

BYLAWS

OF

Mississippi
PTA[®]

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MISSISSIPPI PTA BYLAWS INDEX

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**Articles conform to National PTA Bylaws and shall not be changed at the State, Council or Local Unit levels to assure continuity required for constituent associations.

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this organization is the Mississippi Congress of Parents and Teachers. It is commonly known and will be referred to in these bylaws as "Mississippi PTA".

**** ARTICLE II: PURPOSES**

Section 1. **Objectives.** The purposes or purposes (Objects) of the Mississippi PTA, in common with those of the National PTA, are:

- A. To promote the welfare of children and youth in home, school, places of worship and throughout the community;
- B. To raise the standards of home life;
- C. To advocate for laws that further the education, physical and mental health, welfare, and safety of children and youth;
- D. To promote the collaboration and engagement of families and educators in the education of children and youth;
- E. To engage the public in united efforts to secure the physical, mental, emotional, spiritual, and social well-being of all children and youth; and
- F. To advocate for fiscal responsibility regarding public tax dollars in public education funding.

Section 2. **Awareness.** The purposes of the National PTA and the Mississippi PTA are promoted through education in collaboration with parents, families, teachers, educators, students, and the ; developed through conferences, committees, projects, and programs; and governed and qualified by the basic principles set forth in Article III.

Section 3. **Federal Status.** The association is organized exclusively for the charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or corresponding section of any future federal tax code (hereinafter "Internal Revenue Code).

**** ARTICLE III: PRINCIPLES**

The following are basic policies of the Mississippi PTA, in common with those of the National PTA:

- A. The association shall be noncommercial, nonsectarian, and nonpartisan.
- B. 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.
- C. The association shall work to promote the health and welfare of children and youth, and shall seek to promote collaboration among families, 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 persons 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 the 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 National PTA.
- 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 insubstantial part of its activities to attempting to influence legislation by propaganda or otherwise.
- H. Commitment to inclusiveness and equity, knowledge of PTA, and professional expertise shall be guiding principles for service in Mississippi PTA.

ARTICLE IV: CONSTITUENT ASSOCIATIONS

****Section 1. Constituent Associations.** The articles of organization of a constituent association include (a) the bylaws of such association and (b) the certificate of incorporation or articles of incorporation of such associations (in cases in which the association is a corporation) or the articles of association by whatever name (in cases in which the association exists as an unincorporated association).

****Section 2.** Each constituent association shall adopt such bylaws for the government of the association as may be approved by the Mississippi PTA. Such bylaws shall not be in conflict with the National PTA Bylaws or the bylaws of the state PTA.

****Section 3. Purpose and Principles.** The purpose and principles of National PTA, as prescribed in Articles II and III of these bylaws, shall in every case also be the purposes and principles of each constituent association. Each constituent association shall include in its bylaws provisions corresponding to the National PTA Bylaws as are identified herein by a double star.

****Section 4. Governance.** Each state and local constituent association organized under the direct authority of National PTA shall adopt bylaws for the governance of its association. Such bylaws shall not be in conflict with National PTA or their state nonprofit corporate laws and are subject to review by the National PTA Bylaws Committee.

The adoption of amendment to any provision of the National PTA Bylaws identified by a double star shall serve automatically and without the requirement of further action by the constituent association to amend correspondingly the bylaws of each constituent organization. Notwithstanding the automatic character of the amending process, the constituent organization shall promptly incorporate such amendments in their respective bylaws.

**Section 5. Bylaws of each constituent association shall include an article on amendments.

**Section 6. Each officer or board member of a constituent association shall be a member of a local PTA within its area.

**Section 7. A PTA member shall not serve as a voting member of a constituent association's board at the local, council, district, region, or national level while serving as a paid employee of, or under contract to, that constituent association.

**Section 8. Bylaws of each constituent association shall include a provision establishing a quorum.

**Section 9. The members of the nominating committee for officers of a constituent association shall be elected by membership, board of directors, executive board, or executive committee.

**Section 10. The bylaws of all constituent association shall prohibit voting by proxy, (unless proxy voting is specified by applicable state law).

*** ARTICLE V: STATE PTAs/PTSAs**

Section 1. The Mississippi PTA is a branch of the National PTA and exists for the purpose of accomplishing, at the state level, the Objects of the National PTA in accordance with its policies. Within the framework of the responsibility that it shares with the National PTA for the implementation of the Objects of the National PTA and its obligation to comply with the National PTA Bylaws, the Mississippi PTA is a self-governing organization with independent legal existence.

