



# BYLAWS OF

**P.S. 221Q , The North Hills**

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(Insert DBN or Name of School)

**Parent Associations  
Parent-Teacher Associations**

## Article I – Name

The name of the Association shall be P.S. 221Q PTA, and hereafter referred to as the Association.

## Article II – Objectives

### A. The objectives of the Association include but are not limited to:

1. Develop parent leadership and build capacity for greater involvement.
2. Foster and encourage parent participation on all levels.
3. Develop a cooperative working relationship between the parents and staff of our school.
4. Provide opportunities and training for parents to participate in school governance and decision-making.
5. Provide support and resources to the school for the benefit and educational growth of the students.

## Article III – Membership

### A. Eligibility

1. A parent of a student currently on the register of P.S. 221 Q is automatically a member of the Association.
2. At the beginning of each school year, the Association shall send a welcome letter to inform parents of their automatic membership status and voting rights.
3. The term parent is defined as any person in a parental or custodial relationship to the student, which includes the following.
  - a. Birth parent
  - b. Adoptive parent
  - c. Foster parent
  - d. Stepparent
  - e. Legally appointed guardian
  - f. Person(s) in parental relation<sup>1</sup>
4. Membership shall be open to all teachers, paraprofessionals, school aides, custodians, school secretaries, and food service workers currently employed at the school.

### B. Dues/Donations

1. The payment of dues is not a condition for participation or membership.
2. Members may be requested to make a voluntary donation.

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<sup>1</sup> The term “person in parental relationship” refers to a person who has assumed the care of a child because the child’s parents or guardians are not available, whether due to, among other things, death, imprisonment, mental illness, living outside the state, or abandonment of the child. Any determinations about who constitutes a person in parental relations must be based on the individual circumstances surrounding guardianship and custodial care of the particular child. A person who provides temporary care for a child (e.g. babysitter, nanny, or non-custodial relative) does not qualify as a person in parental relation under Chancellor’s Regulations A-660.

## C. Voting Privileges

1. Every parent and legal guardian of a student currently enrolled at P.S. 221Q shall be entitled to a single vote during any in-person, virtual, and/or hybrid meetings. However, that right may be limited by the Conflicts of Interest restriction outlined in Chancellor’s Regulation A- 660.<sup>2</sup>
2. Voting by proxy, absentee ballot or email, is prohibited.
3. Each teacher, para-professionals, school aides, school secretaries, custodian, and food service workers staff currently employed at the school shall be entitled to a single vote.

## Article IV – Officers

### A. Titles

1. The mandatory officers of the Association shall be: president/co presidents, recording secretary and treasurer. The election of mandatory officers will constitute a functioning Parent or Parent-Teacher Association. There shall be no qualification requirements for any parent to be an office holder of the Association, other than to be a parent of child attending P.S. 221Q. The eligibility of any member may be limited by the Conflicts of interest restrictions outlined in Chancellor’s Regulation A-660.<sup>2</sup>

- B. Non-Mandatory Officers of the Association may consist of but are not limited to following Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Fundraising Chair, Membership Chair, Programming Chair, Webmaster/Media Chair and Financial Secretary.**

### C. Term and Term Limits

1. The term of office<sup>3</sup> shall be no more than 12 months beginning July 1st and ending June 30th.
2. Term limits<sup>4</sup> for each officer position of the Association shall be three consecutive one-year terms. A candidate who has served the maximum number of terms may only be elected to serve an additional term if no other interested candidate is nominated and willing to serve.
3. Past executive members who have served the maximum number of terms may serve in advisor roles only if elected by majority of votes by current Executive Board Members.

### D. Duties of Officers

1. **President/Co Presidents:** The duties of the president shall include but are not limited to the following:
  - a. preside at all meetings of the Association.
  - b. is an ex-officio member of all committees except the nominating

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<sup>2</sup> Restrictions based on Conflicts of interest as determined by Chancellor’s Regulations A-660 (Section I.C.3.c)

<sup>3</sup> The term of office pertains to the length of time a person is elected to serve as an executive board officer.

<sup>4</sup> Terms limits refers to the number of consecutive times a person may be elected to serve in a particular executive board position.

