. I hope the day's program will equip you with new ideas and information to support the work of your local schools.

You are important advocates for children and educators. As PTA members, you help ensure educators, policy makers and community leaders create equitable education systems at the local, state and national levels. The perspective you bring is a valuable part of the work to ensure all students have access to a high-quality education.

Mississippi students have achieved unprecedented academic success in recent years thanks to the hard work of students and educators and the unwavering support of families and communities. I look forward to working with you to build upon this progress and to make significant achievement a reality for all students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carey M. Wright".

Carey M. Wright, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Education



Mississippi
PTA

everychild.one voice.®

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QUINN HEALTHCARE, PLLC

"Providing quality healthcare to you and your family."



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Student Exchange**

Sharing Lives...Sharing Worlds



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THE UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN
MISSISSIPPI

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Healthcare



STEM NOLA

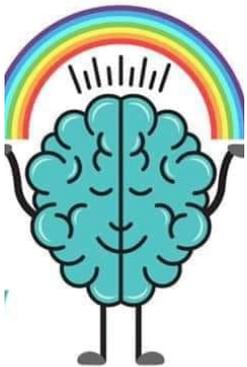
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MISSISSIPPI
DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION



Greenwood Leflore Hospital

The right care at the right time—glh.org



Parents'
Campaign

Better Schools, Brighter Future

THE CITY OF



JACKSON

2021 MISSISSIPPI CONVENTION

SPEAKERS



Carey M. Wright, Ed.D
MS SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION



Tate Reeves
GOVERNOR OF MISSISSIPPI



Dr. Timothy Quinn
QUINN HEALTH CARE



CHOKWE ANTAR LUMUBA
MAYOR OF JACKSON



Dr. Calvin Mackie, President/Founder
STEM NOLA



Gretchen Mitchel
INTERNATIONAL
STUDENT EXCHANGE



Erica Jones, President
MS ASSOCIATION OF EDUCATORS



Lizbeth Jimena Velasquez
MISSISSIPPI HISPANIC
ASSOCIATION

2021 MISSISSIPPI CONVENTIONS

SPEAKERS



Dr. C.J. Rhodes
PASTOR OF MOUNT HELM
BAPTIST CHURCH



Rashad Williams
PTA PRESIDENT OBAMA
ELEMENTARY



KENISHA POTTER, LMSW
RECTOR OF MEMBER SERVICES &
COMMUNITY OUTREACH
UNITEDHEALTHCARE
COMMUNITY PLAN



GENA WARD
MEMBERHUB



Dr. Sarah L. McMurry, Clinical Director
PERSPECTIVES PSYCHOLOGICAL RESOURCES



Jazzlyn Harris, Educator
SOUTH PARK ELEMENTARY



Melanie Walsh, PhD, PhD, LPC-S, BC-TMH
CARES PROGRAM DIRECTOR & CLINICAL
SUPERVISOR



Christopher Ellzey, MS, P-LPC
CARES TELEHEALTH PROGRAM



AGENDA

8:30AM - 3:00PM

Registration

9:15AM

Call to Order

MS PTA President Beverly Duck Davis

MS PTA Convention Chair

Annita Bonner

Prayer

Dr. C. J. Rhodes, Mt. Helm Baptist Church





AGENDA

National PTA Welcome

Leslie Boggs, National PTA President

Governor of MS

The Honorable Tate Reeves

Mayor of Jackson

The Honorable Chokwe Lumumba

MS Association of Educators

Erica Jones, President





BALLOT

AGENDA

9:30AM - 10:00AM

Voting

- Bylaws
- Officers

Election Results





AGENDA

10:00AM -10:15AM
Digital Break

10:15AM - 11:00PM

Committing to Compliance in the Local Unit

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILTIIY AIM
JAMIE FAGAN, PRESIDENT

