

PRAIRIE CREEK ELEMENTARY

PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION BYLAWS

***ARTICLE I: Prairie Creek Elementary PTA**

The name of this organization is the Prairie Creek Elementary Parent Teacher Association (PTA), Richardson, Texas. It is a Local PTA organized under the authority of the Texas Congress of Parents and Teachers (Texas PTA), a branch of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers (National PTA).

***ARTICLE II: Articles of Organization ¹**

The articles of organization of this Local PTA include (a) the bylaws of such organization and (b) the certificate of incorporation or articles of incorporation of such organization (in cases in which the organization is a corporation) or the articles of association by whatever name (in cases in which the organization exists as an unincorporated association).

***ARTICLE III: Purposes**

Section 1. The Purposes of the Prairie Creek Elementary PTA, in common with those of the National PTA and the Texas PTA, are:

- a. To promote the welfare of children and youth in home, school, community and place of worship.
- b. To raise the standards of home life.
- c. To secure adequate laws for the care and protection of children and youth.
- d. To bring into closer relation the home and the school, that parents and teachers may cooperate intelligently in the education of children and youth.

* Articles or sections marked with a star (*) are requirements of the National PTA or Texas PTA. They do not require a vote of the association and should be incorporated promptly and verbatim into the Local PTA bylaws.

¹ In an incorporated organization the individual has additional protection for his personal assets against any lawsuits. The corporation entity provides this protection. In an unincorporated organization there is a greater potential for each and every member to be sued because there is no corporation entity. Protection against loss of funds can alternatively be gained if the PTA has sufficient officers and liability insurance. A lawyer or the office of the Secretary of State should be contacted for detailed information on the steps necessary to become an incorporated PTA.

- e. To develop between educators and the general public such united efforts as will secure for all children and youth the highest advantages in physical, mental, social and spiritual education.

Section 2. The Purposes of the National PTA, the Texas PTA and this Local PTA are promoted through an advocacy and educational program directed toward parents, teachers and the general public; developed through conferences, committees, projects and programs; and governed and qualified by the basic policies set forth in Article IV.

Section 3. The organization is organized exclusively for the charitable, scientific, literary or educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or corresponding section of any future federal tax code (hereinafter referred to as "Internal Revenue Code").

***ARTICLE IV: Basic Policies**

The following are basic policies of this Local PTA in common with those of the National PTA and the Texas PTA:

- a. The organization shall be noncommercial, nonsectarian and nonpartisan.
- b. The organization shall work with the schools and community to provide quality education for all children and youth and shall seek to participate in the decision-making process establishing school policy, recognizing that the legal responsibility to make decisions has been delegated by the people to boards of education, state education authorities and local education authorities.
- c. The organization shall work to promote the health and welfare of children and youth and shall seek to promote collaboration among parent, schools and the community at large.
- d. No part of the net earnings of the organization shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, directors, trustees, officers or other private persons except that the organization shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the Purposes set forth in Article III hereof.
- e. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the organization shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (i) by an organization exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or (ii) by an organization, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170 (c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- f. Upon the dissolution of this organization, after paying or adequately providing for the debts and obligations of the organization, the remaining assets shall be distributed to one (1) or more nonprofit funds, foundations or organizations which have established their tax exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and whose purposes are in accordance with those of National PTA.

- g. The organization or members in their official capacities shall not—directly or indirectly—participate or intervene (in any way, including the publishing or distributing of statements) in any political campaign on behalf of, or in opposition to, any candidate for public office; or devote more than an insubstantial part of its activities to attempting to influence legislation by propaganda or otherwise.

***ARTICLE V: Constituent Organizations**

Section 1. The constituent organizations of National PTA include:

- a. Branches of National PTA that have been established in the 50 states of the United States, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands and among schools for American dependents in Europe and the Pacific hereinafter called state PTAs;
- b. Local PTAs (Parent-Teacher Associations) or PTSAs (Parent-Teacher-Student Associations) organized under the authority of the state PTAs in organized areas; and
- c. Local PTAs/PTSAs organized under the direct authority of National PTA when there is no state PTA/PTSA.

Section 2. The national board of directors shall determine criteria for establishing constituent organizations and setting standards for continuing affiliation with National PTA.

Section 3. There shall be no proxy voting by any constituent organization of National PTA.

Section 4. The Purposes and basic policies of National PTA shall in every case also be the Purposes and basic policies of each constituent organization.

Section 5. Each constituent organization shall adopt bylaws for the government of the organization. Such bylaws shall not be in conflict with National PTA or Texas PTA bylaws. Such bylaws shall include an article on amendments and shall include a provision establishing a quorum.

***ARTICLE VI: Relationship with Texas PTA**

Section 1. This Local PTA shall be organized and chartered under the authority of the Texas PTA, in conformity with such rules and regulations, not in conflict with the National PTA Bylaws, as the Texas PTA may in its bylaws prescribe. The Texas PTA shall issue to this Local PTA an appropriate charter evidencing the due organization and good standing of this Local PTA.

A Local PTA in good standing shall:

- a. adhere to the Purposes and basic policies of the PTA;
- b. have a minimum of twenty (20) members to retain membership in the Texas PTA;
- c. remits the national and state portions of dues for all dues received to the Texas PTA Office postmarked on or before October 15;

- d. have bylaws approved according to the procedures of the Texas PTA; and
- e. meet other criteria as may be prescribed by the Texas PTA.

Section 2. Local PTAs whose national and state portions of dues and names of all members enrolled shall be in the Texas PTA Office postmarked on or before October 15 to be considered a Local PTA in good standing and eligible for voting representation at state convention. Local PTAs whose national and state portions of dues are not paid by March 15 shall be dropped from the state roster.

