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April 3, 2020 Update from Mr. Sergio Chavez, Arizona PTA President regarding Covid-19

April 3, 2020

Dear Arizona PTA Leaders and Members,

Arizona PTA is still hard at work and looking at ways that we may best provide the support needed during these unprecedented times. We've been working this week with our lawyers, state leaders, Parliamentarian, National PTA and additional state education leaders and have had multiple online meetings with our Board of Managers in order to get information out to YOU, our leaders, as soon as we can. Again, we appreciate your patience as we get things sorted out and urge you to use this time to be with your loved ones and support your communities. PTA is a vital part of any community so we urge you to reach out to your administration and school district to see how PTA leaders can help during this time.

2020 Convention:

Due to National and State Emergencies, recommendations from the CDC and the Stay-at-Home order within our state we regret to inform you that the Arizona PTA Board of Managers has voted to POSTPONE the 114th Annual Convention in Flagstaff scheduled for June 2020. We are grateful to the High Country Conference Center and the Drury Inn & Suites in Flagstaff for working with us to allow us to use the facilities previously booked for our 115th Convention in June of 2021. We are excited to plan for a June 2021 Convention in beautiful Flagstaff, Arizona!

Our board and convention committee remain dedicated to working on a way to hold an event either virtual or in person later this year to do the business of the state association, so please keep an eye out for more information coming soon!

Arizona PTA State of Emergency:

Arizona PTA has declared a State of Emergency for Arizona PTA which allows us to supersede some of our Bylaws to allow local units to work together in new ways without being in violation of State and Local Unit Unified Bylaws.

Local Unit Executive Board Meetings:

As previously shared, Arizona PTA is allowing local units to have Executive Board/Committee Meetings online as needed to continue the business of your association. See the March 25 email on our website for information regarding virtual EC/EB meetings.

Local Unit Incoming Board Nominations:

We encourage your board to inform your members of open board positions for the coming year(s). Please share what positions are open for the 2020-2021 school year and the requirements/responsibilities of each position.

Local Unit General Meetings & Elections:

Arizona PTA is working diligently on how to allow local units to have General Meetings and Elections virtually. Information including procedures will be going to local units early next week for your use! Please be patient and allow us to continue to create these documents and procedures so we can keep your unit operating safely and legally. Arizona has laws regarding non-profits that MUST be followed so we are crafting regulations to keep your unit in compliance while still allowing you to do business.

This is a difficult time for everyone but also a time for us to come together for our children and families. We truly appreciate the support in Arizona State PTA. We hope you remain safe and healthy.

And don't forget, Arizona PTA has launched a new page on our website to house information and links to help you navigate Covid-19. Please visit this page to get up-to-date information at any time! <http://www.azpta.org/covid-19>

On behalf of the entire Arizona PTA Board of Managers, thank you for your dedication and hard work on behalf of the children of Arizona.

Sergio Chavez



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