MemberHub
Gena Ward

END-OF-YEAR CLOSING
BEVERLY DUCK-DAVIS





AGENDA

11:00AM -11:15AM
Digital Break

11:15AM - 12:00PM

Pathways to Education Success-Post Covid 19: The New Normal

Mississippi State University Psychology Clinic
CHRISTOPHER ELLZEY, P-LPC
CARES PROGRAM

Mississippi State University Psychology Clinic
MELANIE WALSH, PHD, LPC-S, BC-TMH
CARES PROGRAM DIRECTOR & CLINICAL SUPERVISOR





AGENDA

STEM NOLA

DR. CALVIN MACKIE, PRESIDENT/FOUNDER

MS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER
TENETTE SMITH, ED

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT EXCHANGE
GRETCHEN MITCHELL

12:00PM - 12:15PM

Digital Break





AGENDA

12:15PM - 1:00PM

Let's Talk Pathways

JAZZLYN HARRIS, EDUCATOR
SOUTH PARK ELEMENTARY

LIZBETH JIMENA VELASQUEZ
MS HISPANIC ASSOCIATION

RASHAD WILLIAMS, PTA PRESIDENT
OBAMA ELEMENTARY

DR. C.J. RHODES, PASTOR
MT. HELM BAPTIST CHURCH

KENISHA POTTER, LMSW
DIRECTOR OF MEMBER SERVICE AND
COMMUNITY OUTREACH
UNITEDHEALTHCARE COMMUNITY PLAN -MS





AGENDA

1:00PM - 1:15PM
Digital Break

1:15PM - 2:15PM

**Pathway to Engaging, Educating, and Empowering
Families through Mental Health and Physical Health
Pathways**

**DR. SARAH L. MCMURTRY, CLINICAL DIRECTOR
PERSPECTIVES PSYCHOLOGICAL RESOURCES**

**DR. TIMOTHY QUINN, MD
QUINN HEALTHCARE, PLLC**





AGENDA

2:15PM - 3:00PM

Closing Remarks



FREE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES



FOR CHILDREN AGES 6-17 IN THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Children and teens are eligible (while funds last) for

*** CONSULTATION ***

*** CLINICAL SCREENING ***

Quinn Healthy Care

*** THERAPY ***



**MISSISSIPPI STATE
UNIVERSITY**

PSYCHOLOGY CLINIC

*ONLY Parents or legal guardians of minors may request services. All services are provided under the supervision of a licensed mental health professional.

All services provided funded by Mississippi Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act Supplemental Funding. Services will be via telehealth by the Psychology Clinic at Mississippi State University. You can access your sessions from your smartphone, tablet, or computer!

If you are interested, please contact:

telehealth@psychology.msstate.edu (preferred) and 662-325-0895 (must leave a voicemail)



Research with Parents: Pediatric Overweight & COVID-19

WHAT: Health care professionals at the University of Mississippi Medical Center are doing a research study to learn more about what helps and what gets in the way of helping children and parents improve eating and physical activity habits. They are also interested in understanding how families have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

WHO: Parents/Caregivers with a **child 2 to 17 years old** who is **overweight**.

Parents/Caregivers complete an online survey one time.

WHERE: Complete survey online. Scan the QR code with your mobile device or click the link below to access the online survey.

Link: https://is.gd/frdpopcrpn_2021



Financial compensation will be provided.

To learn more about the study:

Call us at **601-984-5839** or talk to your child's
health care provider.

All inquiries are kept strictly confidential.

Crystal S. Lim, PhD, ABPP
Principal Investigator
University of Mississippi Medical Center
2500 N. State Street
Jackson, MS 39216
EOE/MF/D/V

University of Mississippi Medical Center

FWA00003630

Protocol: 2019-0346

Approved: 11/30/2020

Expires: 03/16/2022

MS PTA BOARD



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VP of Leadership
Tijuanda Beckworth

Education VP
Shannon Gatlin

Legislation VP, Charles Husband

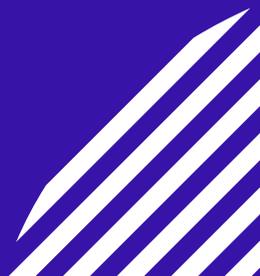
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Convention Chairperson, Annita Bonner

Co-Convention Chair
Tijuanda Beckworth

Co-Convention Chair
Jacqueline Hughes



Proposed Bylaws Changes

Article, Section Article VIII: Officers-Page 8 Section 1

CURRENT VERSION

The officers of the Mississippi PTA shall be a president; three (3) vice presidents: vice president for leadership, vice president for education, and vice president for legislation; a secretary; and a treasurer.

