

How to find a PTA Legislative Chair

So your PTA can make an even bigger difference for kids!

The position of PTA Legislative Chair can be the hardest to fill but a Legislative Chair can help your PTA to make the biggest difference for children and isn't that why we all joined in the first place. The following information, ideas, and resources are provided to help your PTA to find that elusive Legislative Chair.

Know who to contact -PTA Region & Council Legislative Chairs:

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|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| • Auburn Council Legislative Chair | Pat Montgomery | patmong@comcast.net | (253) 735-6791 |
| • Federal Way Council Legislative Chair | Leah Gillis | leahmgillis@msn.com | (253) 946-8842 |
| • Highline Council Legislative Chair | Lois Schipper | loisschipper@comcast.net | (206) 246-7979 |
| • Kent Council Legislative Chair | Dennis Higgins | legislation@kacpta.org | (253) 630-4545 |
| • Renton Council Legislative Chair | Stephanie Chin | stephchi@msn.com | (425) 228-5770 |
| • Region 9 Legislation Chair | Pat Montgomery | patmong@comcast.net | (253) 735-6791 |
| • Tahoma & Tukwila PTAs should contact Pat Montgomery | | | |

Be Willing to Receive and Obtain Information

- Identify someone to serve as a "Legislative Contact" for your PTA to receive information just once a month from Pat Montgomery, Region 9 Legislation Chair
 - If it is PTA President ensure that WSPTA has your PTA President's current e-mail address – contact manderson@wastatepta.org
 - If not PTA President then forward contact's name and e-mail address to patmong@comcast.net
- Save Pat Montgomery's e-mail address, patmong@comcast.net, as an e-mail contact or on "safe list"
- Go to the Region 9 Legislative Advocacy web page at <http://r9leg.home.comcast.net>
 - You can also get there by going to www.wastatepta.org, click on "Regions", click on "9", then follow link to "Region 9's Legislative Advocacy web page"
- Go to the "Start Here" page
 - Download and print a "Legislative Chair Recruitment Flyer" for your School District (includes name and contact information for both Council and Region Legislative Chairs)

Advertise Your Need

- Include Legislative Chair on the signup sheets listing volunteer opportunities and use this brief job description:
Legislative Chair-Enable our PTA to make a big difference for children by being a conduit of information. No experience needed, just a willingness to learn. Extensive support provided by PTA Council and Region Legislative Chairs.
- Have copies of "Legislative Chair Recruitment Flyer" (print on bright paper) available at every PTA event
- Update/Start PTA Legislative Chair procedure notebook
 - Include a copy of "Advocacy and Legislation" from the WSPTA Leadership Packet (or download from WSPTA web site)
 - Include the "Region 9 PTA Legislative Chair Timeline"
- Don't forget to ask and never give up. Likely candidates for PTA Legislative Chair include:
 - A vocal parent at the school who needs to direct their passion in a positive direction
 - A working parent who can't be at school during the day but wants to be involved
 - Someone who is active in politics in other areas of their life
 - Someone who doesn't know much about legislation but is willing to learn
 - A "retired" past PTA president
 - Someone who is new to the school who was Legislative Chair at their last PTA

Allocate Time, Space, and Funds

- In your PTA's newsletter for a short Legislative Advocacy newsletter article (provided ready to "cut and paste")
- During each PTA Board and PTA Membership Meeting for a brief Legislative Advocacy Report (provided ready to be read by anyone)
- To make copies of a Legislative Advocacy Flyer (provided ready to print, copy, and handout at a PTA Meeting)
- Line item in PTA budget with funds to enable attendance as a Delegate to WSPTA Legislative Assembly as well as training at Region Conferences & Convention