

## 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](http://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](mailto: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.

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## 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.