- committee;
  - c. appoint association committee chairpersons with the approval of the executive board;
  - d. encourage meaningful participation in all parent and school activities;
  - e. provide opportunities for members' leadership development;
  - f. delegate responsibilities to members of the Association as needed;
  - g. attend all regular meetings of the presidents' council;
  - h. is a mandatory member of the School Leadership Team<sup>5</sup>;
  - i. meet regularly with the executive board members;
  - j. plan the agendas for the general membership meetings;
  - k. is one of the eligible signatories on checks, and debit card disbursement forms
  - l. may be responsible for DOE issued email account,
  - m. assist with the June transfer of Association records, including all pertinent userIDs and passwords, to the incoming executive board.
2. **Recording Secretary:** The duties of the recording secretary shall include but are not limited to the following:
- a. record the minutes at all Association meetings;
  - b. prepare notices, agendas, sign-in sheets and materials for distribution;
  - c. prepare and read the minutes at Association meetings;
  - d. distribute copies of the minutes for review and approval by the general membership;
  - e. maintain the custody of the Association's records on school premises;
  - f. is responsible for maintaining the DOE issued email account;
  - g. may be one of the eligible signatories on a checks and disbursement forms;
  - h. incorporate all amendments into the bylaws, and;
  - i. ensure that signed copies of the bylaws with the latest amendments are on file in the principal's office,
  - j. may be responsible for reviewing, maintaining and responding to all correspondence addressed to the Association; and,
  - k. assist with the June transfer of Association records, including all pertinent userIDs and passwords, to the incoming executive board.
3. **Treasurer:** The duties of the treasurer shall include but are not limited to the following:
- a. responsible for all financial affairs and funds of the Association;
  - b. maintain an updated record of all income and expenditures on school premises;
  - c. may be a signatory on checks, and debit card disbursement forms;
  - d. may be responsible for setting up online access to the bank account;
  - e. adhere to and implement all financial procedures established by the Association;
  - f. prepare and present a written report of all transactions at every executive

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<sup>5</sup> Co-presidents must determine who will serve on the SLT and who will attend President Council meetings.

board and general membership meeting (which includes income, refunds, reimbursements and other expenditures, and opening and closing balances for the reporting period);

- g. prepare the Association's interim and annual financial reports;
- h. make available all books and financial records for viewing by members upon request and for audit;
- i. may have access to the DOE issued email account;
- j. assist with the June transfer of Association records, including all pertinent userIDs and passwords, to the incoming executive board.

**4. Non Mandatory Officers<sup>6</sup>:** All non-mandated The duties of the shall include but are not limited to the following:

**4.A Vice President:**

- a. The Vice-President shall assist the President or Co-Presidents and shall assume the President's or Co-Presidents' duties in his/her or their absence or at the President's or Co-Presidents' request.
- b. The Vice Presidents will perform the duties of the President/Co-President in his/her absence.
- c. The Vice President shall be one of the signatories on all checks.
- d. The Vice President shall assist with the June transfer of Association records to the incoming Executive Board.

**4.B Chairperson/Co-Chairperson of Fundraising:**

- a. The Chairperson of Fundraising shall oversee and coordinate all fund raising events.
- b. Each Chairperson may recruit members from the Association to be on their committee.
- c. The Chairperson of Fundraising shall act as liaisons between committees, President/Co Presidents and school administration in regard to fund raising events.
- d. The Chairperson of Fundraising shall confer with the PTA President/Co President and school administration and relevant members of the Executive Board before each event, to set date of function, confirm distribution of initial and reminder notices by the chairperson.
- e. The Chairperson of Fundraising shall be present and/or arrange representation of an executive officer at fund raising events.
- f. The Chairperson of Fundraising shall prepare and review activity reports for each fundraising event and submit such report to the President/Co-President.
- g. The Chairperson of Fundraising shall report at Executive Board and

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<sup>6</sup> Non-mandatory officers may include but are not limited to; Vice-President, Corresponding Secretary, an officer to support your technical needs (Virtual Support Officer) or Parliamentarian. Duties of non-mandatory officers can be found in Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised.

General membership meeting on status of function and all monies earned.

