

WESTGATE PTA PROCEDURE GUIDE

Revised March 2018

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The following guidelines have been compiled to assist each Westgate PTA Executive Board Member in understanding the complete scope of responsibilities as a committee chairperson and board member. These guidelines are to supplement the outline of duties set forth by the Westgate Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Bylaws, Illinois Parent Teacher Association (IPTA), and the National Parent Teacher Association (NPTA). Duties specific to each chairmanship can be found in committees' electronic folders as well as in the Standing Committee Descriptions documents, both found on the Westgate PTA's Google Drive.

- I. Westgate PTA Mission Statement in accordance with NPTA Mission Statement
 - A. To make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children.
 - B. Westgate PTA strives to achieve this by providing a complementary and supportive connection between home and school through social, service, and enrichment activities to benefit every child at our school.
- II. Objectives of National PTA
 - A. To promote welfare of children/youth in home, school, community and place of worship.
 - B. To raise the standards of home life.
 - C. To secure adequate laws for the care and protection of children/youth.
 - D. To bring into closer relationship the home and the school, that parents and teachers may cooperate intelligently in the education of children/youth.
 - E. To develop between educators and the general public such united efforts as will secure for all children/youth the highest advantages in physical, mental, social, and spiritual education.
- III. Westgate PTA Member Definition and Roles
 - A. General Member - all PTA members in good standing.
 1. Attend General Membership meetings.
 2. Vote at General Membership meetings. Proxy voting is prohibited.
 3. Read, amend if needed, and approve minutes of General Membership meetings.
 4. Approve and adopt the Audit Report in the Fall.
 5. Review and approve any budget changes proposed by the Executive Board.
 6. Elect two (2) general members plus one (1) alternate to the Nominating Committee in Fall. (Three (3) additional members of the Nominating Committee will be chosen from and by the Executive Board)

7. Amend, approve, and adopt Westgate PTA Bylaws on alternating years in the Spring.
 8. Elect officers in the Spring, or when a vacancy occurs.
 9. Approve and adopt the Excess Funds report, when necessary, in the Spring.
- B. Executive Board Member - consists of all elected officers, committee chairpersons, teacher representatives and principal (or his/her representative).
1. Be a General Member in good standing
 - a) Attend General Membership meetings.
 - b) Vote as a General Member at General Membership meetings.
 2. Attend Executive Board meetings, or send representative.
 3. Vote according to consensus of committee at Executive Board meetings.
 4. Promote general members as committee members. Promote volunteer opportunities to entire Westgate community.
 5. Fulfill the duties as a chairperson and/or officer as outlines in the positions' electronic folder.
 6. Maintain an electronic folder with pertinent documents. Committee information and Timelines are available in committee folders on the Westgate PTA Google Drive.
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1fIH_ofu6cfRDbVWom7-efrJyvzm3Hr_x8Gwf4n1CmTM/edit?usp=sharing
 7. Prepare Plan of Work report by the beginning of the fiscal year (or within thirty (30) days of assuming position), including all related sub-committees.
 8. Prepare End of Year report by the end of the fiscal year, or when committee has fulfilled its objectives for the year (whichever comes first).
 9. Report regularly the works of the committee and any related works of subcommittees to the membership and board. Send copy of report to Secretary for minutes.
 10. Read, amend if needed, and approve minutes of Executive Board meetings.
 11. Review tentative budget and propose to General Membership in the Fall.
 12. Review and approve meeting dates for both General Member and Executive Board meetings at the beginning of the fiscal year or in the Fall.
 13. Review and approve Plan of Work and End of Year reports.
 14. Elect three (3) Executive Board members plus two (2) alternates to the Nominating Committee in the Fall. (Two (2) additional members are elected from and by the General membership).
 15. Appoint members to Revision Committee for Bylaws or Procedure Guide in Fall.
 16. Elect an Audit Committee in the Spring.
 17. Elect an Excess Funds Committee, when necessary, in the Spring.