Section 2. The relationship of the Mississippi PTA with the National PTA and its duties, obligations, and responsibilities are set forth in the National PTA Bylaws and in the charter that is issued by the National PTA to the Mississippi PTA.

Section 3. The Mississippi PTA shall adopt such bylaws and other articles of organization as are in conformity with the National PTA Bylaws. In addition to the provisions of Article IV, Section 6 of the National PTA Bylaws, the bylaws of the Mississippi PTA shall include provisions of the National PTA Bylaws as are therein identified by a single star.

Section 4. The adoption of an amendment to any provision of the National PTA Bylaws identified by a single star shall serve automatically and without the requirement of further action of the Mississippi PTA to amend its corresponding bylaws. Notwithstanding the automatic character of the amending process, the Mississippi PTA shall promptly incorporate such amendments in its bylaws.

Section 5. The bylaws of the Mississippi PTA and all amendments hereto shall be subject to approval by the Committee on Bylaws of the Board of Directors of the National PTA.

Section 6. The Mississippi PTA shall provide appropriate procedures for the organization of local PTAs within its area. The Mississippi PTA may determine the membership year for the local PTAs in its area and prescribe the form and content of the bylaws or other articles of organization of such local PTAs.

Section 7. The Mississippi PTA may create or establish subsidiary organizations (districts or regions) within its area to facilitate the administration of the affairs of the Mississippi PTA and for carrying out its programs and may prescribe the form and content of the bylaws or other articles of organization of such districts (or regions).

Section 8. The Mississippi PTA may create or establish councils in counties, cities, or other areas designated by its Board of Directors for the purpose of conference, leadership training, and coordination of the efforts of local PTAs and may prescribe the form and content of the bylaws or other articles of organization of such councils. The local PTAs that shall be eligible for membership and participation in the work of any council shall be determined by the Mississippi PTA. Councils shall not legislate for local PTAs.

Section 9. In the event of surrender or withdrawal of its charter by the National PTA, in the manner provided in Article XIX of the National PTA Bylaws, the Mississippi PTA is obligated:

- A. To yield up and surrender all of its books and records and all of its assets and property to the National PTA or to such agency as may be designated by the National PTA to be held for the benefit of another branch organization established by the National PTA for the area of the Mississippi PTA;
- B. To yield up all of the books and records and all of the assets and property of any Controlled Organization and surrender them to the National PTA or to such agency as may be designated by the National PTA to be held for the benefit of another branch organization established by the National PTA for the area of such state PTA. A Controlled Organization shall mean any corporation or other entity, whether nonprofit or for-profit, incorporated or unincorporated, that is controlled by such state PTA. For purposes of this section, control means ownership by vote or value of more than fifty percent of the organization, power to appoint individuals to the governing body of the organization representing more than fifty percent of the voting power, or ownership of more than fifty percent of the beneficial interests in the organization. The state PTA shall cause the governing documents of the Controlled Organization to reflect this obligation;
- C. To cease and desist from the further use of any name that implies or connotes association or affiliation with the National PTA or status as a branch or constituent organization of the National PTA; and
- D. To carry out promptly, under the supervision and direction of the National PTA, all proceedings necessary or desirable for the purpose of dissolving the Mississippi PTA.

Section 10. The Mississippi PTA is responsible for compliance by the local, council, or district or region PTAs within its area with the National PTA Bylaws and the bylaws of the state PTA. The provisions of the Mississippi PTA bylaws relating to the withdrawal of the charter of a local PTA (and the termination of its status as a local PTA) shall parallel the provisions of the National PTA Bylaws relating to the withdrawal by the National PTA of the charter of the Mississippi PTA and the termination of the status of the Mississippi PTA as a branch of the National PTA.

Section 11. The Mississippi PTA shall submit to the National PTA report of its work and activities for inclusion in the annual report of the National PTA.

Section 12. The Mississippi PTA shall keep such permanent books of account and records as shall be sufficient to establish the items of gross income, receipts, and disbursements of the organization, including, specifically, the number of local PTAs within its area, the national portion of membership dues collected by such local PTAs, the amounts of such dues received by the Mississippi PTA, and the amounts of dues remitted to the National PTA. Such books of account and records, including those of controlled organizations, shall at all reasonable times be open to inspection by an authorized representative of the National PTA.