**4.C Chairperson/Co-Chairperson of Membership:**

- a. The Chairperson(s) of Membership will coordinate annual membership drives and collect and record membership donations.
- b. The Chairperson(s) of Membership will perform the duties of fundraising in event of his/her absence. The Chairperson(s) of Membership will coordinate flyers and envelopes for membership drives.
- c. The Chairperson(s) of Membership will have available at general membership meetings a list of current members of the Association.
- d. The Chairperson(s) of Membership with assistance from PTA Executive Board Members will keep accurate records of all donations unless otherwise kept by the Treasurer.
- e. The Chairperson (s) of Membership will turn over all monies to the Treasurer or President/Co-President.
- f. The Chairperson(s) of Membership will encourage parent participation, outreach and recruitment.

**4.D Chairperson/Co-Chairperson of Programming:**

- a. The Chairperson of Programming will coordinate booking of school wide programs.
- b. The Chairperson of Programming will submit receipts to Treasurer.
- c. The Chairperson of Programming will request checks for at least 1 week prior to event.
- d. The Chairperson of Programming will coordinate dates of events with school principal.
- e. The Chairperson of Programming will request schedules from principal/asst. principal when necessary.
- f. The Chairperson of Programming will confirm date/time/participants.
- g. The Chairperson of Programming will confirm pricing of events/per/pupil prices.

**4.E Financial Secretary:**

- a. The Financial Secretary with assistances from PTA Board Members will collect and account for all monies earned through fund raising events, donated, or otherwise designated as for this Association.
- b. The Financial Secretary with assistances from PTA Board Members will collect and count money from chairpersons and issue receipts.
- c. The Financial Secretary with assistances from PTA Board Members will transfer money to Treasurer and obtain receipt.
- d. The Financial Secretary with assistances from PTA Board Members will obtain a financial summary from each chairperson.

#### **4.F Corresponding Secretary:**

- a. The Corresponding Secretary will conduct all correspondence of the Association.
- b. The Corresponding Secretary will notify all members of Executive Board meeting dates no less than 7 days prior to meeting.
- c. The Corresponding Secretary will keep attendance records.
- d. The Corresponding Secretary will compile a list of all Executive Board members and distribute to those members.
- e. The Corresponding Secretary will set up a communication chain among Executive Board members to be used in case of emergencies.
- f. The Corresponding Secretary will perform such other secretarial duties as may be delegated to this officer.
- g. The Corresponding Secretary will draft all “thank you” letters to invited guests of PTA meetings and upon review and approval of the President/Co-Presidents.
- h. The Corresponding Secretary will assist with proofreading of memos and documentation of the Association.

#### **4.G Tech/Social Media Chair:**

- a. The Tech/Social Media Chair/Co Chairs will update/upkeep the PTA website, all social media accounts and correspond to all parent concern via email.
- b. The Tech/Social Media Chair/Co Chairs will draft the monthly calendar upon review and approval of the President/Co-Presidents and the principal.
- c. The Tech/Social Media Chair/Co Chairs will assist with forwarding of memos/flyers to the principal, assistant principal, and parent coordinator for approval.
- d. The Tech/Social Media Chair/Co Chairs will assist with distribution /collection of membership and fundraising letters
- d. The Tech/Social Media Chair/Co Chairs will disseminate notifications of all activities of PS 221 PTA including but not limited to PTA General Meetings, programs, and fundraising events upon approve of the President/Co-Presidents.

### **E. Election of Officers**

1. Officers shall be elected by the last day of each school year for a one-year term beginning July 1. Any timeline established by the Association to complete the nominations and election process must adhere to this timeframe. The principal must be notified of the date and time of the annual election by April 1.

2. Employees of P.S. 221Q may not serve as members of the executive board, even if they have a child enrolled in the school.
3. The election of officers must be conducted at an in-person meeting or using a virtual remote platform. Conducting elections in a hybrid meeting format is prohibited.

**4. Formation of the Nominating Committee**

A nominating committee must be established during the April monthly general membership meeting. The nominating committee shall consist of three to five volunteers, none of whom plan to run for office.

**5. Responsibilities of the Nominating Committee**

The nominating committee shall solicit nominations for candidates from the general membership. Individuals may also submit their own names to be candidates for office in writing. In addition to written nominations, the committee may also provide an opportunity to accept nomination from the floor at a general membership meeting prior to the close of nominations.

Notices should be translated into languages spoken by parents in the school whenever possible.<sup>7</sup> The nominating committee will also be responsible for conducting the election meeting.