18. Review standing and special committees, and approve creation or dissolution of committees.
 19. Submit to General Membership for approval any expenditure not in the annual budget.
 20. Amend, approve, and adopt Westgate PTA Procedure Guide/Standing Rules on alternating years in the Spring.
 21. If necessary, remove an Executive Board member or Officer not performing his/her duties.
 22. Assist in finding replacement prior to end of term.
- C. Liaison - General Members who serve as liaison to share or promote information between two (2) organizations.
1. Keeps records of activities and any pertinent material.
- D. Sub-Committee Lead - General Members who lead a small committee or one-time event, working within a large committee or directly under an officer advisor.
1. Keep records of activities and any pertinent material.
 2. May need to submit Plan of Work or End of Year reports at the discretion of the advisor.
- E. Executive Committee - consists of all elected officers.
1. Be a General Member in good standing.
 - a) President, First and Second Vice President must have served as an Executive Board Member.
 - b) Secretary and Treasurer must have served as a Committee member.
 2. Attend Executive Committee, Executive Board, and General Membership meetings.
 3. Vote as an Executive Board Member at Executive Board Meetings and as a General Member at General Membership Meetings.
 4. Act as an advisor to those who report to them.
 5. Maintain electronic folder containing documents pertinent to their committees.

IV. General Guidelines for ALL Executive Board Members

- A. The first responsibility of every board member is to support and participate in the total PTA program; become familiar with the objectives and policies of the National PTA, Illinois PTA, and the Westgate PTA Bylaws; and be guided by the reference material relating to their specific committees.
- B. Each chairperson is responsible for staffing a committee as needed. This is necessary in order to provide maximum opportunities for participation by the general membership. A roster of committee members and their respective email addresses and telephone numbers should be included in the chairperson's Plan of Work report due at the beginning of the fiscal year.
- C. Use the Wolverine Weekly, PTA bulletin boards, display cases, social media, and other Westgate communication channels to inform the Westgate community and

general membership in order to stimulate interest about specific committee events and activities.

- D. All PTA-related flyers, postings, Wolverine Weekly submissions, and any other publicity must be proofread by committee chairperson and approved by the PTA President prior to distribution.
 - E. Media posts with pictures of students and/or student's names on social media and PTA website need to be consistent with District 25 media policies and respectful of those who have not approved media release of their child's photograph or name.
 - F. Chairpersons will provide assistance on Arlington Heights Council of PTA's projects as requested.
- V. Standing Rules
- A. Membership
 - 1. Westgate PTA dues, as recommended by the Arlington Heights Council of PTAs will be \$12 for a membership. Teacher memberships are \$10.
 - B. Executive Committee Member/Officer
 - 1. Officers are required to attend the PTA Road to Success course offered by the Illinois PTA District 37 within six (6) months of the commencement of their first term, and are encouraged to attend other PTA information course offerings and leadership training programs.
 - 2. Officers are required to maintain an electronic folder. Materials pertinent to their office should include, but is not limited to, current Westgate PTA Bylaws, Westgate PTA Procedure Guide, and outline of duties and procedures specific to that office, Plan of Work and End of Year reports, and the PTA Leadership Reference Guide.
 - C. Executive Board Members (including officers)
 - 1. All board members are expected to attend, or to send a representative to, regular board meetings for the purpose of gathering and sharing information, reporting on committee progress, and for giving support or denial to proposals under consideration. Forty-eight (48) hour minimum notification is required in order for business to be put on the agenda.
 - 2. All board members are encouraged to take advantage of PTA workshops and leadership training offered by Westgate PTA, Arlington Heights Council of PTAs, and District 37.
 - 3. All board members must maintain an electronic folder. The folder should include, but is not limited to, a list of Executive Board members, budgets, Plan of Work and End of Year reports, and any materials pertinent to their chairpersonship for the last five (5) years, or in accordance with the records retention schedule. Materials pertinent to their chairpersonship should also include a specific outline of the committee procedures and their time frame as well as sample copies, newspaper clippings, copies of contracts, sample flyers and other correspondence, vendor information

used in the past, and any other documentation that will make the incoming chairperson succeed.