ARTICLE VI: LOCAL PTAs/PTSAs

****Section 1.** Local PTAs shall be organized and chartered under the authority of the Mississippi PTA in the area in which the local PTA functions, in conformity with such rules and regulations, not in conflict with the National PTA Bylaws, as the Mississippi PTA may in its bylaws prescribe. The Mississippi PTA shall issue to each local PTA in its area an appropriate charter evidencing the due organization and good standing of the local PTA. A local PTA in good standing is one that:

- A. Adheres to the objects and basic policies of the PTA;
- B. Remits the national portion of the dues through the state PTA to reach the national office by dates designated by the National PTA;
- C. Has bylaws approved according to the procedures of each state; and
- D. Meets other criteria as may be prescribed by the individual state PTA.

****Section 2.** Each local PTA shall keep such permanent books of account and records as shall be sufficient to establish the items of gross income, receipts, and disbursements of the organization, including, specifically, the number of its members, the dues collected from its members, and the amounts of dues remitted to the Mississippi PTA. Such books of account and records shall at all reasonable times be open to inspection by an authorized representative of the Mississippi PTA or, where directed by the committee on state and national relationships, by a duly authorized representative of the National PTA.

****Section 3.** The charter of a local PTA shall be subject to withdrawal and the status of such organization as a local PTA shall be subject to termination, in the manner and under the circumstances provided by the bylaws of the Mississippi PTA.

****Section 4.** Each local PTA is obligated, upon withdrawal of its charter by the Mississippi PTA:

- A. To yield up and surrender all of its books and records and all of its assets and property to the Mississippi PTA or to such agency as may be designated by the Mississippi PTA or to another local PTA organized under the authority of the Mississippi PTA;
- B. To cease and desist from the further use of any name that implies or connotes association with the National PTA or the Mississippi PTA or status as a constituent association of the National PTA; and
- C. To carry out promptly, under the supervision and direction of the Mississippi PTA, all proceedings necessary or desirable for the purpose of dissolving such local PTA.

****Section 5.** Each officer or board member of a local PTA shall be a member of such local PTA.

****Section 6.** Only members of a local PTA who have paid dues for the current membership year may participate in the business of the local PTA.

****Section 7.** Each local PTA shall collect dues from its members and shall remit a portion of such dues to the Mississippi PTA as provided in Article VII hereof.

#Section 8. Each local PTA shall include in its bylaws provisions corresponding to the provisions of state bylaws identified by the number symbol.

ARTICLE VII: MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

** Section 1. Every individual who is a member of a local PTA is, by virtue of that fact, a member of the National PTA and of the Mississippi PTA by which such local PTA is chartered, and is entitled to all the benefits of such membership.

** Section 2. Membership in each local PTA shall be made available by such local PTA, without regard to race, color, creed, or national origin, under such rules and regulations, not in conflict with the provisions of the National PTA Bylaws, as may be prescribed in the bylaws of the local PTA, to any individual who subscribes to the objectives and basic policies of the National PTA.

** Section 3. Each local PTA shall conduct an annual enrollment of members but may admit individuals to membership at any time.

** Section 4. Each member of a local PTA shall pay such annual dues to said organization as may be prescribed by the organization. The amount of such dues shall include the portion payable to the Mississippi PTA--the "state portion"--and the portion payable to the National PTA--the "national portion."

** Section 5. Each member of a local PTA shall pay annual dues as may be determined by the local unit and shall include dues payable to the state PTA as determined by the Mississippi PTA, and dues payable to National PTA as determined by the National PTA.

#Section 6. The Mississippi PTA portion of each member's dues shall be one dollar and twenty-five cents (\$1.25) per annum.

** Section 7. The state and national portions of the dues paid by each member of a local PTA shall be set aside by the local PTA and remitted to the Mississippi PTA through such channels and at such times as the state PTA bylaws may provide. Each state PTA shall pay to the National PTA the amount of the national portion of dues paid by all members of local PTAs in its area.

*Section 8. The Mississippi PTA shall make remittances, on a monthly basis, to the National PTA of the amounts due to the National PTA. Each remittance shall be accompanied by a statement of the dues received by the Mississippi PTA from all local PTAs within its area for the month covered by the report. Such statement shall show the name and location of each local PTA, the amount paid by it to the Mississippi PTA, and the number of members in each local PTA.