Duties of the nominating committee may include, but are not limited to the following:

- a. canvassing the membership for eligible candidates;
- b. preparing and distributing all notices of any meeting pertaining to the election process;
- c. preparing election materials;
  - In-person elections: ballots, attendance sheets, ballot box, tally sheets and all other materials pertaining to the election
  - Virtual elections: anonymous polls, attendance sheets and all other materials pertaining to the election
- d. verifying the eligibility of all interested candidates prior to the election;
- e. scheduling the election at a time that ensures maximum participation;
- f. ensuring that only eligible members are able to vote;
- g. ensuring that the election is certified by the principal or designee immediately following the election.

If a nominating committee cannot be formed, the Association must proceed with an expedited election – a single meeting where all nominations are taken from the floor for all offices immediately prior to the election.

**6. Notices**

The meeting notice and agenda for the spring general membership election meeting shall be distributed in accordance with CR A-660's notice requirements. All meeting notices and agendas shall be available in English and translated into

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<sup>7</sup> Translated templates, for all election materials, can be found in all 9 languages on the DOE [PA/PTA Resources Page](#).



languages spoken by parents in the school whenever possible. The distribution date and meeting format (in-person and virtual) shall appear on all notices. If nominations have been closed, the election meeting notice shall list all candidates in alphabetical order by surname under the office for which they are nominated.

## 7. Contested Elections<sup>8</sup> and the Use of Ballots/Anonymous Polls

### a. In-person Elections:

- Written ballots are required for all contested offices.
- Candidates must be listed in alphabetical order by last name for each office.
- Candidates running for co-offices must be listed together and voted for as a team.
- When possible, ballots should contain instructions in all languages spoken by parents in the school.
- Ballots must remain in the meeting room until the election meeting has been adjourned.
- Ballots must be counted immediately following the conclusion of voting and in the presence of any members and observers.
- Ballots must not be removed from the school. The Association must retain ballots on school premises for one year following the date of the election or until the determination of any grievance filed concerning the election, whichever is later.

### b. Virtual Elections

- Anonymous polls are necessary for all contested offices.
- Candidates must be listed in alphabetical order by last name for each office.
- Candidates running for co-offices must be listed together and voted for as a team.
- When possible, polls should contain instructions in all languages spoken by parents in the school.
- Polls will be launched and results will be displayed and announced to the membership immediately following the conclusion of voting for each office.
- A printed record of poll results must be maintained among the Association's records for one year following the date of the election or until the determination of any grievance filed concerning the election, whichever is later.

## 8. Uncontested Elections

Where there is only one candidate for any office, the membership may vote to accept that candidate by a single motion. The result of the motion is to be reflected in the minutes.

## 9. Officer Vacancies

Officer vacancies must be filled either by succession or by an expedited election. A

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<sup>8</sup> When two or more candidates run for the same office it is a contested election. Ballots/anonymous polls must be used for voting.

vacancy occurs when an officer resigns or is removed from the position. Officers who wish to resign their positions once an election has been certified must submit their written resignation to the recording secretary and immediately turn over all Association records.

- a. When an office cannot be filled through succession, by the next highest ranking officer, an expedited election must be held to fill the vacancy.
- b. An officer may choose to retain their current position and not assume the higher ranking office.
- c. The ranking of officers for succession purposes shall be:
  - i. President/Co-Presidents
  - ii. Vice President (if applicable)
  - iii. Recording Secretary
  - iv. Treasurer

## **10. Expedited Election Process:**

Expedited elections shall be held to fill vacancies in the event the office cannot be filled through succession of the next highest ranking officers as listed in the order of succession. The executive board shall be responsible for announcing vacancies and distributing written notice of the expedited election. All nominations must be taken from the floor, immediately prior to the election. If the election is contested, written ballots must be used in accordance with Section 5a of these bylaws.

If quorum (see Section I.J.5.) is not met at the election meeting, a second election meeting must be scheduled, and a written Notice of Election Meeting must be sent to all parents at least 5 calendar days prior to the election.

## **F. School Leadership Team Parent Member Elections**

1. The election of parent members to the School Leadership Team (SLT) may take place during the same meeting as officer elections.
  - a. Once the election of PA/PSTA officers has concluded, the election of parent members to the SLT may begin.
  - b. The election of parent members to the SLT should follow the same or similar election procedure as PA/PSTA officer elections.

