



Believe We Can

Resolution in Support of Local Unit Governance

WHEREAS, the Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) is the largest child advocacy organization in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the PTA's mission "...to make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children," is implemented by its volunteer members; and

WHEREAS, the success of PTA's mission is dependent upon effective engagement at the local unit level; and

WHEREAS, each local unit has unique needs which are best recognized by the local leadership, and

WHEREAS, local units - through their bylaws - have established the governance composition to best suit the needs of the community; and

WHEREAS, PTA bylaws specifically define the roles of co-presidents and co-secretaries, recognizing the benefit of sharing the high work load of these positions; and

WHEREAS, the Wheeler High School PTSA is part of the East Cobb County Council which is one of the largest councils in the state – both in number of local units and number of members; and

WHEREAS, the Wheeler High School PTSA is a National PTA School of Excellence recognized for our strong, successful, and effective family-school partnerships; and

WHEREAS, the proposed policy change of the Georgia PTA, which changes our local unit bylaws, to eliminate co-vice presidents and limit the number of executive officers would negatively impact us and many other units around the state; and

WHEREAS, the Georgia PTA has not produced a Georgia State law or National PTA bylaw and/or policy which prohibits co-vice presidents and/or limits the size of the executive committee; and

WHEREAS, PTA is a constitutional organization and operates on the consent of its membership, *Robert's Rules of Order* does not allow the board to take an action which conflicts with the assembly, unless that power is specifically permitted to the board; and

Therefore, let it be

RESOLVED, that Wheeler High School PTSA respectfully requests the Georgia PTA immediately provide any documentation (including contacts at National PTA) supporting the proposed policy change; and let it further be

RESOLVED, in the absence of a higher authority (state law or National PTA) requiring the changes to local unit bylaws, the Georgia PTA rescind the policy change prohibiting co-vice presidents and limiting the size of the executive committee; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Wheeler High School PTSA requests Georgia PTA formally acknowledge the benefit of co-vice presidents, and Georgia PTA formally defines the position of co-vice presidents in the local unit bylaws; and be it further

RESOLVED, in the absence of Georgia PTA rescinding the policy, as it is a bylaws change for the local unit, Wheeler High School PTSA is firm in its position that this policy change be brought to the membership for an official vote at the 2017 Georgia PTA Convention and Leadership Training; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Wheeler High School PTSA recognizes that we, the local unit, best understand the needs of our community and will continue in our efforts to further the mission of PTA.