

## **Little Cedars Elementary PTA 7.6.32 – Standing Rules**

### **I. NAME AND GENERAL INFORMATION**

The name of this PTA local unit is Little Cedars PTA 7.6.32. The Washington State PTA chartered it on March 7, 2007. This PTA serves the children and families of Little Cedars Elementary School in the Snohomish School District.

This PTA was incorporated on April 03, 2007, assigned corporation number 605-715-579. The Treasurer is responsible for filing the annual corporation report. This PTA's Federal Employer Identification Number (EIN) is available upon request and at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

This PTA is registered with the Secretary of State under the Charitable Solicitations Act, registration number 23800. The Treasurer is responsible for filing the annual registration by May 31<sup>st</sup> to avoid penalties.

This PTA was granted tax-exempt status under section 501 C (3) of the internal revenue code on January 29, 2008, effective date of exemption April 3, 2007. A copy of its determination letter is available from the treasurer.

The current Treasurer is responsible for filing the appropriate Federal tax return Form 990, Form 990 EZ or Form 990-N prior to November 15th and providing a copy to the board of directors no later than November 1<sup>st</sup>. Copies of the current and past year's returns are located in the legal documents binder maintained by the Treasurer.

The Little Cedars PTA has designated the Washington State PTA as its registered agent with the Washington Secretary of State's office, the Washington Department of Revenue and the United States Internal Revenue Service. Copies of the signed documents making such designations are available in the legal document binder maintained by the Treasurer.

### **II. MEMBERSHIP AND DUES**

Membership at this PTA shall be open to all people without discrimination. Membership is open to all parents, teachers, staff, grandparents, guardians, students, community members and any other persons that support and encourage the purpose of PTA.

The membership service fees of this PTA shall be Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00) per person, Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00) per family (2 member maximum per family), or Ten Dollars (\$10.00) per Teacher/Staff Member. All paid members have a voice and a vote at Little Cedars PTA general membership meetings and may serve in any of its elective or appointive positions.

The students of Little Cedars Elementary School shall be considered honorary members of this PTA without voice, vote, or the privilege of holding office.

### **III. OFFICERS**

The Executive Committee consists of the member elected officers. Two (2) people may hold any elected position jointly, other than Treasurer. Each co-position holder shall be entitled to a voice and vote at board of directors meetings.

The elected officers of this PTA shall be:

- President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- VP of Academic Programs
- VP of Communications
- VP of Fundraising
- VP of Events

Per WSPTA Uniform Bylaw, at least 1 elected officer must attend PTA and the Law, and all elected officers must attend one (1) WSPTA-approved training session within their elected year. Only elected officers are authorized to sign contracts on behalf of this Unit and each contract must have 2 signatures per WSPTA Uniform Bylaws.

### **IV. ELECTIONS**

A Nominating Committee consisting of at least three (3) members and not more than six (6) members shall be elected according to WSPTA Uniform Bylaws for local units. The Nominating Committee members may volunteer or be nominated from the floor. Nominating Committee members will be elected at a general membership meeting by February 1<sup>st</sup> each year and a minimum of two months prior to new officer elections.

All elected officers make up the Executive Committee, and shall be elected annually at a general membership meeting, to be held no later than April 30<sup>th</sup>. A quorum must be present and a majority of all votes is necessary to elect. Voting may be by voice if only one (1) candidate is nominated for an office. Where there are 2 or more members running for a position, election shall be by ballot vote.

Officers will assume their official duties on July 1<sup>st</sup> and shall serve for the term of one year. An elected officer shall not be eligible to serve more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same office. All elected officers shall be current on their membership dues no later than October 31<sup>st</sup> of the year they are serving.

Absentee, mail-in or proxy ballots are prohibited for both the election of the Nominating Committee and the election of officers.

## V. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors of this PTA shall consist of the Executive Committee and the following appointed standing committee chairs, due to their significant role to the organization. This PTA's board of directors shall meet at least six (6) times during the school year, on dates and times to be determined by the board. If volunteers cannot be found to fill a Board of Directors standing committee chair position, the position will remain vacant.

The appointed standing committee positions include:

- Advocacy Chair
- Membership Chair
- Watch DOGS Liaison\*

*\*The Watch DOGS Chair is a non-voting Honorary Board of Directors member and does not have to adhere to the maximum 2 year consecutive term limit. This is due to the fact that the Watch DOGS is a national organization that partners with the PTA to positively impact our student's lives.*

The school Principal shall be ex-officio members of the board of directors. Voting delegates to the annual State PTA Convention shall be selected by the Board of Directors. See the WSPTA Uniform Bylaws. Voting delegates to the Legislative Assembly shall be the Advocacy Chair and/or other appointed member(s) as designated by the Board of Directors. See the WSPTA Uniform Bylaws.

## VI. COMMITTEES

**Ad-Hoc Committees** perform the planning and activities associated to a one-time event or task and once its work is accomplished are disbanded (*e.g. Bingo, Carnival, Movie Night*).