## **G. Disciplinary Action**

### **1. Grounds for Removal from Office**

- a. Any officer who fails to fulfill the duties of office as outlined in these bylaws, Article IV, Section C.
- b. Any officer who accrues 3 consecutive unexcused absences from executive board or general membership meetings.
- c. Any officer who poses a threat to the safety and well order of the Association or larger school community.
- d. Any officer who exercises behavior unbecoming the office as determined by the general membership.
- e. Any officer who commits a violation of the law may be removed from office by the recommendation of the investigatory entity.

## 2. Officer Removal

Association officers may be removed for unsatisfactory performance by recommendation of the executive board or a motion from a member and two thirds vote of the membership.<sup>9</sup>

### a. Removal Process

- i. The motion to remove an officer and the vote on removal must not occur during the same meeting.
- ii. Once a motion or recommendation has been made to remove an officer, a review committee should be formed. This committee will gather information and provide the Association with a recommendation in writing, within 30 days of the motion to remove an officer.
- iii. The vote on a motion to remove an officer will take place at the next general membership meeting, after the review committee's written recommendation has been completed.
- iv. The meeting notice must include the vote on removal.
- v. The content of the motion and the result of the vote must be included in the minutes and submitted to and filed with the principal and the Superintendent's office.

## Article V – Executive Board

### A. Composition

The executive board shall be composed of the elected officers of the Association as listed here [insert all executive board officers here]. Officers shall be expected to attend all executive board meetings.

### B. Meetings

The executive board shall meet monthly on the week before every month before the general PTA , unless such date falls on a legal or religious holiday, in which case the meeting shall be held on the following or previous week. The executive board must determine its capacity to host meetings using a particular meeting format (virtual). Meetings will be conducted using the following method(s) virtual.

### C. Voting

Each member of the executive board shall be entitled to one vote.

### D. Quorum

Majority members of the executive board shall constitute a quorum, allowing for official business to be transacted.

### E. June Transfer of Records

The Association must maintain the following records for a minimum of 7 years: bylaws and related amendments; meeting notices, agendas and minutes, records of officer

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<sup>9</sup> Officer removal is a serious matter for any association. Special care must be taken not to violate the rights of any party before any action or vote is taken.

elections other than ballots, and financial records. Outgoing executive board members must ensure that records, including user ids, passwords bank card and DOE issued email account and allparent contact information are transferred to the newly elected executive board members. The transfer of records must be conducted in the presence of the principal, the next practicable day after the election.

At least one meeting will be scheduled during the month of June for this purpose. Any member of the executive board may request the assistance of the President’s Council during the process.

## Article VI – General Membership Meetings

### A. General Membership Meetings

1. At the beginning of every school year, the executive board must survey the parent members to determine the day, time, location, and format (in-person, virtual, or hybrid) for the monthly general membership meetings.
2. General membership meetings of the Association shall be held monthly, September through June, on the Second/Third Tuesday or Wednesday of every month; at 6:00 PM, unless such date falls on a legal or religious holiday, in which case the meeting shall be held on the following or previous week, as determined by the executive board. Written notice of each membership meeting shall be distributed in languages spoken by parents at the school, whenever possible. Notice must be sent or posted at least 10 calendar days prior to the scheduled meeting.
  - a. All in-person and hybrid general membership meetings must be held in the Association’s home school.
  - b. Virtual and hybrid meetings must be held on a virtual remote platform that provides access and participation for all members, including but not limited to a dial in option.
  - c. Committee meetings may be held at locations convenient to the members, but may not be held in private homes.
  - d. All eligible members may attend and participate in general membership meetings.
  - e. Non-members may only speak or otherwise participate if acknowledged by the presiding officer.

### B. Order of Business

The order of business at meetings of the Association, unless changed by the executive board, shall be:

- a. Call to Order
- b. President’s Report
- c. Reading and Approval of Minutes
- d. Treasurer’s Report
- e. Committee Reports
- f. Principal’s Report
- g. School Leadership Team Report
- h. Old Business

- i. New Business
- j. Adjournment

## C. Quorum

### 1. In-Person and Virtual Meetings

Quorum of at least 8 Association members, including a minimum of 2 executive board members and 6 parent members, shall be required in order to conduct official Association business and in-person or virtual general membership meeting.<sup>10</sup>

### 2. Hybrid Meetings

Quorum of at least one of the executive board member present at the in-person location and at least one executive board member on the virtual platform shall be required in order to conduct official Association business at a hybrid general membership meeting.