Section 3. This Local PTA shall keep such permanent books of account and records as shall be sufficient to establish the items of gross income, receipts and disbursements of the organization including, specifically, the number of its members, the dues collected from its members and the amount of dues remitted to the Texas PTA. Such books of account and records shall at all reasonable times be open to inspection by an authorized representative of the Texas PTA or the National PTA.

Section 4. The charter of this Local PTA shall be subject to withdrawal and the status as a Local PTA shall be subject to termination, in the manner and under the circumstances provided in the bylaws of the Texas PTA.

Section 5. This Local PTA is obligated, upon withdrawal of its charter by the Texas PTA:

- a. to yield up and surrender all of its books and records and all of its assets and property to the Texas PTA or to such agency as may be designated by the Texas PTA, or to another Local PTA organized under the authority of the Texas PTA;
- b. to cease and desist from the further use of any name that implies or connotes association with the National PTA or the Texas PTA; and
- c. to carry out promptly, under the supervision and direction of the Texas PTA, all proceedings necessary for the purpose of dissolving this Local PTA.

Section 6. A Local PTA considering dissolving its relationship with Texas PTA (and thereby National PTA) shall follow the procedures for dissolution as adopted by the Texas PTA Board of Directors. These procedures include but are not limited to:

- a. a special called meeting of the membership with thirty (30) days notice;
- b. a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the membership, a quorum having been established; and
- c. notification of the state president at least forty-five (45) days in advance of such meeting.

Any Local PTA failing to follow the procedures may be required to forfeit all Local PTA books, records and assets to Texas PTA.

Section 7. Each Local PTA shall include in its bylaws provisions corresponding to the provisions of such of these bylaws as are identified by a star (*).

***ARTICLE VII: Members and Dues**

Section 1. Every individual who is a member of this Local PTA is a member of the National PTA and the Texas PTA and is entitled to all the benefits of such membership.

Section 2. Membership in PTA shall be open, without discrimination, to anyone who believes in and supports the Mission and Purposes of National PTA.²

Section 3. This Local PTA shall conduct an annual enrollment of members, but may admit persons to membership at any time.

Section 4. Only members of a Local PTA who have paid dues for the current membership year may participate in the business of that association.³

Section 5. Each member of this Local PTA shall pay annual dues as follows: one dollar and seventy-five cents (1.75) for National PTA dues, two dollars and twenty-five cents (2.25) for Texas PTA dues, and three dollars (3.00) for the Local PTA dues.⁴

Section 6. The Texas and National PTA portions of the dues paid by each member of this Local PTA shall be set aside by this Local PTA and remitted to the Texas PTA through such channels and at such times as the Texas PTA bylaws may provide. Each state PTA shall pay to the National PTA the amount of the national portion of dues paid by all members of Local PTAs in its area.⁵

Section 7. Names of members and national and state portions of dues received shall be sent to the Texas PTA Office whenever members are enrolled in the organization.

Section 8. The members of the Texas PTA are the individual members of the Local PTAs whose names are on file in the Texas PTA Office and for whom the national and state portions of dues have been received by the Texas PTA. Individuals may expect their dues to be received in the Texas PTA Office five (5) business days after being received by the Local PTA.⁶

Section 9. Honorary Life Members

- a. An Honorary Life Membership in the Texas PTA may be awarded to any deserving person by a Local, Council, Area or the Texas PTA upon submission of name of honoree and payment of a fee. Such fees shall be made a part of the Texas PTA extension fund.

² To be a member of Texas PTA, a student must be in the 9th grade or above.

³ The membership year is October 15 through October 14. Dues paid after March 31 confer membership for the current and following membership year.

⁴ The total amount of Local PTA annual dues is obtained by adding the per member National PTA portion, the Texas PTA portion and the per member portion desired for Local PTA use.

⁵ The remittance to the Texas PTA shall be accompanied by a report in such form, as may be required by the Texas PTA, showing the name and address of the president of the PTA, the amount of dues collected during the period covered by the report and the number and names of the members of the PTA.

⁶ A list of members' names and dues shall be sent to the Texas PTA office before an individual is a PTA member.

- b. Life membership shall be honorary and shall carry neither the right to vote nor to hold office. A life member may also become an all-inclusive member upon enrollment as a member in a Local PTA.
- c. A Texas Honorary Life Member may receive exemption from state portion of dues through one (1) Local PTA only. The member shall be designated as a Texas Life Member when the Local PTA annual membership list is sent to the Texas PTA Office.
- d. The annual national portion of dues for a Texas Life Member shall be paid by said Texas Life Member.

***ARTICLE VIII: Officers and Their Election**

Section 1. Each officer shall be a member of this Local PTA.⁷

Section 2. Officers and their election

- a. The officers of this Local PTA shall be a president, eight vice president(s), a secretary, a treasurer, a historian and a parliamentarian.
- b. Officers, with the exception of the historian and parliamentarian, shall be elected by ballot in the month of March. However, if there is but one (1) nominee for an office, election for that office may be by voice vote. The historian and the parliamentarian shall be appointed by the president subject to the approval of the newly elected officers.
- c. An individual shall be a member of the Local PTA prior to taking office.
- d. Officers shall assume their official duties following the close of the school year⁸ and shall serve a term of one (1) year.⁹
- e. No officer shall serve in the same office for more than two (2) consecutive terms. One who has served more than one-half (1/2) of a term shall be credited with having served that term.

Section 3. Nominating Committee

- a. There shall be a nominating committee elected by the membership at a regular meeting prior to the election meeting. Elections shall be by plurality. The committee shall be

⁷ The question is frequently raised as to whether there is any age requirement for election as an officer of a PTA organization. The counsel of the Texas PTA has advised us that in his opinion:

“(a) In Texas the not-for-profit corporation laws do not specify an age qualification for persons who can serve as directors (members of the board of managers, etc.) of corporations.