PROPOSED VERSION

The officers of the Mississippi PTA shall be a president; three (3) vice presidents: vice president for leadership, vice president for (education) **communications**, and vice president for legislation; a secretary; and a treasurer.

RATIONALE

This designation aligns with the duties of the office.

Proposed Bylaws Changes

Article, Section
Article VIII: Officers-Page 9
Section 4 -Item A

CURRENT VERSION

A. Each officer shall be a member of all local PTA chartered by the Mississippi PTA.

PROPOSED VERSION

A. Each officer shall be a member of an **active** local PTA chartered by the Mississippi PTA

RATIONALE

To allow for more board member

Proposed Bylaws Changes

Article, Section
Article VIII: Officers-Page 9
Section 4 -Item B

CURRENT VERSION

B. No officer may be eligible to serve two consecutive terms in the same office.

PROPOSED VERSION

B. **An** officer may be eligible to serve two consecutive terms in the same office.

RATIONALE

To allow for more board member

Proposed Bylaws Changes

Article, Section

Article VIII: Officers-page 9
Section 5

CURRENT VERSION

Each officer elected at an annual convention shall take office following the close of such annual convention or July 1st and shall serve for a term of two (2) years or until their successor is elected. The vice presidents shall take office at the close of the annual convention; the president, treasurer and secretary on July 1st.

PROPOSED VERSION

Each officer elected at an annual convention shall take office on July 1st and shall serve for a term of two (2) years or until their successor is elected. **During an election year, the newly elected President shall represent MS PTA at the NPTA Summer Convention. If for any reason the new President is unable to attend, the next representative will be chosen in this order of listing; VP of Leadership, VP of Legislation and VP of Communications.**

RATIONALE

The change will allow the officers to close out the school year and allow the newly elected President to received NPTA training.

Proposed Bylaws Changes

Article, Section

Article IX: Duties of Officers
Section 2; page 10 - Item A

CURRENT VERSION

“In the absence of the president, the vice presidents shall perform the duties of the president in the order listed:
A. vice president for leadership, (2) vice president for education, (3) vice president for legislation.

PROPOSED VERSION

“In the absence of the president, the vice presidents shall perform the duties of the president in the order listed:
A (1) vice president for leadership, (2) vice president for legislation (3) vice president for communication.

RATIONALE

The designation aligns with the job description.

Proposed Bylaws Changes

Article, Section

Article IX: Duties of Officers
Section 3; page 10 -Item C

CURRENT VERSION

Section 3. The Vice President of Leadership shall:
C. perform such other duties as may be assigned by the president for the promotion of Mississippi PTA activities;

PROPOSED VERSION

“Section 3. The Vice President of Leadership shall:
C. perform such other duties as may be assigned by the president for the promotion of Mississippi PTA activities;
such as coordinating all training activities and providing educational resources for Mississippi PTA.”

RATIONALE

Further defines the duties.

Proposed Bylaws Changes

Article, Section

Article IX: Duties of Officers-
Section 4; page 10 - Item A

CURRENT VERSION

Section 4. The Vice President of Education shall: direct all educational activities related to the Mississippi PTA Bulletin;

PROPOSED VERSION

Section 4. The Vice President of **Communications** shall: direct all communication activities related to the Mississippi PTA; **to include but not limited to newsletters, e-Newsletters, website, social media, etc.**

RATIONALE

Further defines the duties of the position. .