4. Each chairperson must present a Plan of Work report. If their committee is requesting a budget change or are making changes for the upcoming year, an updated Plan of Work is required. Electronic copies of all Plans of Work must be maintained. An additional copy may be requested by the Arlington Heights Council of PTAs or for archiving purposes.
 - a) All Chairpersons are responsible for carrying out their entire Plan of Work. In the event that an activity takes place after the chairpersonship changes at the last General Board meeting of the school year, the outgoing chairperson is responsible for that activity until the close of the school year.
5. Board members may only serve a maximum of two (2) positions (either officer and committee chairperson, or chairperson of two (2) committees). Exceptions will be made at the discretion of the board. Volunteering within the committee or subcommittee is limitless.
6. The cost of board members to attend Arlington Heights Council of PTA events, Illinois PTA District 37 annual dinner meeting, Illinois PTA State Convention, and/or National PTA Convention shall be covered in the budget. If the budget is not sufficient for all who wish to attend, it will be divided equally between those attending (Principal and Assistant Principal will be paid in full). If ticket is not used, the board member must reimburse the PTA in full.

D. Financial Procedures and Record Keeping

1. When requesting reimbursement for expenses:
 - a) Request should be submitted within thirty (30) days of purchase and within fiscal year that the expense took place.
 - b) Original receipt must accompany expense voucher.
 - c) Committee chair must approve all expenditures prior to purchase.
 - d) PTA will not reimburse for sales tax unless the purchase is made from a merchant or warehouse that does not accept the tax exempt letter, and is the most economical choice. It is the final approval of the treasurer to make the payment.
 - e) Payment will be made within thirty (30) days.
2. Procedure for handling funds for deposit.
 - a) The Committee chair must deliver collected monies to the treasurer within three (3) days of each collection.
 - b) All monies requesting to be deposited must have the PTA Deposit Summary Sheet attached.
 - c) All monies will be counted by two (2) PTA members, one (1) of whom shall be an Executive Board member.
 - d) Deposits will be made in a timely manner, not to exceed one (1) week.

- e) Monies exceeding \$100 awaiting deposit must be stored in the Westgate safe located in the office.
 - 3. Committees must receive prior approval from the board if they are going to exceed their budget by more than \$25.
 - E. Procedure Guide/Standing Rules (see V. Standing Rules) Review Cycle
 - 1. The Westgate PTA Standing Rules portion of the Westgate PTA Procedure Guide is to be reviewed by the Revision Committee (Chaired by the the Secretary and including the President/Co-Presidents AND Two (2) Executive Board members) every two (2) years along with the Procedure Guide, unless deemed unnecessary. Any changes must be approved by the Executive Committee.
 - F. Bylaws Review Cycle
 - 1. The Westgate Bylaws are to be reviewed by the Revision Committee (Chaired by the the Secretary and including the President/Co-Presidents AND Two (2) Executive Board members) every two (2) years. For specific bylaw procedures see Article XVI of the Westgate PTA Bylaws.
- VI. Records Retention Schedule
- A. Certain documents must be permanently retained on the Westgate PTA Google Drive.
 - 1. Permanent Records must include:
 - a) Articles of Incorporation and annual reports filed with the Secretary of State
 - b) Annual Audit Reports
 - c) Bylaws, including amendments
 - d) Procedure Guide and Standing Rules, including amendments
 - e) Contracts and leases still in effect
 - f) Corporation reports filed with the Secretary of State
 - g) Correspondence (legal)
 - h) Equipment owned by the PTA (may also be located in the PTA office)
 - i) Insurance records, accident reports, claims, policies, certificates
 - j) Journals
 - k) Minutes books of association and committees
 - l) PTA Charter
 - m) Record Retention Policy
 - 2. Tax Exempt status documents
 - a) Application for tax exemption
 - b) Letter of determination (recognition) of status from both Federal and State
 - c) Group tax exemption documents
 - d) Letter assigning IRS employee identification number (EIN)
 - e) Form 990/990EZ and Schedule A, as filed with IRS form
 - f) Form 990N (e-Postcard)