“(b) Where there is no specification in the state corporation laws, a person should not be deemed to be eligible to serve as an officer unless the person is at an age at which he is competent to make contracts. Texas law does not specify at what age a person is competent to make contracts.”

⁸ PTAs that do not follow a traditional year schedule shall designate a calendar year in standing rules.

⁹ All positions not filled by election or appointment become vacant at the close of the school year.

composed of five (5) members. Two (2) alternate(s) shall be elected to serve in the event a member is unable to serve. The committee shall elect its own chairman immediately following the meeting.

- b. No person shall serve two (2) consecutive years on the nominating committee.
- c. The nominating committee shall nominate an eligible person ¹⁰ for each office to be filled and report its nominees at the election meeting in March at which time additional nominations may be made from the floor. The report shall be publicized to the Local PTA membership through regular publicity channels at least ten (10) days before the election meeting.
- d. Only those persons who have signified their consent to serve if elected shall be nominated for or elected to such office.
- e. No member shall automatically serve on this committee because of his office in the Local PTA or position in the school system.
- f. The president does not serve as a member of this committee, nor does he appoint any member of the committee.

Section 4. Vacancies

- a. A vacancy occurring in any elected office shall be filled for the unexpired term by a person elected by a majority vote of the executive board, at least three (3) days notice of such election having been given.
- b. In the event a vacancy occurs in the office of president, the first vice president shall serve notice to the executive board of the election.

Section 5. Reason to remove

By two-thirds (2/3) vote of the executive board, an officer or chairman may be removed from office for failure to attend three (3) consecutive meetings, failure to perform duties, failure to sign the adopted ethics/conflict of interest policy, or criminal misconduct or unethical behavior in PTA business.

ARTICLE IX: Duties of Officers

Section 1. The president shall:

- *a. coordinate the work of the officers and committees of the association in order that the Purposes may be promoted;

¹⁰ The National PTA, the Texas PTA and their parliamentary authority recognize that only one (1) person shall be elected to serve in any one (1) office.

- *b. confirm that a quorum is present before conducting any business at any meeting of the association;
 - *c. preside at all meetings of the association;
 - *d. appoint the historian and parliamentarian, subject to approval of the newly elected officers;
 - *e. appoint chairmen of special committees subject to approval of executive board;
 - *f. be authorized to sign on bank accounts (two of three authorized signatures shall be required on all checks);¹¹
 - *g. be authorized to sign contracts that have been approved by the executive board;
 - *h. be listed as the principal officer and be authorized to sign tax documents;
 - *i. confirm the executive board has reviewed and the membership has adopted the Texas PTA PTA/PTSA Records Retention Policy annually;
 - *j. call a meeting of the newly elected officers within thirty (30) days after the election meeting for the purpose of approving appointments of standing committee chairmen and such other business as becomes necessary;
 - *k. appoint a member, subject to the approval of the executive board, who is not authorized to sign on the bank account to open, review, initial and date each bank statement;
 - *l. represent the Local PTA as a delegate to Council PTA (when the Local PTA is in membership with Council PTA);
 - *m. file with the Council PTA secretary the names of delegates and alternates from this Local PTA by the first regular Council PTA meeting and no later than October 1. A Local PTA joining or making changes after October 1 shall submit any changes in writing prior to any regular meeting in order to be eligible to vote;
 - *n. confirm that all officers are graduates of the current Texas PTA Leader Orientation or have completed the course by October 15 after the election;
 - *o. send the names and addresses of the officers and chairmen to the Texas PTA office by May 1 each year;
 - *p. appoint the audit committee subject to the approval of the executive board; and
 - *q. serve as an ex-officio member of all committees except the nominating and audit committees.
- r. Call for electronic voting for executive board motions when necessary.

¹¹ Two (2) signatures shall be required on all checks. Each Local PTA shall have at least three (3) authorized signers. Signers of the bank account shall not be related by blood nor marriage and shall not reside in the same household.

Section 2. Vice President(s)¹²

1. The first vice president shall:
 - *a. act as aide-to-the-president; [and shall perform the duties of the president due to absence or inability to serve];
 - *b. preside in the absence of the president (in their designated order);
 - *c. perform other duties as assigned by the president or association;
 - *d. act as an alternate for the president at Richardson Independent School District Council of PTA meetings and attend these meetings whenever possible;
 - *e. provide assistance to other officers and committee chairmen as assigned by the president or as needed;
 - *f. be responsible for any special projects that may arise until a committee chairman is appointed;
 - *g. be chairman of the assembly selection committee;
 - *h. be authorized to sign on bank accounts (two of the three authorized signatures shall be required on all checks);
 - *i. email reminder to executive board of upcoming meetings; and
 - *j. assume responsibility for all courtesies due the president including ordering past president's pin, and purchasing a gift for the outgoing president.
2. Second Vice President shall:
 - *a. be the chairman of the program committee;
 - *b. preside in the absence of the president (in their designated order);
 - *c. perform other duties as assigned by the president or association;
 - *d. arrange and present programs;
 - *e. secure a place for the association meetings;
 - *f. arrange an opening ceremony for meetings as requested by the president; and

¹² Vice presidents shall be named in order of precedence: first, second, third, etc. The first vice president shall be designated as the aide-to-the-president. Each additional vice president shall have specific administrative responsibilities, which shall be stated in the bylaws.

- *g. be responsible for selecting someone to perform the installation of officers at the annual meeting subject to the approval of the president.

3. Third Vice President shall:

- *a. be the chairman of the membership committee;
- *b. preside in the absence of the president (in their designated order);
- *c. perform other duties as assigned by the president or association;
- *d. be the chairman of the life membership committee;
- *e. promote an active and continuing membership of the association;
- *f. distribute membership cards;
- *g. provide three compiled lists of members – one for the treasurer; one, including addresses and telephone numbers, to be furnished to the directory chairman; and, one to the secretary for the membership records; and
- *h. provide a list of members for the Texas PTA as provided in Article V, section 5.

