

PA/PTA Governance

PA/PTA members must vote on and adopt a set of bylaws that govern and provide structure to the association. All PA/PTA bylaws must conform to the requirements of [Chancellor's Regulation A-660](#) (CRA-660). A PA/PTA bylaws template is available at <http://schools.nyc.gov/Offices/FACE/filesandresources.htm>

Chancellor's Regulation A-660

[Chancellor's Regulation A-660](#) (CRA-660) requires all schools to establish Parent Associations or Parent-Teacher Associations, and sets forth the PA/PTA's overall governance structure to ensure the rights of parents are clearly established.

For more information about PA/PTA roles and responsibilities, please visit the Division of Family and Community Engagement's (FACE) [Parent Association webpage](#).



For More Information and Assistance:

Visit the Parent Leadership website at:
www.schools.nyc.gov/Offices/FACE/BecomingaParentLeader/default.htm

If you have any other questions, please feel free to contact the **Division of Family and Community Engagement** at FACE@schools.nyc.gov or 212.374.4118

Parent Associations and Parent-Teacher Associations

PA/PTA Overview

Division of Family and Community Engagement
[Parents & Families](#)



What is a PA/PTA?

Parent Associations (PAs) and Parent-Teacher Associations (PTAs) are school-based organizations open to all parents of children currently attending a New York City public school. The PA/PTA is a primary vehicle for parents to get involved in their children's schools.

How do I join my school's PA/PTA?

All parents are automatically members of their school's PA/PTA. There are no pre-qualifications required to participate in a school's PA/PTA. There is no need to join the PA/PTA.

The term parent includes the student's parent or guardian, or any person in a parental or custodial relationship to the student.

For more specific information on how to get involved, ask your school principal or Parent Coordinator.

What is the role of the PA/PTA?

The PA/PTA helps parents become involved in their children's education, share ideas, and enrich their school communities. Each PA/PTA develops its own bylaws, elects officers, and holds regular meetings.

While the specific roles of PA/PTAs vary, their responsibilities include:

- Electing parent members to serve on School Leadership Teams and Community Education Councils
- Conducting outreach to get other parents involved in school life
- Supporting school activities like Parent-Teacher Conferences, open houses and curriculum nights
- Holding fundraising activities to benefit the educational, social and cultural programs in the school

PA or PTA?

Parent Association (PA) members may vote to amend the association's bylaws to extend membership to teachers and other school staff. PAs that vote to include school staff become Parent-Teacher Associations (PTAs).

- Only parent members may vote to change the association's structure from a PA to a PTA.
- The bylaws may be amended to extend membership to categories of staff in addition to teachers (e.g., paraprofessionals, school aides, school secretaries, and food service workers).
- School supervisory staff may not be members of the PA/PTA in the school in which they are employed.
- School employees may not serve as members of the executive board or the nominating committee of the school's PA/PTA.