Proposed Bylaws Changes

Article, Section

Article IX: Duties of Officers-
Section 5; page 10 – Item A

CURRENT VERSION

A. direct all legislative
activities;

PROPOSED VERSION

A. direct all legislative and advocacy activities including but not limited to coordinating Legislative conferences, and disseminating Advocacy/Legislative alerts and communications.

RATIONALE

Defines the duties of the VP of Legislation

Proposed Bylaws Changes

Article, Section

Article IX: Duties of Officers
Section 7; page 12 - Item G

CURRENT VERSION

G. submit the books annually for an audit by an auditing committee selected by the Board of Directors at least one (1) month before the meeting at which new officers assume their duties;

PROPOSED VERSION

G. submit the books annually for an audit by an independent auditor selected by the **Board of Directors and the books submitted by July 15th.**

RATIONALE

Reduce conflict of interest

Proposed Bylaws Changes

Article, Section

Article X: Board of Directors
Section 9 page 13

CURRENT VERSION

Section 9. At all meetings of the board, seven (7) members of the board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

PROPOSED VERSION

Section 9. At all meetings of the board, **five (5)** members of the board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

RATIONALE

Allows for the conduct of business in the instances when board membership is too low to meet quorum requirement

Proposed Bylaws Changes

Article, Section

Article X: Board of Directors
Added Section 11 page 13

CURRENT VERSION

No current Version

PROPOSED VERSION

Section 11. Regular and special meetings of the board may be held by telephone or electronic conference system that allow all participating members to concurrently hear and speak to each other during the meeting. A committee member participating in this type of meeting is considered to be present at the meeting.

RATIONALE

Allows compliance with Mississippi State law and allows for the conduct of business.

Proposed Bylaws Changes

Article, Section

Article XII: Committees-page 14

B. Committee on Elections Section 1 - Item A

CURRENT VERSION

Section 1. A committee on elections consisting of five (5), non-first year members of the State Board of Directors, shall be chosen by the executive committee at least sixty (60) days prior to the convention. The chairman shall be a member of the executive committee. Probationary, first-year board members shall not be members of this committee. The members shall be notified of their appointment to this committee by the president at least thirty (30) days prior to the convention.

PROPOSED VERSION

Section 1. A committee on elections consisting of five (5) members of the State Board of Directors, shall be chosen by the executive committee at least sixty (60) days prior to the convention. The chairman shall be a member of the executive committee. The members shall be notified of their appointment to this committee by the president at least thirty (30) days prior to the convention.

RATIONALE

The changes will allow the board to fill Committee positions when Board membership is too low to comply.

Proposed Bylaws Changes

Article, Section

Article XII: Committees
Committee on Nominations
Page 14- Item B

CURRENT VERSION

B. This committee shall be composed of at least one (1) member from the northern, central, and southern regions and not more than two (2) members from a single region for a total of five (5) members. Committee members shall not be duplicative of the members of the committee on elections. Probationary, first-year board members shall not be members of this committee.

PROPOSED VERSION

B. This committee shall be composed of at least five (5) members of the State Board of Directors. Whenever possible each region should be represented by one (1) member. Committee members shall not be duplicative of the members of the committee on elections whenever possible.

RATIONALE

To allow members to serve on duplicative committees if board membership is too low.

Proposed Bylaws Changes

Article, Section

Article XII: Committees on
Nominations -Page 14
Section 2 - Item B

CURRENT VERSION

B. Send a list of the nominees to the state office, from which a copy shall be sent by the State Office staff to each member of the State Board of Directors at least sixty (60) days prior to the opening of the convention. A list of these nominees shall be mailed to local units thirty (30) days prior to the convention.

PROPOSED VERSION

B. A list of the nominees shall be sent electronically and or mailed to each member of the State Board of Directors and local units at least thirty (30) days prior to the opening of the convention.

RATIONALE

MS PTA no longer has an office or office employee. Thirty (30) Days' notice will allow everyone to receive notification simultaneously. It will also allow the list to be sent electronically.