4. Fourth Vice President shall:

- *a. be the chairman of the hospitality committee;
- *b. preside in the absence of the president (in their designated order);
- *c. perform other duties as assigned by the president or association; and
- d. provide name tags, greet and introduce new members and guests at association meetings.

5. Fifth Vice President shall:

- *a. be the chairman of the health and welfare committee;
- *b. preside in the absence of the president (in their designated order);
- *c. perform other duties as assigned by the president or association; and
- d. cooperate with the home, health agencies, the school nurse, and the district's student assistance program in presenting facts pertaining to mental and physical health education.

6. Sixth Vice President shall:

- *a. be the chairman of the ways and means committee;
- *b. preside in the absence of the president (in their designated order);

- *c. perform other duties as assigned by the president or association; and
 - d. with the president, select chairmen of fund raising projects; and
 - e. coordinate chairmen of fund raising projects to finance the work of the association.
7. Seventh Vice President shall:
- *a. be the chairman of the publicity committee;
 - *b. preside in the absence of the president (in their designated order);
 - *c. perform other duties as assigned by the president or association and;
 - d. become familiar with the work of the association and inform membership and community of special events.
8. Eighth Vice President shall:
- *a. be the chairman of the education committee;
 - *b. preside in the absence of the president (in their designated order);
 - *c. perform other duties as assigned by the president or association; and
 - d. arrange and present parent education programs.
 - e. SAGE (Special and Gifted Education) will be a subcommittee which will represent the district offering for gifted and talented, as well as special needs programs.

Section 3. The secretary shall: ¹³

- *a. record the minutes of all meetings of the association;
- *b. keep an accurate record of attendance at executive board meetings;
- *c. be responsible for correspondence;
- *d. have a current copy of the bylaws;
- *e. maintain a list of the names of Local PTA officers who have completed the Texas PTA Leader Orientation, with the dates each course was completed;
- *f. maintain the records retention policy;

¹³ If both a recording and corresponding secretary are elected, the duties of the secretary shall be divided.

- *g. maintain the adopted ethics/conflict of interest policy as signed by the current executive board members;
- *h. maintain a membership list;¹⁴
- *i. perform other duties as assigned by the president or association;
- j. track voting results when conducted electronically; and
- k. be the Sunshine chairman and send cards as directed by the President.

Section 4. The treasurer shall:

- *a. have custody of all the funds of the association;
- *b. keep books of account and records including bank statements, receipts, budgets, invoices, paid receipts and canceled checks in accordance with the records retention policy;
- *c. make disbursements in accordance with the budget adopted by the association;
- *d. sign on bank accounts;¹⁵
- *e. present a financial report, both written and verbal, at every meeting of the Local PTA and as requested by the executive board or the association;
- *f. make a full report at the annual meeting;
- *g. be responsible for the maintenance of such books of account and records as conform to the requirements of Article VI, Section 3 of these bylaws;
- *h. complete and file all necessary tax documents;
- *i. present books to the audit committee as requested;
- *j. perform other duties as assigned by the president or association;
- k. serve as chairman of the budget and the disbursement committees; and
- l. assume responsibility for changing names on all bank accounts at the close of the fiscal year.

Section 5. The parliamentarian shall:

¹⁴ PTA membership lists shall not be released to outside interests by Texas PTA, Area PTAs, Council PTAs or Local PTAs.

¹⁵ Two (2) signatures shall be required on all checks. Each Local PTA shall have at least three (3) authorized signers. Signers of the bank account shall not be related by blood nor marriage and shall not reside in the same household.

- *a. advise the presiding officer on questions of parliamentary procedure;
- *b. be the chairman of the bylaws committee;
- *c. maintain the nominating committee's instructional notebook to be passed to the next nominating committee chairman; and
- *d. vote only when the vote is by ballot.

Section 6. The historian shall:

- *a. collect and preserve documents relating the history of the association; and
- *b. present a written report to the association as the official history to be adopted at the annual meeting.

*Section 6. All officers shall:

- a. be a graduate of the Texas PTA Leader Orientation or complete the course by October 15 after their election;
- b. submit a Plan of Work to the executive board for approval;
- c. have a current copy of the Local PTA bylaws and perform the duties outlines in these bylaws and those assigned from time to time; and
- d. deliver to their successors or the president all official materials within fifteen (15) days following the date at which their successors assume their duties.

ARTICLE X: Meetings

*Section 1. This association shall hold a minimum of three (3) meetings a year.

- a. Regular meetings of the association shall be held in the months of September, October or November, March (or in conjunction with the Texas Open House meeting), and May. Time and date to be established by executive board at its first meeting of the year. Five (5) days notice shall be given if change of date is needed.¹⁶
- b. The regular meeting held in October or November shall be the election meeting.
- c. The annual meeting in May shall be for the purpose of receiving reports of officers and chairmen and for any other necessary business.

Section 2. Special meetings of the Local PTA may be called by the president or by a majority of the executive board, at least three (3) days notice having been given.

¹⁶ It is suggested that the membership be notified through regular publicity channels of the date and time of all regular meetings following the first meeting of the executive board at which time this schedule is determined.

*Section 3. Fifteen (15) members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business in any meeting of this association.¹⁷

ARTICLE XI: Executive Board

Section 1. The executive board shall consist of:

- a. the officers of the association;
- b. the chairmen of standing committees;
- c. the principal of the school or a representative appointed by him.

*Section 2. A Local PTA member shall not serve as a voting member of this executive board while employed by, or under contract to this Local PTA.