## D. Minutes

Minutes of the previous meeting shall be available in written form approved at every general membership meeting. The minutes of any Association meeting must be made available to any member upon request.

## E. Special Membership Meetings

A special membership meeting may be called to deal with a matter of importance that cannot be postponed until the next general membership meeting. The president/co-presidents may call a special membership meeting with a minimum of 48 hours written notice to parents stating precisely what the topic of the meeting will be. **This does not apply to election meetings.**

Upon receipt of a written request from majority Association members, the president/co-presidents must call a special membership meeting within 5 calendar days of the request and provide 48 hours written notice to parents.

## F. Parliamentary Authority

Meeting rules of order should be adopted for use as a guide and included in these bylaws. Where no meeting rules of order are adopted, *Robert's Rules of Order – Newly Revised* will be deemed to apply, provided that it is consistent with laws, policies, rules, and regulations.

## Article VII – Committees

### A. Standing Committees

1. **Membership:** The responsibilities of the membership committee shall include but are not limited to:
  - a. encourage parent participation through recruitment and outreach;
  - b. plan various activities and events for member participation;
  - c. coordinate outreach efforts with the Parent Coordinator when possible.

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<sup>10</sup> In exceptional circumstances, the Association may seek a waiver of the minimum quorum requirement from FACE as per CR A-660.

2. **Budget:** The responsibilities of the budget committee shall include but are not limited to:
  - a. review prior year’s budget and make recommendations to executive board;
  - b. draft a proposed budget each spring for approval by general membership.
  
3. **Audit:** The responsibilities of the audit committee shall include but not are limited to:
  - a. Conduct an internal audit of all financial affairs of the organization when needed or as determined by these bylaws;
  - b. Review as needed all financial records;
  - c. Prepare written reports of its findings.
  
4. **Ad Hoc:** To accomplish a specific task or address a specific issue the executive board may recommend the formation of a committee that will cease to function once the task or issue has been addressed. The creation and dissolution of the committee must be recorded in the minutes of the Association.

## Article VIII – Financial Affairs

### A. Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of the Association shall run from July 1 through June 30.

### B. Signatories

The president, treasurer, and recording secretary shall be authorized to sign checks. All checks require at least 2 signatures. The 2 signatories of a check may not be related by blood or marriage (i.e. spouses, siblings, in-laws, relatives or members of the same household). An Association member may not sign a check if she/he has any direct or indirect interest in the expenditure.

### C. Budget

#### 1. Budget Process

The executive board shall be responsible for the development and/or review of the budget process, which includes:

- a. The outgoing executive board must review the current budget, annual financial status, accounting, expenditures and outstanding bills, and prepare a proposed budget for the next school year.
- b. The proposed budget must be presented to and approved by the membership no later than the June meeting.
- c. The incoming executive board must review the proposed budget for presentation and discussion during the September meeting. Budget amendments may be proposed at this time.
- d. The executive board must present the budget process for membership approval no later than the October meeting.

#### 2. Budget Amendments

The budget may be amended by vote of the general membership at any membership meeting.

#### 3. Expenditures

All expenditures not included in the budget at the time of its adoption must be approved by vote of the general membership.

#### 4. Emergency Expenditures

- a. The executive board is authorized to make an emergency expenditure not to exceed \$1,000 with a two-thirds approval of the executive board.
- b. Emergency expenditures are appropriate for the following purposes:  
Unforeseen shortfalls or deficits that would hinder PTA business.
- c. These expenditures shall be reported to the general membership at the next Association meeting and included in the monthly treasurer's report. Members will have the opportunity to vote on whether the emergency expenditure was an appropriate use of funds.
- d. The minutes of the meeting must reflect the vote taken by the Association to accept this action.