- g) State tax information returns, as filed
 - h) 990-T, if applicable, for unrelated business income
 - i) Correspondence with IRS
 - j) Other information returns files with the government
 - k) Charitable Solicitation Registration, if applicable
- 3. Trademark registrations
- B. Ten Year Records
 - 1. Financial statements (year-end) and budget
 - 2. Grant Award letters of agreement
- C. Seven Year Records
 - 1. Accident reports and claims
 - 2. Accounts payable records
 - 3. Cash receipt records
 - 4. Checks (cancelled); except for those checks listed under records to be kept permanently
 - 5. Contracts and leases (expired)
 - 6. Inventories (products and materials)
 - 7. Invoices
 - 8. Purchase orders
 - 9. Sales records
 - 10. Vouchers for payments to vendors and to officers and members, which includes allowances and reimbursements for expenses
- D. Three Year Records
 - 1. Correspondence (general)
 - 2. Employee records (post-termination), if applicable
 - 3. Employment applications, if applicable
 - 4. Insurance policies and certificates (expired)
 - 5. Petty cash vouchers
 - 6. Volunteer hour logs
- E. One Year Records
 - 1. Bank reconciliation
 - 2. Correspondence with customers or vendors
 - 3. Duplicate deposit slips
- VII. Westgate PTA Structure
 - A. President/Co-President
 - 1. Arlington Heights Council of PTAs Liaison
 - 2. Cultural Arts Fair/Technology Fair
 - 3. Scholarship Project (alternating years with School Principal)
 - 4. Advisor to Liaisons
 - a) ABC/25 Liaison
 - b) ACEIT25 Liaison
 - c) Just Move It Challenge Liaison
 - d) Legislation Liaison

- e) Rolling Meadows High School Liaison
- f) Teacher Representative Liaison
- g) School Board Representative
- h) South Middle School Liaison
- 5. Additional Oversight
 - a) Master Calendar
 - b) Social media
 - c) Weekly reminders
 - d) Archived documents
- B. Secretary
 - 1. Recorder of General PTA Meetings (Agendas & Minutes)
 - 2. Advisor to Business Administrative Committees
 - a) Membership Committee
 - (1) Directory Spot
 - b) Website Editor
 - 3. Other Responsibilities
 - a) Display Case Scheduler
 - b) Social Media Oversight
- C. Treasurer
 - 1. Advisor to all committees with regards to money matters
 - 2. Social Media Oversight
- D. First Vice President
 - 1. Advisor to Ways and Means and Service Committees
 - a) Book Fair Committee
 - (1) Birthday Books
 - b) Staff Appreciation Committee
 - (1) Staff Appreciation Week Committee
 - c) Large Fundraiser Chairperson
 - d) Westgate Cares (Service Project Committee)
 - e) Sunshine Committee
 - f) Yearbook Committee
 - g) School Supply Kits
 - h) Gift Card Fundraiser
 - i) Plant Sale
 - j) School Pictures
 - k) Spirit Wear
 - l) Variety Show Concessions
 - m) Parent Game Night
 - 2. Social Media Oversight
- E. Second Vice President
 - 1. Advisor to Enrichment and Social Committees
 - a) Art Club Committee
 - (1) Reflections Liaison

- b) Back-to-School Block Party Committee
- c) Room Representative Committee
- d) Chess Club
- e) Fifth Grade Committee
- f) Fun Fair Committee
- g) Home Alone Safety Course
- h) Ice Cream Social
- i) Movie Nights
- j) Kindergarten Welcoming Committee
- k) School Enrichment Committee/Author Visit
- l) School Enrichment Committee/Cultural Arts Visit
- m) Hearing/Vision Screening
- n) National Walk to School Day
- o) Activity Night (previously known as Orbit Skate Night)

2. Social Media Oversight

VIII. Other Important PTA Documents on the Google Drive

- A. Westgate PTA Bylaws
- B. PTA Things You Need to Know
- C. Committee Descriptions
- D. Communication Channels
- E. Weekly Reminder and Flyer Distribution Guidelines (including Required Language for flyers)
- F. Blank Plan of Work and End of Year Report documents
- G. Current Budget
- H. Expense and Deposit Vouchers
- I. Current Roster of Committee Chairs
- J. PTA Leadership Reference Guide
- K. Logos

Westgate PTA Procedure Guide has been compiled by Tracy Recklaus, Westgate PTA Secretary

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Tracy Recklaus
Westgate PTA Secretary