Section 3. The duties of the executive board shall be to:

- a. transact necessary business in the intervals between association meetings and such other business as may be referred to it by the association;
- b. present a report at the regular meetings of the association;
- *c. approve the Plans of Work of all officers and committee chairmen;
- *d. create standing and special committees;
- *e. adopt the Texas PTA Council/Local PTA/PTSA Ethics/Conflict of Interest Policy annually;
- *f. review the records retention policy annually;
- *g. prepare and submit a budget for the year to the association for adoption;
- h. approve routine bills within the limits of the budget;
- *i. fill vacancies of officers and chairmen;
- j. appoint an auditing committee consisting of not less than three members, who are not authorized signers, at least 30 days before the annual meeting, to audit the treasurer's accounts; and
- k. approve contingency fund expenditures within the limits of the budget.

¹⁷ It is suggested that the quorum be set to reflect the number of members who could reasonably be expected at any business meeting. This should be a specific number (not percentage) of the total membership. Ten (10) members will be the least number accepted.

Section 4. The duties of each board member shall be to:

- *a. attend all meetings of the association;
- *b. sign the ethics/conflict of interest policy, as adopted; and
- *c. perform the duties outlined in these bylaws and those assigned by the president or membership from time to time.

Section 5. Meetings

- a. Regular meetings of the executive board shall be held prior to each regular meeting of the association, the time to be determined by the board at its first meeting of the year.
- *b. A majority of the executive board members shall constitute a quorum.¹⁸
- c. Special meetings of the executive board may be called by the president or by a majority of the members of the board, at least three (3) days notice being given.

ARTICLE XII: Standing and Special Committees

*Section 1. Only members of the association shall be eligible to serve in any elective or appointive position.

*Section 2. The executive board may create such standing and special committees as it may deem necessary to promote the Purposes and carry on the work of the association. The term of each chairman shall be one (1) year or until the selection of a successor.

*Section 3. The newly elected president shall call a meeting of the incoming officers within thirty (30) days after the election for the purpose of approving standing committee chairmen and such other business as becomes necessary.¹⁹

*Section 4. No chairman shall serve in the same office for more than two (2) consecutive terms. One who has served more than one-half (1/2) of a term shall be credited with having served that term.

*Section 5. All standing committee chairmen shall:

- a. deliver to their successors or the president all official materials within fifteen (15) days following the date at which their successors assume their duties;
- b. present a Plan of Work to the executive board for approval. No committee work shall be undertaken without this approval;²⁰

¹⁸ In calculating a quorum, filled board positions rather than positions available will be counted.

¹⁹ Texas PTA does not recognize more than one (1) person serving in the same capacity; therefore, there are no co-chairmen.

²⁰ Three (3) written copies of the Plan of Work shall be submitted at the first executive board meeting.

- c. perform the duties outlined in these bylaws and those assigned by the president or membership from time to time; and
- d. have a current copy of the Local PTA bylaws.

*Section 6. The president shall be a member ex-officio of all committees except the nominating and audit committees.

*Section 7. The quorum of any committee shall be a majority of its members.

ARTICLE XIII: Council Membership

Section 1. (Applies only to Local PTAs holding membership in a Council of PTAs, and shall correspond to Council PTA bylaws.)²¹

- a. The association shall be represented in meetings of the Richardson Independent School District Council of Parent Teacher Associations by the president or alternate, the principal or alternate and by two (2) delegate(s) or alternate(s).²² All representatives to the Council PTA shall be members of the Local PTA they represent.
- b. Delegates and their alternates shall be selected in May.
- c. Delegates to the Richardson Independent School District Council of PTAs shall serve for a term of one (1) year.

Section 2. This association shall pay annual dues of \$25.00²³ to the Richardson Independent School District Council of PTAs no later than October 15.

***ARTICLE XIV: State Convention**

This Local PTA shall be represented at the annual meeting of the Texas PTA by the president or appointed alternate and additional accredited delegates.

- a. All delegates from this Local PTA to the Texas PTA Annual Convention shall be members of this Local PTA.
- b. Voting delegates and their alternates shall be appointed subject to the approval of the executive board.

²¹ If the Local PTA is in Council PTA membership, this Article XIII is necessary in the Local PTA bylaws. If the Local PTA is not in Council PTA membership, indicate “not applicable” and do not fill in the blanks.

²² The number of delegates shall correspond with the number stated in the Council PTA bylaws, Article VIII, Section 1.e.

²³ The amount of dues shall correspond with the amount as stated in the Council PTA bylaws Article VII, Section 3.

***ARTICLE XV: Fiscal Year**

Section 1. The fiscal year of this association shall begin July 1 and end on the following June 30.

Section 2. An audit committee consisting of not less than three (3) members,²⁴ who are not authorized signers, shall be appointed by the president subject to the approval of the executive board at least thirty (30) days before the last meeting of the year.²⁵

Section 3. The audit committee report shall be adopted by the association.²⁶

***ARTICLE XVI: Parliamentary Authority**

The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the National PTA and its constituent organizations in all cases in which they are applicable and in which they are not in conflict with these bylaws, the bylaws of the Texas PTA, and the bylaws of the National PTA or the articles of incorporation.

ARTICLE XVII: Amendments

*Section 1.

- a. These bylaws may be amended at any meeting of the association, provided a quorum is present, by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present and voting. Notice of the proposed amendment shall have been given at the previous regular meeting or thirty (30) days prior to the meeting at which the amendment is voted on.²⁷ The amendment shall be subject to approval of the Texas PTA.
- b. A committee may be appointed to submit a revised set of bylaws as a substitute for the existing bylaws only by a majority vote at a meeting of the association, or by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the executive board. The procedure for action on amendments in *Section 1.a. should then be followed.
- c. After adoption by a two-thirds (2/3) vote at a meeting of the association, two (2) copies of bylaws and standing rules as amended or revised shall be sent for approval to the

²⁴ Members of the audit committee shall not be related by blood nor marriage and shall not reside in the same household as the authorized signers.

