
ELECTION YEAR ISSUES

Help!

Candidates for public office are showing up at my PTA meetings and "speaking to the issues" as an excuse to make stealth campaign speeches!

To maintain respect for the established policies that govern the activities of all PTAs, the information below can help support PTA presidents dealing with candidates for political office who show up at PTA meetings:

"Only PTA members may speak, debate and vote at meetings. Parliamentary procedure is helpful in this situation. California State PTA membership year is from July 1 to June 30 of each year, with an annual grace period to rejoin until October 31. While people other than PTA members may be present at the meeting, the privilege of making motions, debating and voting shall be limited to the members of the association who are present and whose dues are paid and who have been association members for at least the previous thirty (30) days."

– From the California State PTA: *Toolkit, Parliamentary Questions from "The Field"*, and *PTA LEADERS – MEETING NOTICE, QUORUMS AND VOTING*.

Note that annual PTA membership is paid for each individual PTA; being a member of one PTA association doesn't give you voting rights at another school's PTA. Leaders who are also candidates may proceed as usual to act in their official capacities, but may not campaign at PTA events.