

## COLORADO PTA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

The Legislative Committee is part of the Public Policy Division of Colorado PTA (COPTA). It is chaired by the Public Policy Director or a person appointed by the Director.

### What are the functions of the Legislative Committee?

- Networking of information on national and state legislative issues and COPTA's positions and making this information available to the local units.
- Advising the Public Policy Division as to positions to be recommended to the Board of Directors on issues not covered by national or state platforms and resolutions.
- Advocating COPTA's positions to our state and federal legislators.
- Collaborating with other like-minded organizations for the purpose of education advocacy.

### Who are the members of the Legislative Committee?

- The Legislative Committee consists of members appointed by the Public Policy Director with the approval of the Colorado PTA President. Every effort will be made to include at least three (3) people from each of the Colorado PTA Regions. These people can include any of the following:
  - Advocacy Liaisons – by virtue of your position, you are automatically a member;
  - Council Presidents;
  - The COPTA Federal Legislative Chair;
  - The COPTA Board of Directors;
  - Any PTA member who attends regularly and participates actively.
- Any interested PTA member may attend the Legislative Committee meetings and participate in the discussions. However, they will not be considered a voting member until they have attended three (3) meetings and have received the approval of the Public Policy Director.
- Colorado PTA bylaws state that two (2) unexcused absences from a committee meeting shall constitute a resignation. Participating via video or teleconference is considered as being in attendance.

### How does the Legislative Committee operate?

- Meetings of the full committee are held on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month from January through May, 6:30-8:30p.m. Meetings are held only on the 2nd Monday of the month from June through December, 6:30-8:30p.m. unless scheduled otherwise.
- Meeting agendas may include but are not limited to the following:
  - Standing reports: Federal Legislative Chair, advocacy initiatives, progress on stated priorities and others as determined by the chair;
  - Discussing proposed legislation to determine COPTA's position on bills;
  - Strategic planning for advocacy efforts;
  - Reviewing resolutions or positions being proposed by the subcommittee;
  - Training for Legislative Committee members;
  - Organizing subcommittees.
- Ad hoc Subcommittees may be formed for tasks including but not limited to:
  - Planning the annual COPTA Legislative Conference;
  - Updating the resolutions book and platform, and recommending new resolutions;
  - Researching specific proposed legislation.

### How are votes conducted?

When it becomes necessary for the Legislative Committee to vote on a position recommended for adoption by COPTA, the vote is based on a quorum of committee members in-good-standing in attendance (see above). The quorum shall be a minimum of seven (7) people from at least three (3) different regions, with a simple majority being required to pass the vote.