²⁵ An audit of the treasurer's accounts is for the protection of the treasurer. It is the only means of assuring everyone that the accounts are accurate, and it relieves the treasurer of responsibility except in the case of fraud.

²⁶ The audit report is adopted by a majority vote at the first regular meeting following the close of the school year.

²⁷ Each amendment to the bylaws shall be provided to the membership through the regular publicity channels thirty (30) days prior to the meeting at which the amendment is voted upon or at the previous regular meeting.

Texas PTA, 408 W. 11th Street, Austin, Texas 78701-2113 or to the Texas PTA Web site at www.txpta.org.

- d. A revision of the bylaws or any amendments shall go into effect when an approved copy is returned by the Texas PTA.²⁸

*Section 2. This Local PTA shall submit a set of bylaws to the Texas PTA for review every five (5) years.

Section 3. The adoption of an amendment to any provision of the bylaws of the Texas PTA identified by a star () shall serve automatically and without the requirement of further action by the Local PTA to amend its corresponding bylaws.

As adopted by the Texas PTA Board of Directors February 2009, to take effect July 2009.

Reviewed and amended by the Prairie Creek Elementary School PTA October, 2009.

²⁸ If not approved, they must be corrected and resubmitted.

**PRAIRIE CREEK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION
STANDING RULES**

STANDING RULES: These rules supplement the Bylaws. They may be amended, revised, or suspended by a majority vote of those present and voting with notice given, or by a two-thirds vote without previous notice. State approval is required for these rules and any amendments thereto.

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

The ARTS IN EDUCATION CHAIRMAN shall:

publicize and explain the National PTA Reflections event to members;
encourage members to have their children participate in Reflections;
collect and display entries, arrange for judging, and deliver winning entries to the next level of judging;
arrange for recognition of participants;
work with the principal to provide at least one assembly to promote art awareness; and
assist the principal and staff in coordinating fine arts field trips.

The CLOTHES CLOSET CHAIRMAN shall:

coordinate volunteers and clothes donations for the Richardson Independent School District's Council of PTAs Clothes Closet; and
oversee any activities to provide clothes or other donations for the RISD Council of PTAs Clothes Closet.

The DELEGATES TO THE RICHARDSON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF PTAs shall:

attend regular council meetings;
report and distribute information from all council meetings; and
support and cooperate with the council in all its activities and projects including the primary play, and the used Book Fair.

The DIRECTORY CHAIRMAN shall:

solicit ads and patrons for the directory from PTA members;
collect and compile material from officers and committee chairmen;
prepare a membership list from information received from the third vice-president;
coordinate directory cover art contest;
edit, have printed, and distribute a directory to members of the association as soon as possible after the PTA membership drive ends; and
mail copies of the directory to:
the Texas PTA District 10 directory chairman; and
the Richardson Independent School District's Council of PTA's president.

The E-NEWS CHAIRMAN shall:

maintain email ID list;
and provide weekly email updates.

The ENRICHMENT CHAIRMAN shall:

coordinate before and/or after school activities to provide enrichment for families at Prairie Creek Elementary;
select and screen instructors for classes;
schedule enrichment classes; and
coordinate class registration.

The HOUSE AND GROUNDS CHAIRMAN shall:

assist in beautifying the school property;
suggest improvements of the school grounds to the Executive Board and general membership for approval;
coordinate with the Richardson Independent School District for approval of planned improvement projects;

oversee PTA funded improvements of the school grounds; and promote interest in ecology by:

assisting the principal and staff in the recycling program; and coordinating the EPA environmental poster contest that is administered by Texas PTA.

The JJ PEARCE HIGH SCHOOL LIAISON CHAIRMAN shall:

coordinate communication between Prairie Creek Elementary and JJ Pearce High School; coordinate annual pep rally at Prairie Creek Elementary; and coordinate t-shirt distribution to kindergarten and those students new to Prairie Creek Elementary.

The LEGISLATION AND SCHOOL BOARD REPRESENTATIVE shall:

develop and stimulate interest in good citizenship, effective laws, and law enforcement; strive to carry out the second Object of National PTA (to secure adequate laws for the care and protection of children and youth); and

attend and report to the association on the School Board Meetings.

The LIBRARY LIAISON CHAIRMAN shall:

coordinate Junior Great Books; coordinate Scholastic Book Fair drives; schedule library volunteers; and assist librarian as needed.

The NORTH JR. HIGH LIAISON CHAIRMAN shall:

coordinate communication between Prairie Creek Elementary and North Junior High School; assist as needed to coordinate annual JJ Pearce pep rally at Prairie Creek Elementary; and assist as needed to coordinate t-shirt distribution to kindergarten and those students new to Prairie Creek Elementary.

The PARENT-TEACHER RELATIONS CHAIRMAN shall:

coordinate activities to promote good relationships between staff and parents to include: the Back to School luncheon;

birthday gifts for staff;

monthly birthday treats; and

Teacher Appreciation Week and luncheon.

The ROOM REPRESENTATIVE CHAIRMAN shall:

recruit volunteers to serve as room reps for each teacher; and

act as a coordinator between the PTA executive board and the room reps of each class.

The SCHOOL SUPPLIES CHAIRMAN shall:

coordinate supply list with teachers;

be responsible for parent/student orders; and

the distribution of supplies.

The SIGN CHOIR CHAIRMAN shall:

coordinate events, communication, membership roster and assist chair director as needed.

The SPECIAL EVENTS CHAIRMAN shall:

coordinate special events approved by the executive board such as retirement parties, school or PTA anniversaries, or community building social events;

recruit committee members as needed from Prairie Creek staff, parents, or other sources; and

coordinate activities with other officers and chairmen.