ARTICLE VIII: OFFICERS

Section 1. 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.

Section 2. These officers shall be elected at an annual convention by the voting body of the convention.

Section 3. The vote shall be conducted by ballot. When there is but one candidate for an office, the ballot for that office may be dispensed with and election held by voice vote. A majority vote shall be required for election.

Section 4. The following provisions shall govern the qualifications and eligibility of individuals to be officers of the Mississippi PTA:

- A. Each officer shall be a member of a local PTA chartered by the Mississippi PTA.
- B. No officer may be eligible to serve two consecutive terms in the same office.
- C. A person who has served in an office for more than one half of a full term shall be deemed to have served a full term in such office.

Section 5. 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.

Section 6. A vacancy occurring in the office of president shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term by a vice president, chosen by the Board of Directors. A vacancy in any office other than president shall be filled by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IX: DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. The President shall:

- A. serve as the chief executive officer and official spokesman for the Mississippi PTA;
- B. preside at the annual state convention and at all meetings of the Board of Directors and the executive committee;
- C. submit an annual report to the Mississippi PTA Board of Directors and the National PTA;
- D. appoint a parliamentarian that shall be approved by the Board of Directors to serve at meetings of the executive committee, Board of Directors, state convention, and such other meetings as the president may deem advisable;
- E. appoint all special and convention committees, subject to the restrictions of these bylaws and the standing rules of the Mississippi PTA;
- F. serve as an ex officio member of all committees except the nominating and elections committees;
- G. coordinate the work of the officers and committees in order that the objects of the PTA may be promoted;
- H. have general charge and supervision of the business and affairs of the organization-- subject to the powers vested in the Board of Directors and the executive committee- and shall perform duties usually expected of the office of the president of a non-profit corporation;
- I. appoint three regional directors to assist in administrative work;
- J. sign authorization for all expenditures and keep his/her signature on file at the depository of the Mississippi PTA as an emergency signature for that of the treasurer and is authorized to sign checks in the absence of the treasurer;

- K. perform such other duties as may be provided for by these bylaws, prescribed by the parliamentary authority or directed by the Board of Directors or Executive Committee.
- L. deliver to his/her successor all books, records, official documents and pertinent informational material in his/her possession no later than fifteen (15) days following the election of his/her successor;

Section 2. The Vice President(s) shall:

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

Section 3. The Vice President of Leadership shall:

- A. act as a special aide to the president and be responsible for leadership services;
- B. represent the Mississippi PTA in the event of the absence of the president of the Mississippi PTA at the convention of the National PTA or meetings of the Board of Directors of the National PTA;
- C. perform such other duties as may be assigned by the president for the promotion of Mississippi PTA activities;
- D. perform such other duties as may be provided for by these bylaws, prescribed by the parliamentary authority, or directed by the president, board of directors, or executive committee;
- E. deliver to his/her successor all books, records, official documents and pertinent informational material in his/her possession no later than fifteen (15) days following the election of his/her successor.

Section 4. The Vice President of Education shall:

- A. direct all educational activities related to the Mississippi PTA Bulletin;
- B. perform such other duties as may be provided for by these bylaws, prescribed by the parliamentary authority, or directed by the president, Board of Directors or executive committee;
- C. deliver to his/her successor all books, records, official documents and pertinent informational material in his/her possession no later than fifteen (15) days following the election of their successor.

Section 5. The Vice President of Legislation shall:

- A. direct all legislative activities;
- B. perform such other duties as may be provided for by these bylaws, prescribed by the parliamentary authority, or directed by the president, Board of Directors or executive committee;

- C. deliver to his/her successor all books, records, official documents and pertinent informational material in his/her possession no later than fifteen (15) days following the election of his/her successor.

Section 6. The Secretary shall:

- A. keep an accurate account of all meetings;
- B. be prepared to read the records of any previous meetings;
- C. file all records
- D. record and index the minutes of meetings of the Mississippi PTA, the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee, and the Annual State Convention;
- E. send a copy of the minutes to the Mississippi PTA State Office within ten (10) days following each meeting;:
- F. conduct such correspondence as the Mississippi PTA, Board of Directors or executive committee may direct;
- G. maintain a current record of the terms of office of all members of the Board of Directors;
- H. serve as historian;
- I. notify officers and chairmen of standing committees of their election to such offices;
- J. perform such other duties as may be provided for by these bylaws, prescribed by the parliamentary authority, or directed by the president, the Board of Directors or the executive committee.
- K. deliver to his/her successor all books, records, official documents and pertinent informational material in their possession no later than fifteen (15) days following the election of their successor.

