# **PTAlink**

## PA/PTA Year at a Glance

#### June

- 1. Prepare a tentative calendar for the upcoming year. PA/PTAs must hold at least 9 monthly general meetings per school year
- Submit a tentative <u>budget</u> for approval by the General Membership (if not done in May)
- 3. Submit PA/PTA proposed budget to the principal
- 4. Suggested **June 15** deadline for PTA officer and SLT elections (if not done in May)\*
- 5. Meet with newly elected PTA officers and transfer of records to incoming executive board (CR A-660 states the transfer of records should occur the next practicable day following the election)
- 6. <u>Annual Financial Report</u> due to principal by **June 30th** (per CR A-660, the report must also be distributed to the membership)
- 7. Board Transition meeting (between outgoing and incoming officers in presence of school principal)
- 8. Issue end-of-year newsletter and update website\*

**Tip**: After the June <u>transfer of records</u> meeting (or whenever that meeting occurs), outgoing officers meet individually with their newly elected replacements to provide detailed information on their roles and responsibilities.\*

## July (official start of new term)

- 1. Review and amend the <u>bylaws</u> every 3 years or as needed
- 2. Assign <u>3 signatories</u> for PTA checking account (if not done in June). All checks must be signed by two officers.

<sup>\*</sup>not mandated by <u>CR-A660</u>

- 3. Meet with newly elected officers of the executive board
- 4. Choose committee chairs\*
- 5. Prepare tentative yearly calendar (if not done in June)\*
- 6. Develop a communications strategy for email correspondence to membership
- 7. Make sure your PTA <u>financial records</u> are in order (and in compliance with your bylaws requirements)
- 8. Incoming executive board meets with the school administration/principal

**Tip**: Learn more about the process of <u>incorporation and/or non-profit (501c3) status</u>\* to see if it fits your PA/PTAs current needs.

## **August**

- 1. Meet with officers
- 2. Meet with principal (obtain approval for all decisions made to date)
- 3. Begin planning September activities\*
- 4. Meet with parent coordinator, teachers and staff to discuss PTA tentative calendar and events\*
- Meet with city and state elected officials (including Education Committees Chairs of the local Community Board)\*
- 6. Establish all <u>communication</u> channels. Prepare first newsletter for membership and update website\*

**Tip**: PA/PTAs have the right to post meeting notices on the school website (and may request permission from the principal to post additional information).

## September

- 1. First Executive Board meeting:
  - Introduce new board members and share tentative calendar
  - Discuss yearly planning
  - Review <u>budget</u>
  - Introduce potential committee chairs and discuss committee responsibilities\*

<sup>\*</sup>not mandated by <u>CR-A660</u>

- 2. Issue welcome letter to membership\*
- 3. First General Membership meeting: (CR A-660 requires at least 9 monthly General Membership meetings per school year)
  - Review and distribute budget
  - Distribute and approve June, July, August, and end of the year minutes, which include Treasurer's Reports
  - Explain the role of the <u>School Leadership Team</u> and canvas for nominees (if necessary)
  - Review School Safety Plan, Discipline Code and Attendance Plan by Dec. 15
  - Discuss bylaws (have copies to provide if requested)
  - Approve vendors used
  - Approve timing of General Membership meetings (day/evening)
  - Discuss yearly activities
  - Discuss Title I status. Title I schools can place a clause in their bylaws requiring a Title I report at each monthly meeting. This is something FLCs encourage both PA/PTAs and SLTs to do\*
  - Ask members to sign up for <u>committees</u> and as volunteers for any of the year's planned activities and events\*
  - Work with the administration for orientation activities, such as Curriculum
    Night or Meet the Teacher\*

**Tip**: Schools and principals can use Title III monies to provide <u>translation and interpretation</u> services to PTAs.\*

## October

- 1. Meetings (General Membership & Executive Board meetings)
- Issue newsletter and update website\*
- 3. File Fundraising Activity Reports for each fundraising event
- 4. All elections must be concluded by Oct. 15

<sup>\*</sup>not mandated by <u>CR-A660</u>

5. Propose a school improvement project for Participatory Budgeting\*

**Tip**: When it comes to <u>meeting attendance</u>, set realistic goals, understand community needs, make meetings appealing and ensure that everyone feels welcome.\*

#### **November**

- 1. Meetings
- 2. File Fundraising Activity Reports for each fundraising event
- 3. Revist the bylaws as questions arise
- 4. Issue newsletter and update website\*

**Reminder**: A PA/PTA's bylaws must establish a process for counting, securing and depositing funds it receives, and one for documenting all financial transactions.