The SPIRIT WEAR CHAIRMAN shall:

coordinate the design, sale and distribution of spirit wear.

The VOLUNTEER SERVICES CHAIRMAN shall:

coordinate volunteer services needed to assist various officers and committee chairmen;

coordinate volunteers to assist in the daily operation of Prairie Creek Elementary School;

coordinate with organizations that wish to provide volunteers for Prairie Creek Elementary School;

disseminate lists of volunteers to appropriate staff members, officers, or committee chairmen;

report all volunteer hours to the Volunteer Services Office of the Richardson Independent School District; and

be chairman of the Golden Apple Awards Committee.

The WEB-PAGE CHAIRMAN shall:

maintain the domain and hosting contract;

and update the web-page as needed.

The YEARBOOK CHAIRMAN shall:

coordinate the production, sale and distribution of the annual yearbook.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

BUDGET COMMITTEE:

The treasurer shall serve as chairman of this committee.

The committee shall be formed in the spring and shall be comprised of the newly elected president, newly elected treasurer, newly elected first vice-president, newly elected sixth vice-president, and one current officer.

The committee shall:

prepare the budget for the upcoming year and present it to the executive board and to the general membership for adoption at the annual meeting; and
when needed, prepare an amended budget to accommodate the officers and committee chairmen's plans of work and the goals of the association for presentation to the executive board and to the general membership for adoption.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE

The parliamentarian shall serve as chairman of this committee.

The committee shall be comprised of the first vice-president, the secretary, and at least two other members.

The committee shall:

review the bylaws and standing rules of the association every even numbered year, or as needed, for necessary amendments or revisions;
incorporate National PTA and Texas PTA mandated bylaw changes into the association bylaws;
be responsible for coordinating Texas PTA approval of the association bylaws and standing rules when amendments or revisions are made; and
provide the secretary with an accurate copy of association bylaws and standing rules after National PTA, Texas PTA, and/or local unit amendments have been made and approved.

DISBURSEMENTS COMMITTEE

The treasurer shall serve as chairman of this committee.

The committee shall be comprised of the first vice-president, the sixth vice-president, the school principal, one primary faculty member, one secondary faculty member, and at least two other members. After the election of officers, the newly elected counterparts to the above positions will be added to the committee.

The committee shall:

- solicit items needed by the PTA or the school from the faculty, staff, and other members of the association;
- prepare a prioritized list of recommended items to be purchased with prices included; and
- when needed, present the list to the executive board and to the general membership for approval.

To purchase approved items

- The submitter shall:
 - obtain two (2) bids that include shipping and handling fees;
 - select a vendor based on requirements;
 - place the order;
 - verify the items ordered are received as requested;
 - if needed, return any defective items; and
 - submit invoice for payment.

- The treasurer shall:
- pay invoice;
- assure credit is issued when owed for returns or defects; and
- turn in donation form and copies of receipts to office

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The eighth vice-president shall serve as chairman of this committee and shall recruit members, as needed.

The committee shall:

assist and support parents in becoming more aware and knowledgeable in issues affecting children and youth by planning at least two parent education programs;

create a file of literature and videos for parents seeking information and referrals; and

cooperate with various PTA committees and other community organizations or agencies to develop community concern for strengthening and enriching family life.

GOLDEN APPLE AWARDS COMMITTEE

The volunteer chairman shall serve as chairman of this committee.

This committee shall be comprised of the principal and/or the counselor, and at least one other member.

This committee shall:

select the recipient(s) of the Golden Apple Awards;

select the recipients of the Volunteer Appreciation Certificates; and

present the awards at the annual meeting.

HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE:

The fifth vice-president shall serve as chairman of this committee and shall recruit members, as needed.

This committee shall:

assist the faculty Red Ribbon Week representative in coordinating activities for the week; and

chair the Panther Care Center organizing charitable activities for students to participate in without using class time.

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE:

The fourth vice-president shall serve as chairman of this committee and shall recruit members, as needed.

This committee shall:

provide coffee and beverages for executive board meetings and coordinate the sign-up for refreshments at the board meetings;

coordinate the Back to School coffee;

provide beverages and/or refreshments at association meetings and special events when needed;

maintain hospitality supply closet; and

provide refreshments for a Richardson Independent School District's Council of PTA's meeting, as assigned.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:

The third vice-president shall serve as chairman of this committee.

The committee shall be comprised of at least five members, and the school principal and/or school counselor. It is desirable that one member of the committee hold a Texas Life Membership.

This committee shall:

solicit nominations and select recipients to receive the Texas Honorary Life Membership Award;

order awards and pins for recipients from Texas PTA;

plan the awards ceremony; and

maintain a list of all recipients from Prairie Creek Elementary.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:

The third vice-president shall serve as chairman of this committee and shall recruit members, as needed.

This committee shall:

plan and coordinate all aspects of the membership campaign;

design, and implement theme of the year mural; and

apply for membership awards from district and Texas PTA.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The chairman will obtain the procedure notebook for the committee from the parliamentarian.

The chairman shall poll the members of the committee for suggested meeting dates. The time and place will be decided by the chairman when the majority of members can attend. Notice of the meeting shall be made to all members and alternates.

Any member who cannot attend the first meeting will be replaced by an alternate who then becomes a member of the committee. The replaced member and alternates who are not needed for the first meeting do not attend subsequent meetings of the committee.

The nominating committee shall:

slate the following offices: president, seven vice-presidents, secretary, and treasurer; and

submit names of nominees for Parent Advisory Committee Representative and an Alternate.

Suggested nominees for officers along with their qualifications may be submitted to any member of the nominating committee before the committee meets.

Suggested nominees are advisory only. The nominees selected by the committee shall be the best qualified member for the office to be filled.

The comments, statements, or disagreements made in committee meetings are confidential and must be based on facts.