Section 7. The Treasurer shall:

- A. serve as chairman of the budget committee;
- B. maintain a full account of the funds of the Mississippi PTA;
- C. cause to be kept a full and accurate account of the receipts and disbursements in books belonging to the Mississippi PTA;
- D. make disbursements as authorized by the president, executive committee or Board of Directors in accordance with the budget adopted by the Board of Directors;
- E. render a written statement to the Board of Directors at each meeting;

- F. present an annual report of the financial condition of the organization;
- 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;
- H. report the findings of the annual audit to the Board of Directors;
- I. perform such other duties as may be provided for by these bylaws, prescribed by the parliamentary authority, or directed by the president, the Board of Directors, or the executive committee;
- J. deliver to his/her successor all books, records, official documents and pertinent informational material in his/her possession no later than fifteen (15) days following the election of his/her successor.

ARTICLE X: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. The affairs of the Mississippi PTA shall be managed by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Each board member shall be a member of a local PTA chartered by the Mississippi PTA.

Section 3. The members of the board shall be:

- A. elected officers;
- B. the immediate past president, regional directors, and other members.

Section 4. Duties of the board shall be:

- A. adoption of rules for the transaction of the affairs of the Mississippi PTA, provided the rules are not in conflict with these bylaws and the bylaws of the National PTA;
- B. approval of the annual budget of the Mississippi PTA;
- C. approval of the appointments of the president;
- D. recommend to the state convention any changes in policies or administration that it deems necessary.

Section 5. If any member of the Board of Directors shall at any time cease to meet the qualifications or fulfill the duties of the position, that person may be removed from the board by resolution adopted by the Board of Directors.

Section 6. Regular meetings of the board shall be held at least three (3) times during the fiscal year.

Section 7. Notice of time and place of each regular meeting shall be given at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting.

Section 8. Special meetings of the board may be called by the president or when requested by nine (9) members upon five (5) days' written notice to each member of the board.

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

Section 10. Upon the expiration of the term of office or when individuals cease to hold the position that entitles them to be a member of the board, they shall automatically cease to be a member of the board and shall be relieved of all duties and responsibilities incident to such membership. All records, books and other materials pertaining to the position shall be turned over to the president and all funds pertaining to the position shall be returned to the treasurer within fourteen days.

ARTICLE XI: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. There shall be an Executive Committee of the Mississippi PTA, the members of which shall be:

- A. all elected officers;
- B. three (3) regional directors, two (2) members-at-large.

Section 2. Special meetings of the executive committee may be called by the president or upon written request of five (5) members with five (5) days' notice to each member of the executive committee.

Section 3. Four (4) members of the executive committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Section 4. The executive committee shall:

- A. transact business referred to it by the board;
- B. act in emergencies between meetings of the board;
- C. make a report at each board meeting;
- D. perform the duties delegated to it by these bylaws.
- E. have authority to govern the budget and direct its expenditures as duly-elected representatives of the members the Mississippi PTA.
- F. approve, from recommendations made by the president, the convention chairman and four (4) members of the State Board of Directors to serve as the program committee for the annual convention of the Mississippi PTA.
- G. submit to the State Board of Directors such recommendations as it deems advisable.
- H. select the time and place of all meetings of the Mississippi PTA.
- I. confirm and/or review the appointment and salaries, annually, of such salaried secretaries or other employees as may be recommended by the State Office Committee.

The executive committee shall take no action in conflict with any action taken by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XII: COMMITTEES

A. Committee on Elections

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.

Section 2. The committee on election shall perform the following duties:

- A. have charge of the election at the annual convention.
- B. provide necessary equipment for voting.
- C. be responsible for verifying credentials of members.
- D. be responsible for the printing of ballots, if ballots are used. which shall show the names of all nominees with sufficient space for write-in votes.
- E. tabulate the votes and make a complete report to the convention of the votes cast.

B. Committee on Nominations

Section 1. Election of the Committee

- A. A committee on nominations for officers, consisting of five (5), non-first year members, shall be elected every year by ballot by the State Board of Directors from its own membership at its regular summer board meeting and shall serve for one (1) year.
- 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.
- C. This committee shall meet and elect its own chairman before leaving the location of the summer board meeting.