**Standing Committees** perform continuing functions necessary for the ongoing operation of a local unit throughout the year

- Standing Committees shall be established as deemed necessary by the Executive Committee.
- Standing Committee chairs are appointed by the President(s), and approved by majority vote of the Executive Committee.
- Standing Committee Chairs are appointed for a term of one (1) year. No person shall serve in the same position for more than two (2) consecutive terms.
- The president(s) shall serve as ex-officio member of all committees with the exception of the Nominating Committee.
- If volunteers cannot be found to fill a Standing Committee position, the position will remain vacant.

**Special Committees** recognized by this unit include the Nominating Committee, Financial Review Committee and Budget Committee. Rules for these committees are governed by WSPTA Bylaws.

The following policies shall apply to Ad-Hoc committees as to Standing Committees:

- In order to be a chairperson of a committee the individual needs to be a current PTA member.
- All chairpersons are responsible for creating budgets and submitting an Action Plan to the Executive Committee for review and approval. Once approved, the Chair is responsible for maintaining committee expenses within budget and providing monthly updates to the Board of Directors.
- Committee Chairpersons must use the appropriate forms, procedures, and commit to train a replacement upon their departure of the position.
- Executive Committee members should not be the sole committee chair for an event or program. If there is no one that volunteers to chair the committee and an Executive Committee member wishes to chair the event, they may do so if it will not prohibit them from their primary responsibilities.
- Committees should not be chaired by more than 2 members. Co-chairs are equally responsible for the event or program.
- Ad-Hoc Committees will be created by the President(s) with approval of the Executive Committee to meet specific needs of the PTA.

## **VII. MEETINGS**

The Board of Directors will meet at least six (6) times during the school year, on a date and time to be determined by the board. Members of the Board of Directors are expected to attend regularly scheduled meetings unless otherwise excused. A quorum at Board meetings is a simple majority (50% +1) of office holders to conduct business.

There will be at least three (3) General Membership meetings during the year, to conduct the business of adopting the budget, adopting standing rules, electing the nominating committee and electing the officers. All meetings shall be held at the direction of the Board of Directors. A quorum of ten (10) members is required to conduct business. See WSPTA Uniform Bylaws.

In general membership meetings, motions should be made by someone from the general membership and not a Board of Directors member. General Membership meetings shall be open to all interested persons, but the privilege of making motions, debating, or voting shall be limited to the voting body of the PTA. This PTA shall approve its annual operating budget prior to July 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. This PTA shall re-affirm its budget at the first general meeting each fall.

## **VIII. POLICIES**

- **Bank Account Signers**: The signatures of at least 3 elected officers shall be on the authorized signature cards for this PTA's bank account. In accordance with the uniform bylaws, all checks require two (2) signatures from different households. A PTA officer shall not sign a check to himself or herself, or a member of their household.
- **Bank Statements**: The monthly paper bank statements shall be opened only by an appointed non-signing Board member, to be reviewed, initialed, and submitted for Financial Review. See WSPTA Uniform Bylaws and Money Matters.

- **Budget Committee:** The Budget Committee shall prepare an interim operating budget for the following year and present the budget for approval at the final General Membership meeting of the school year.
- **Financial Review:** This unit shall conduct a financial review of its books and records at the close of the fiscal year, June 30<sup>th</sup>. The current term president appoints the financial review committee of at least 3 members. Individuals who are signers on the account for the time period being reviewed may not serve on the Financial Review Committee (See WSPTA Uniform Bylaws). This unit is to conduct a modified financial review in January of each year as directed by the PTA general membership.
- **Legal Documents:** A copy of this unit's legal documents shall be kept by three (3) officers in their Legal Documents Notebook: the President, Treasurer and Secretary. The current Treasurer shall be responsible for maintaining the original copies in the Legal Documents Notebook and providing updated copies to the other 2 officers.
- **Membership:** Only members in good standing of the association shall be entitled to a voice or vote to serve in any elective or appointed position.
- **Money Handling Procedures:** In order for individuals to handle or count money individual(s) needs to be current PTA member(s) in good standing.
- **NSF Policy:** Checks returns to LCE PTA due to non-sufficient funds will be handled in accordance to the NSF Check Policy. The check writer will need to return the call within 3 days to make arrangements for payment. Payment in the form of cash, cashier's check, or money order is expected within one week from the date the letter is mailed.
- **Reallocation of Funds:** The Board of Directors has authority to reallocate funds up to \$500, by majority vote. Allocations greater than \$500 shall be approved at a General Membership meeting.
- **Reimbursements:** All reimbursement requests shall include a receipt and a completed reimbursement request form. Incomplete or incorrect forms will be returned to the submitter for corrections. Requests shall be submitted to the treasurer within 30 days of the event that merchandise was purchased for. All requests for reimbursement must be received one week prior to the last day of the school year. Only the approved budget amount will be reimbursed.
- **Standing Rules:** The Standing Rules shall be adopted annually by majority vote at the first General Membership meeting of the school year. Standing rules can be amended at any time by a vote of the general membership. If the membership has been given proper notice prior to the date of the meeting of the intended change, then the change can be approved by a majority vote of the members present; if no notice was given prior to the meeting, a 2/3 vote of the members present is required (if a quorum has been established).
- **Training:** The Little Cedars PTA will pay the PTA convention fees for incoming elected officers and incoming board members to attend the Washington State PTA convention.