#### D. Management and Handling of Funds and Records

1. The checkbook and debit card shall be secured in a locked location on school premises or the location that the executive board deemed secured.
2. Under no circumstances may funds be withdrawn from the checking account.
  - a. No checks may be written payable to "cash" or "petty cash."
  - b. The debit card must not be used to withdraw cash.
  - c. No cash refunds or cash back options may be received from ensuing transactions.
3. The counting and handling of any cash, checks, or money orders received by the Association must be completed by at least 2 members of the Association. These Association members cannot be related by blood or marriage. Funds must be counted in the school on the same day of receipt. The Association's financial records must display the total amount of funds and the signatures of the Association members who participated in counting the funds.
4. The principal's written consent is required when a fundraising activity is held during school hours or on school property. All funds should be deposited into the bank account by an authorized executive board members within 1 business day of receipt, but in any event, no longer than 3 business days. If the deposit will not be made within 1 business day, the executive board must ensure that all funds are secured in a locked location on school premises. The executive board must obtain written acknowledgement from the principal when Association funds are secured in the school. Under no circumstances may fundraiser proceeds be stored in a member's place of work or residence. Association funds must be taken to the bank for deposit by at least 2 authorized members.
5. Documentation related to every transaction must be maintained at the school for six years. (e.g., cancelled checks, deposit receipts, purchase orders, debit card disbursement forms, online banking disbursement forms, Association minutes related to the financial transactions, etc.)

#### E. Online Banking

While writing a paper check is the preferred method of payment, the Association

may make payments through their bank's online payment system under the following conditions:

1. The checking account must be linked to the Association's DOE issued email address. (Contact your Parent Coordinator, School Administrator or Family Leadership Coordinator if you do not have access to your DOE email address.)
2. To identify any suspicious activity, the Association's automatic email notifications triggered by online banking account activity, should be set to the lowest possible threshold. The executive board will determine which officers have access to the Association's email account.
3. Under no circumstances may a personal email address or phone number be linked to an account. Nor may a personal bank account be linked to the Association's account.
4. All online transactions must have prior authorization of the Executive Board and must be reported at the next general membership meeting. This authorization is separate from and in addition to the general membership approval of the expenditure as a budget line item.
5. Because online banking transactions do not include the dual signatory fraud-control mechanism of paper checks, the Association will establish a protocol to safeguard funds and transparency. The Association will adhere to the following protocols when making online payments:
  - a. An Online Payment Disbursement Form must be issued by the Executive Board prior to an online payment transaction.
  - b. The Online Payment Disbursement Form must be signed by 2 account signatories, attached to all related invoices/receipts/documents and filed with the financial records.
  - c. The Online Payment Disbursement Form will include but is not limited to:
    - i. Date of expenditure
    - ii. Vendor name
    - iii. Amount of expenditure
    - iv. Description of expenditure
    - v. Name of officers who made the purchase
    - vi. Date reported to membership
6. All related information, including username and passwords/PINs, will be stored with the Association's financial records and included in the June transfer of records.

## **F. ATM/Debit Cards**

While writing a paper check is the preferred method of payment. The Association may possess and use a debit card issued by the banking institution connected to its primary checking account under the following conditions:

1. **Securing the Association's ATM/Debit Card**
  - a. ONE debit card, issued in the name of the Association and one of the signatories, may be used. All other cards issued by the bank must be destroyed. A record must be kept of all debit cards received, the date they were destroyed; it must be signed by all signatories.



- b. The debit card shall be linked to the Association’s accounts only. Under no circumstances may the debit card be linked to a personal account.
- c. The debit card will be secured in a locked location on school premises.
- d. All related passwords/PINs will be stored with the Association’s financial records and included in the June transfer of records.
- e. If the debit card bears the name of a signatory, in addition to the name of the Association, it must be destroyed at the end of that officer’s term.