Proposed Bylaws Changes

Article, Section

Article XII: Committees-Page 15
Section 2 - Item C

CURRENT VERSION

C. Report to the convention on the first day of the session, at which time additional nominations may be made from the floor

PROPOSED VERSION

C Candidates who intend to run from the floor must provide notice to the president and the chair of the nominating committee of such intentions fifteen (15) days prior to the date of the first session.

RATIONALE

Allows the Committee sufficient time to verify the qualifications of candidates running from the floor that included membership of a local unit in Good Standing and prior membership on the State Board of Directors.

Proposed Bylaws Changes

Article, Section

Article XII: Committees-Page 15
Qualifications for Nominations
Section 3 - Item A

CURRENT VERSION

A. Only a member of a local PTA/PTSA unit shall be eligible to hold office in the Mississippi PTA or any of its divisions.

PROPOSED VERSION

A. Only a member of an active local PTA/PTSA unit shall be eligible to hold office in the Mississippi PTA or any of its divisions

RATIONALE

Allow for more individual to qualify for elected office on the State Board of Directors

Proposed Bylaws Changes

Article, Section

Article XII: Committees-Page 15
Qualifications for Nominations
Section 3- Item B

CURRENT VERSION

B. Only those who have served on the State Board of Directors shall be eligible for nomination or election to office.

PROPOSED VERSION

B. Only those who have served on the State Board of Directors or a current member of an active PTA/PTSA unit shall be eligible for nomination or election to office.

RATIONALE

Further defines Section 3-Item A

Proposed Bylaws Changes

Article, Section

Article XII: Committees-Page 15
Section 3 - Item C

CURRENT VERSION

C. An officer of the Mississippi PTA shall not serve two consecutive terms in the same office.

PROPOSED VERSION

C. An officer of the Mississippi PTA may be eligible to serve two terms in the same office.

RATIONALE

See Section 5 Under VIII Officers

Proposed Bylaws Changes

Article, Section

Article XII: Committees-Page 15

C- Standing Committees

Section 2 - Duties

CURRENT VERSION

No version

PROPOSED VERSION

Proposed Additional Section

D. Meetings of board committees may be held telephonically or by an electronic conference system that allows all participating members to concurrently hear and speak to each other during the meeting. A committee member participating in this type of meeting is considered to be present at the meeting

RATIONALE

Allows compliance with Mississippi State law for committees to conduct business in person and electronically.

Proposed Bylaws Changes

Article, Section

Article XV: Convention Page 18

Section 4; Cancellation of
Convention; Item A

CURRENT VERSION

A. In the event of an emergency, epidemic or other disaster, the State Board of Directors shall have the authority to determine by two-thirds (2/3) vote whether or not a convention shall be held. The vote on this question may be taken by mail in the event a meeting of the State Board of Directors cannot be held.

PROPOSED VERSION

A. In the event of an emergency, pandemic or natural disaster the State Board of Directors shall have the authority to determine by majority vote whether or not a convention should be held. The vote on this question may be taken by mail or electronically in the event a meeting of the MS PTA Board of Directors cannot be held. All actions adopted at an electronic or virtual meeting shall be official actions of the voting body.

RATIONALE

To provide for electronic annual meeting and convention of Mississippi PTA to conduct affairs of MS PTA when an in-person convention is not possible.

Proposed Bylaws Changes

Article, Section

Article XV: Convention Page 18

Section 4; Cancellation of
Convention; Item B

CURRENT VERSION

B. In the event that a convention is not held, the State Board of Directors shall plan procedures for conducting all necessary business by mail which shall include the elections of officers.

PROPOSED VERSION

B. In the event that an in-person convention is not held, the State Board of Directors can elect to hold its annual meeting and or convention virtually, if conditions allow, for conducting all necessary business electronically which shall include the election of officers. All actions adopted at an electronic or virtual meeting shall be official actions of the voting body.

RATIONALE

Allows the State Board of Directors to meet electronically



Thank You for Coming