#### December

- 1. Meetings
- 2. Issue newsletter and update website\*
- 3. File Fundraising Activity Reports for each fundraising event
- Advocate to your Community Education Council on building conditions for the School Construction Authority's Capital Plan Amendment\*
- Holiday events\*

**Tip**: Cultivate <u>volunteers</u> year round. Some PA/PTAs hold a "Volunteer Fair" where parents learn about the PA/PTA's work at the school and opportunities to get involved.\*

## January

1. Meetings

<sup>\*</sup>not mandated by <u>CR-A660</u>

- 2. <u>Interim Financial Report</u> due to principal by **January 31**<sup>st</sup> (CR A-660 also requires that the report be distributed to the membership)
- 3. Advocate to your city and state elected officials on school budgets\*
- 4. Check your bylaws about forming a nominating committee and upcoming officer elections
- 5. Issue newsletter and update website\*

**Tip**: Parent organizations can and will often take on <u>advocacy</u> projects after a parent or group of parents become invested in a particular issue and engage and organize the rest of the school community. Check out our <u>Parent Advocacy</u> page for common topics concerning PA/PTAs across NYC.\*

## **February**

- 1. Meetings
- 2. File Fundraising Activity Reports for each fundraising event
- 3. Form Nominating Committee (in accordance with your bylaws)
- 4. Issue newsletter and update website\*

**Tip:** <u>Committees</u> can cultivate valuable skills and future executive board members. Think about how your PA/PTA may benefit from forming particular committees to meet established goals. Have a fundraising goal? Perhaps form a fundraising committee. \*

#### March

- 1. Meetings
- 2. File Fundraising Activity Reports for each fundraising event
- 3. Solicit nominations for executive board officer positions
- 4. Issue newsletter and update website\*

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5. Vote on Participatory Budgeting Projects\*

**Tip**: City and State Budget negotiations take center stage in February and March. Reach out to your <u>city council and state legislators</u> for opportunities to testify at education hearings.\*

## **April**

- 1. Meetings
- 2. File Fundraising Activity Reports for each fundraising event
- 3. **April 1** is the deadline to notify the Principal/Parent Coordinator of the election date (This must be at least 14 calendar days prior to election)
- 4. The school distributes election notifications to the school community 10 calendar days prior to election.
- 5. Nominations for officer positions
- 6. Issue newsletter and update website\*

**Tip**: Elections can be held either in-person or virtually, but NOT hybrid. Rectify any logistical/technical issues in advance by holding a mock <u>election</u>. *This is especially* encouraged if you are using new software for a <u>virtual election</u>.\*

## May

- 1. Meetings
- 2. Create proposed budget for next year (Executive Board or Budget Committee)
- 3. Submit tentative budget for next year to General Membership for approval (per CR A-660 must be submitted no later than the June General Meeting)
- 4. Annual Elections (CR A-660 requires annual elections to be held by the last day of the school year)
- 5. SLT elections after PTA officer elections (per CR A-655, SLT elections must be held after PTA officer elections)
- 6. Submit election certification form to Principal and Superintendent within 5 days of election

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- 7. Internal audit (CR A-660 recommends conducting an internal audit once a year, prior to the completion of the Annual Financial Report)\*
- 8. Issue newsletter and update website\*

**Tip**: The regulations recommend that PA/PTAs with over \$50,000 in revenue hire a CPA or person with professional expertise in accounting or business to conduct their internal <u>audits</u>.\*

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