Section 2. The committee on nominations shall perform the following duties:

- A. Select one (1) nominee for each office to be filled at the next convention.
- 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.
- C. Report to the convention on the first day of the session, at which time additional nominations may be made from the floor.

Section 3. Qualifications for Nominations

- 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.
- B. Only those who have served on the State Board of Directors shall be eligible for nomination or election to office.
- C. An officer of the Mississippi PTA shall not serve two consecutive terms in the same office.
- D. An officer who has served one-half (1/2) or more of a term shall be credited with having served that complete term.
- E. Only a member of a local PTA/PTSA unit whose prior consent has been secured and who meets the criteria for eligibility to election (Article VIII, Section 4) shall be eligible for nomination by the committee from the floor.

C. Standing Committees

Section 1. Organization of Standing Committees

- A. Standing committees may be created from within the board membership, or dispensed with, by the State Board of Directors as deemed advisable to carry on the work of the Mississippi PTA. Current standing committees include Office, Legislative, Leadership, and Bylaws.
- B. Each standing committee shall consist of a state chairman and such other persons as may be approved by the State Board of Directors. The chairmanships and members of the Office, Legislative, and Leadership committees are designated by Mississippi PTA's Policies and Procedures Manual as president, vice president for legislation, and president, respectively. The president appoints the chairman of the Bylaws Committee.

Section 2. Duties

- A. The chairman of each standing committee and each board member shall submit a plan of work to the State Board of Directors for approval, as provided for in policies and procedures for board members. No committee or other work shall be undertaken without the approval of the State Board of Directors.
- B. The chairman of each standing committee or board member shall continue the plan of work of predecessor until such time as his plan of work is approved. If any person fails to submit a plan of work the second year of his term at the summer meeting of the State Board of Directors or fails to work toward carrying out plans submitted and approved, the position may be declared vacant by a majority vote of the State Board of Directors.
- C. The chairman of a standing committee or board member shall circulate no materials or form letter without the approval of the president or the vice president directing the activities of that chairman

D. Special Committees

Special committees may be created and appointed by the president or by the Board of Directors, as provided in these bylaws, Article IX, Section 1,F.

E. Budget Committee

There shall be a budget and finance committee whose chairman shall be the treasurer of the Mississippi PTA. This committee shall prepare an annual budget and shall present it to the state PTA executive committee for review and subsequent ratification by the Board of Directors of the Mississippi PTA.

F. President Ex-Officio

The president shall be an ex-officio member of all committees except the committee on nominations for officers, the committee on nominations for other board members, and the committee on elections.

ARTICLE XIII REGIONS/DISTRICTS/COUNCILS

Section 1. Regions

The Mississippi PTA, for organizational purposes and to promote its program of work, shall be divided into three (3) regions designated as north, central, and south. The boundaries shall be defined by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Districts

Each of the three (3) regions shall be divided into two (2) districts. The boundaries shall be defined by the Board of Directors;

Section 3. Region Directors

- A. shall be appointed by the president to a one year term
- B. may be reappointed to a second term
- C. shall be a member of the executive committee
- D. shall work under the direction of the president
- E. shall assume appointment at the close of the annual convention

Section 4. District Coordinators

- A. shall be appointed by the director of the region in which the district is located
- B. shall be appointed to a one year term
- C. may be reappointed to a second consecutive term
- D. maybe someone other than a board member, a PTA member in good standing

Section 5. The Mississippi PTA may create or establish councils in counties, cities, or other areas designated by its Board of Directors for the purpose of conference, leadership training, and coordination of the efforts of local PTA units and may prescribe the form and content of the bylaws or other articles of organization of such councils. The local PTA units that shall be eligible for membership and participation in the work of any council shall be determined by the Mississippi PTA. Councils shall not legislate for local units.

ARTICLE XIV: STATE AND LOCAL RELATIONSHIPS

Section 1. There shall be a committee on state and local relationships consisting of the president, first vice president, treasurer, and two board members appointed.

Section 2. This committee shall review any alleged violations by local PTAs of the National PTA Bylaws, the Mississippi PTA bylaws, or their own bylaws or other practices or activities of local PTAs that may tend to defeat the Objects and basic policies of the Mississippi PTA and shall promptly report to the state Board of Directors the results of such review and its recommendations for action.

