

Legislative Engagement Committee FAQs

Who are the members of the legislative engagement committee?

The Legislative Committee consists of members appointed by the Director of Legislative Engagement with the approval of the Colorado PTA President. Every effort is made to include members from each of the Colorado PTA Regions. These people can include any of the following:

- Any PTA member who attends regularly and participates actively
- Region Directors and Council Presidents and/or their Legislative Chairs
- The COPTA Federal Legislative Chair

Any interested PTA member may attend the Legislative Committee meetings and participate in the discussions. However, they will not be considered a voting member until they have attended three (3) meetings and have received the approval of the Public Policy Director.

Colorado PTA bylaws state that 2 unexcused absences from a committee meeting shall constitute a resignation.

What are the functions of the legislative committee?

Networking of information on state and national legislative issues and PTA's positions, and making this information available to the local units.

Advocating on PTA's positions to our state and federal legislators, PTA members, and to the general public.

Advising the Vice President of Advocacy and the Director of Legislative Engagement about positions to be recommended to the Board of Directors on issues not covered by national or state platforms and resolutions.

Collaborating with other like-minded organizations for the purpose of advocacy on issues of importance to PTA.

How does the Legislative Engagement Committee Operate?

Meetings of the full committee are held on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month from January through May, 6:30-9:00 p.m. Meetings are held only on the 2nd Monday of the month from June through December, 6:30-8:30 p.m., unless scheduled otherwise.

Meeting agendas may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Standing reports: Federal Legislative Chair, advocacy initiatives, and progress on priority initiatives.
- Discussing proposed legislative to determine COPTA's position on bills.
- Discussing proposed ballot issue to determine COPTA's position.
- Strategic planning for advocacy efforts.
- Reviewing resolutions or positions being proposed by the Resolutions Committee.
- Training for Legislative Committee members.
- Organizing subcommittees.

Ad hoc subcommittees may be formed for tasks including, but not limited to:

- Updating the resolutions documentation and platform, and recommending new resolutions.
- Researching specific proposed legislation.

How are votes conducted?

When it becomes necessary for the Legislative Committee to vote on a position recommended for adoption by COPTA, the vote is based on a quorum of attending committee members in good standing (see above). The quorum shall be a minimum of 7 people from at least 3 different regions, with a simple majority being required to pass the vote.