

WELCOME TO 2024 LEADERSHIP CONVENTION

Session will begin soon





DEVELOP
ADVOCATE
ENGAGE

UTAH

Develop programs, resources, and leadership skills that enhance the lives of all children, youth, and their families.

Advocate by speaking on behalf of all children and youth in schools, in the community, before governmental bodies, and before other organizations that make decisions affecting children.

Engage the public in united and equitable efforts to secure the physical, mental, emotional, spiritual, and social well-being of all children and youth.

Putting the “T” in PTA



Who am I?

*Instructional Coach at Sprucewood Elementary School

*Teacher at Entrada High School

*Utah PTA Teacher Representative

*Sprucewood Elementary Teacher VP

*An educator at heart



Why the 'T' in PTA?

“No school can work well for children if parents and teachers do not act in partnership on behalf of the children's best interests.”

-Dorothy H. Cohen



Topics to discuss

Why don't teachers join the PTA?

Role of Teacher VP on your PTA Board

Tips for improving parent teacher relationships

Teacher appreciation ideas

Questions, suggestions, or ideas to help others in their PTA



Why don't teachers and staff join?

- They forget to join.

The beginning of the school year is one of the busiest times of years for teachers. Many just simply forget to join.

- They don't know or understand that they can join

Some teachers misunderstand that the PTA is for parents, not teachers. They might think if they don't have children at the school they can't join. Many new teachers to the profession haven't heard about PTA and don't know they can join.

- They don't understand the importance of PTA

Some teachers don't understand the importance and mission of PTA to "help every child achieve their potential." They don't know that Utah PTA advocates for them at the capital every year. You may need to provide education for them about the mission and advocacy of the PTA and how it impacts them.



It's all in the ask

Consider instead of asking teachers and staff to join PTA, ask them to support PTA with the purchase of a membership. Typically, if the principal is on board and has purchased their membership, the teachers will follow suit and purchase their membership.



Teacher VP

- Needs to be a current teacher in your school
- Should attend all or part of your board meetings when possible
- Serves on your board and counts in your quorum numbers
- Is elected by the PTA membership and is presented through the nominating committee process
- Should be the liaison between PTA board and school staff
- Should help with advice and offer a teacher perspective on events and issues related to your PTA



Ways for Teacher VP to support

- Get the administrator on board so that the Teacher VP's class can be covered during the PTA meeting
- Involve the Teacher VP in conversations so that they are able to elicit the opinions and suggestions of faculty members in the building
- Google Form example



Teacher/Staff Appreciation Ideas

- Anything
 - There is no perfect gift, however, anything that shows appreciation is appreciated
- Cards or notes from students
- Flood their inbox with positive emails from parents
- It can be done year round, not just the first week of May
- Lunch from their favorite close by fast food that parents could sign up for so everyone in the school is included
- Make sure no one is left out like speciality/booster teachers, aides, cafeteria, and other staff
- Prize drawings with donated prizes
- Spruce up the faculty room or teacher bathrooms
- Let parents help. You might even find some new volunteers this way.

What have you done for teacher/staff appreciation in the past?



Questions, suggestions, or ideas to help others in their PTA



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