The chairman shall report a complete list of nominees to the president and publicize the list to the general membership ten days before the election.

THE PARENT ADVISORY REPRESENTATIVE shall serve as a non-voting, ex-officio member of the Prairie Creek Elementary PTA executive board for the purpose of gathering and presenting information to the RISD Parent Advisory Committee. The nominating committee shall submit the names of the nominees for PAC representative and alternate at the general election meeting. All parents/guardians of children enrolled in Prairie Creek Elementary, or in the case of early childhood PTAs, all parents/guardians active with this early childhood local unit, may vote for the PAC representative and alternate at the general election meeting, and/or make nominations from

the floor. Membership in PTA is not required for purposes of voting nor for standing for election as PAC representative or alternate. Neither the principal nor the PTA president may appoint these individuals. The names of the representative and alternate shall be turned into the RISD School Board Staff Secretary, 400 South Greenville Avenue, Richardson, Texas 75081. The representative and alternate:

must have a child enrolled in the RISD for at least one year prior to the year of service, and a child enrolled in the RISD school which the person is representing during the year of service. Early childhood PTA representatives and alternates must be parents/guardians residing in the RISD;

must be willing to present all points of view from the area that he/she represents;

will only accept concerns from identified persons;

may not serve more than two consecutive years (K-12) as PAC representative;

shall be elected by the end of May to serve the following school year.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE:

The second vice-president shall serve as chairman of this committee and shall recruit members, as needed.

This committee shall:

work with the principal to present Meet The Teacher Night and Open House;

plan and present programs and special events, including the Talent Show;

provide flowers, notes or tokens of appreciation when deemed appropriate; and

coordinate with other committee chairmen to present planned events at general meetings.

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE:

The seventh vice-president shall serve as chairman of this committee and shall recruit members, as needed.

This committee shall:

assist other officers and committee chairmen to publicize PTA events;

send announcements and news that emphasizes the most important features of the programs and general work of the association to newspapers; and

send reports of outstanding achievements and meetings of unusual interest to the PTA Historian.

SPECIAL PURPOSE COMMITTEES.

These committees will be formed as needed by the association and are Intended to be temporary in nature.

Duties of each committee shall be determined at the time the committee is formed.

Activities and plans of each committee shall be reported to the executive board on an ongoing basis.

When work is complete, each of these committees shall be disbanded.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE:

The sixth vice-president shall serve as chairman of this committee.

The committee shall be comprised of the chairmen of all approved fund raising projects.

This committee shall coordinate the fund raising projects of the association.

ANNUAL MEETINGS AND REPORTS.

The president shall appoint a committee at the May executive board meeting to approve the minutes of the last board meeting.

The president shall appoint a committee at the annual general meeting to approve the minutes of the last general meeting.

Each officer and committee chairman shall submit a plan of work at the August executive board meeting. A copy of this report shall be filed with the president.

Each officer and committee chairman shall submit an end of year report at the May executive board meeting. A copy of this report shall be filed with the president.

Each officer and chairman shall include his plan of work and end of year report in his procedure book to be given to his successor.

BONDING AND INSURANCE: The following insurance shall be purchased annually by the PTA:

general liability coverage;

fidelity bond coverage; and

association professional liability.

FINANCIAL GUIDELINES

No blank checks will be issued.

The following officers shall be authorized to sign checks (two signatures are required on ALL checks):

President

Treasurer

First vice-president

No officer shall approve or sign a check which is being issued to himself.

All requests for reimbursement shall be accompanied by a Check Request/Reimbursement Voucher and receipts to justify the expenses.

All transfers of collected funds to the treasurer shall be totaled and accompanied by a Funds Deposit form.

Two signatures are required on receipt when handling cash.

All moneys shall be deposited in the bank and not in the school or a personal safe.

There shall be a sum of no less than \$1,500.00 left in the budget to start the next year's work.

When the PTA has any checks from a member which cannot be honored because of insufficient funds:

the member must repay the amount of the check plus any bank charges incurred; and

until the matter is resolved, the member must make all payments to the PTA in cash.

EXPENDITURES

The local unit shall pay the expenses of the newly elected officers and standing committee chairmen to the District Spring Conference/Meeting. If funds permit, the local unit shall pay the expenses of any other PTA member to attend. This PTA shall pay the expenses of members to the Texas PTA State Convention and Summer Leadership Seminar in the following order, as funds allow:

President

Treasurer

first vice president
second vice president
third vice president
secretary
any other officer
any standing committee chairman or member
any special committee chairman or member.

If funds permit, after expenses have been allocated for Summer Leadership Seminar and State Convention, the local unit may pay the expenses of a representative(s) to the National PTA Convention. The representative(s) shall be elected by the executive board at their April board meeting.

Expenses to be paid shall be limited to the following:

registration fee;

housing fee;

for travel:

gasoline for one vehicle per four members in attendance or Super Saver airfare, whichever is less; or

Reasonable travel expenses to be approved by the executive board.

meals and incidentals not to exceed \$35.00 per day.

This unit will pay the expenses for officers to attend the Texas PTA Leadership Training Course.

The local unit shall purchase a past president's pin for the retiring president.

AWARDS

The first vice-president will be responsible for distribution of award forms to officers and committee chairmen. Submission of these completed awards to council, district and Texas PTA is the responsibility of the various officers and committee chairmen.

Awards are the possession of this PTA and are to be displayed at the school or placed in the historian's book. This does not include recognition pins (membership, arts in education, etc.)

MISCELLANEOUS

Executive board members shall not expect privileges or rights that are not due any other parent or taxpayer in the school district.

Other than the President, no executive board member will speak to school district personnel or media as representing the local PTA unit unless authorized to do so by the executive board or the general membership.

Reviewed and amended by the Prairie Creek Elementary School PTA - October 2009.

As adopted by the Texas PTA Board of Directors