## **2. ATM/Debit Card Transactions and Transparency**

- a. To safeguard transparency, the association will adhere to the following protocols when making payments using the debit card:
  - i. A Debit Card Disbursement Form must be completed for all transactions
  - ii. The Debit Card Disbursement Form must be signed by 2 account signatories, attached to all related invoices/receipts/documents and filed with the financial records.
  - iii. The Debit Card Disbursement Form will include but is not limited to:
    - Date of expenditure
    - Vendor name
    - Amount of expenditure
    - Description of expenditure
    - Name of officer who made the purchase
    - Date of membership approval
- b. The debit card may be used only for the following approved transactions:
  - i. To purchase items from online vendors
  - ii. To purchase items from vendors who do not accept checks
- c. The debit card may NOT be used for the following reasons:
  - i. Cash withdrawals from an ATM
  - ii. Cash refunds or cash back from transactions
  - iii. Third party mobile applications (i.e., mobile phone wallets)
  - iv. Direct donations
  - v. Member reimbursements
- d. All debit card transactions must receive authorization of the general membership. This authorization is separate from and in addition to the approval of the expenditure as a budget line item.
- e. For any debit card expenditure in excess of \$5000, the Association must secure the signatures of the principal and a FACE representative on the Debit Card Disbursement Form.
- f. The debit card should not be used to deposit funds. All funds should be deposited with the bank teller during regular banking hours.

## **H. Third Party Cash Applications**

The Association may establish accounts with third-party cash applications under the following conditions:

1. The third-party cash application account must be created using the DOE issued email address and must be connected directly to the Association’s bank account

using the Association’s bank account number or debit card.

2. The third-party cash application may be used for receiving funds only.
3. Under no circumstances may the third-party cash application be used
  - a. To make payments.
  - b. To acquire debit cards generated by a third party application.
  - c. To establish mobile wallets or any payment application installed on a member’s phone or mobile device.
4. All related passwords/PINs will be stored with the Association’s financial records and included in the June transfer of records.

## I. Financial Accounting

### 1. Financial Reporting

The treasurer shall prepare the Interim PA Financial Report by January 31st and the Annual PA Financial Report by the June meeting, including all income, expenditures, and other transactions. These reports shall be presented and reviewed by general membership. Copies of these reports shall be provided to the principal.

### 2. Record Keeping

The treasurer shall be responsible for all funds of the Association and shall keep accurate records in a form consistent with these bylaws and applicable Regulations of the Chancellor. In accordance with Chancellor’s Regulation A-610, parents must obtain written approval from the principal before collecting fundraiser proceeds from students. The treasurer and at least one other officer shall transport all funds to the bank.

Deposit slips shall identify the source of all deposited funds. All financial records of the Association including checkbooks, ledgers, cancelled checks, invoices, receipts, etc., shall be maintained and secured on school premises.

## J. Misuse of Funds

Allegations of financial wrongdoing may result in a legal investigation. Misappropriation of funds and the misuse of an ATM/Bank Card may be punishable by law. The Chancellor or designee may immediately remove any officer complicit in the violation of this provision.

## K. Audit

### 1. Formation of Audit Committee

The president/co presidents shall request volunteers to form an audit committee of 3 to 5 persons of the general membership. Executive board members who are not eligible signatories on an association’s checking account may serve on the audit committee. The majority of the committee shall be comprised of general members.

### 2. Responsibilities of Audit Committee

- a. The audit committee shall conduct an audit of all financial affairs of the Association with the help of the treasurer who shall make all books and records available to them.

- b. The audit committee may examine all relevant financial statements and records of disbursements, verify all Association equipment and ensure compliance with bylaw provisions for the transaction of funds.
- c. The audit committee shall prepare a written audit report to be presented to the membership at a general membership meeting, upon completion of their review and investigation. This report shall be included for review and discussion during the June transfer of records.

## **Article IX – Amendments and Regular Review of Bylaws**

These bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Association by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided the amendment was presented in writing to the membership at the previous meeting and appears in the notice of the meeting at which it is to be amended. Amendments are effective immediately unless otherwise specified. A thorough review of these bylaws shall be conducted every 3 years. All provisions of these bylaws must conform to CR A-660 and Department of Education guidelines.

Any member may present a motion at a general membership meeting to amend a provision of the bylaws that is not in compliance with CR A-660. Amendments that bring the bylaws into compliance must be voted on immediately after the motion is presented. A two-thirds vote of the membership is required for approval.

## Signature Page

These bylaws, as set forth above, have been voted on and approved by the membership. The most recent amendment was approved, in accordance with the provisions of Article IX, at the membership meeting held on \_\_\_\_\_.

Signed By:

Print Name:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Co-Presidents

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Co-Presidents

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Co-Presidents

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Co-Presidents

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Recording Secretary

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Recording Secretary

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Date:

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Date:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date filed with Principal

(Month) (Day) (Year)