Section 3. The Mississippi PTA Board of Directors shall give due consideration to the report of the committee and shall accord the local PTA an opportunity to be heard and to respond to the report. If, upon such consideration and hearing, the Mississippi PTA Board of Directors finds a violation by a local PTA, it may, by a two-thirds vote of all its members then in office, require the local PTA to take appropriate action within a period of time stipulated by the Mississippi PTA Board of Directors. When such a requirement has been made by the Mississippi PTA board of directors and if the recommended action is not taken by the local PTA within the allotted time, the Mississippi PTA Board of Directors may, by a two-thirds vote of all its members then in office, withdraw the charter of the local PTA and terminate its status as a local PTA.

ARTICLE XV: STATE CONVENTION

Section 1. Date and Place

- A. A convention of the Mississippi PTA shall be held annually in the spring, except under the condition stated in Article XV, Section 4. The time and place shall be determined by the executive committee at its regular meeting at least two (2) years prior to the time of the convention.
- B. Notice of the convention will be sent to each member of the State Board of Directors and to the president of each council and each local PTA unit by the president at least sixty (60) days prior to the convention. The call to convention shall be sent to each of the above in the month preceding the date of the convention.
- C. The annual convention shall elect officers in accordance with these bylaws and transact such other business as may properly come before the convention not previously determined by the official action of the National PTA.
- D. Each local PTA/PTSA in good standing with dues having been received in state office shall be entitled to be represented at the annual convention of the Mississippi PTA by its president or alternate, and one (1) accredited delegate for each twenty (20) members or major fraction thereof.

Section 2. Voting Body

- A. The voting body of the convention shall consist of the members of the State Board of Directors, duly accredited delegates of local PTA/PTSA units, and council presidents or their alternates.
- B. The privilege of introducing motions, debating, and voting shall be limited to the voting body provided in item "a".
- C. The annual convention of the Mississippi PTA shall be open to all members upon payment of the registration fee, as determined by the executive committee, upon proof of membership.
- D. A delegate shall have but one vote.
- E. Voting by proxy shall not be permissible.

Section 3. Quorum

Thirty-five (35) delegates shall constitute a quorum for the annual convention of the Mississippi PTA.

Section 4. Cancellation of Convention

- 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.
- 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.

ARTICLE XVI: NATIONAL CONVENTION

(National PTA Bylaws Article XXIV -Annual Convention, *Section 5)

*Section 1. The Mississippi PTA shall be entitled to accredit to the annual convention as its delegates:

- A. The president of the Mississippi PTA
- B. One additional delegate from among the members of the state PTA for each 1,000 members, or major fraction thereof, of the Mississippi PTA, as shown on the books of the treasurer of the National PTA as of March 31 preceding the annual convention.

Section 2. The selection of the delegates, other than the president of Mississippi PTA who shall be a delegate by virtue of office, shall be governed by the bylaws of the Mississippi PTA.

Section 3. The executive committee shall be responsible for the selection of the delegates, other than the president of Mississippi PTA, to attend the convention.

ARTICLE XVII: FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the Mississippi PTA shall begin on **July 1st** and end on the following **June 30th**. All constituent organizations shall have the same fiscal year as the Mississippi PTA.

**** ARTICLE XVIII: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the Mississippi PTA and its constituent organizations in all cases in which they are applicable and in which they are not in conflict with these bylaws, the National PTA Bylaws, or the Articles of Incorporation.

ARTICLE XIX: AMENDMENTS

Section 1. These bylaws may be amended at an annual convention by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting, provided the amendments have been approved by the Board of Directors and notice of proposed amendments has been provided to constituent organizations 30 days prior to the opening of convention.

* Section 2. The adoption of an amendment to any provision of the National PTA Bylaws identified by a single star shall serve automatically and without the requirement of further action by the Mississippi PTA to amend their corresponding bylaws. State PTAs shall promptly incorporate such amendments in their respective bylaws.

** Section 3. The adoption of an amendment to any provision of the National PTA Bylaws identified by a double star shall serve automatically and without the requirement of further action by the Mississippi PTA to amend their corresponding bylaws. State PTAs shall promptly incorporate such amendments in their respective bylaws.

Section 4. The executive committee or the Board of Directors by a majority vote may authorize the Committee on Bylaws to submit a revised set of bylaws as a substitute for the existing bylaws.