

Proposed Amendment to the UPG Bylaws

Discussion:

I propose we amend the UPG bylaws to strengthen the link between UPG and its member PTO organizations by directly linking our Members-at-large to each of the seven schools within our school district. My proposal is that we change the number of MAL positions from the current 4-6 Members-at-large representing the various geographic areas of Cheltenham Township to seven Members-at-large representing each of the seven member schools. Each MAL would be designated as representing one member school, and would be required to have a child currently enrolled in the school for which he or she is designated.

Members-at-large would be expected to attend both UPG meetings and the PTO meetings of their designated school, and serve as an identified point of contact for parents at their designated school with regard to issues that may come before the UPG.

Each MAL would have one vote within the UPG. A MAL may serve as MAL and concurrently serve on the Executive Board of his or her designated school's PTO but is not required to do so. The MAL may serve as the UPG Representative of his or member school, but is not required to do so. It is fully intended that the member PTOs will have complete discretion as to whether the MAL serves as their UPG Representative and/or on their Executive Board.

If the member school has a UPG Representative who is not the designated MAL, he or she will have one vote in the UPG. If a school has only its MAL and no separate UPG Representative, the bylaws already allow for both co-presidents of the member PTO to cast votes, or, if they will not be in attendance at meeting, to identify substitutes to the President of UPG before the meeting, and the substitutes may vote as proxies.

Motion:

I, Rhonda Feder, move that we amend the bylaws of the United Parents Group of Cheltenham Township as follows:

ARTICLE IV: REPRESENTATION AND DUES, Section 2

Current:

b. a maximum of six and a minimum of four members-at-large; and

Proposed:

b. seven members-at-large; and

ARTICLE V: OFFICERS, MEMBERS-AT-LARGE AND THEIR ELECTION, Sections 2, 9 and 10

Current:

Section 2. Members-at-large shall, whenever possible, represent all areas of Cheltenham Township, using the elementary school attendance areas as guidelines.

Proposed:

Section 2. Members-at-large shall represent each of the seven schools within the School District of Cheltenham Township (“member schools”). Each member-at-large shall be designated as the MAL from one of the seven member schools within the district, and must have a child currently enrolled in the designated member school during the school year of their term. No MAL may be designated as the MAL from more than one school in a single school year.

Current:

Section 9. In order to maintain maximum representation within UPG, no representative shall be permitted to hold two positions in UPG. For example, no representative can be an officer of UPG or a member-at-large and also represent one of its member school associations.

Proposed:

Section 9. Representatives of any of the member schools within the district (UPG Representatives) may also serve on the UPG Executive Committee as a Member-at-Large from the school for which they hold the position of UPG Representative, but are not required to do so. Should this conflict with any of the bylaws of a member school’s PTO bylaws, the member school’s bylaws will be honored. All other officers on the UPG Executive Board may not serve concurrently on the Executive Board of any of the member school PTOs.

OR

Section 9. Reserved

Current:

Section 10. If one or two of the maximum of six member-at-large positions remain unfilled at any time after the slate is elected, the Executive Committee may nominate one eligible person for one or both positions and report that nomination at a regular meeting. The nomination or nominations shall be voted upon at the next regular meeting. Additional nominations of eligible persons may be made from the floor prior to that vote, provided the consent of each candidate is obtained before his or her name is placed in nomination. Eligibility is set forth in Section 5. The procedure in this Section 10 also applies to unfilled positions in Corresponding Secretary or Recording Secretary.

Proposed:

Section 10. If any of the seven member-at-large positions remain unfilled at any time after the slate is elected, the Executive Committee may nominate one eligible person for any open position and report that nomination at a regular meeting. The nomination or nominations shall be voted upon at the next regular meeting. Additional nominations of eligible persons may be made from the floor prior to that vote, provided the

consent of each candidate is obtained before his or her name is placed in nomination. Eligibility is set forth in Section 5. The procedure in this Section 10 also applies to unfilled positions in Corresponding Secretary or Recording Secretary.

ARTICLE VI: DUTIES OF OFFICERS, Section 7

Current:

Section 7. The members-at-large, along with representing their geographic areas, will be responsible for attending school board meetings and submitting reports of said meetings to the President in addition to other specific tasks assigned by the President (e.g., attending committee events and programs and submitting reports of said activities to UPG; assisting in organizing a workshop; or working on assigned UPG committee).

Proposed:

Section 7. The members-at-large will be responsible for attending all UPG meetings and the PTO meetings of their designated member school. Members-at-large will attend all Executive Board sessions of the UPG. It will remain at the discretion of the member PTOs whether the Member-at-large also serves as on the member school PTO Executive Board. Members-at-large shall serve as a point of contact for parents at their designated school regarding issues that may come before the UPG. Members-at-large may be called upon to perform other specific tasks assigned by the President (e.g., attending committee events and programs and submitting reports of said activities to UPG; assisting in organizing a workshop; or working on an assigned UPG committee).

ARTICLE VIII: THE VOTING BODY, Section 1

Current:

Section 1. The privilege of making motions and voting shall be limited to the members of the Executive Committee and the two representatives from each local school association.

Proposed:

Section 1. The privilege of making motions and voting shall be limited to the members of the Executive Committee and the two representatives from each local school association as set forth within these bylaws.

One minor revision not related to the role of Members-at-large, just to remove "Home and School" since no member school organization is currently using that name:

ARTICLE IV: REPRESENTATION AND DUES, Section 2.a.(1)

Current:

(1) School associations are the Parent-Teacher Organization, the Home and School Association, or the other official body representing parents and teachers in each school of the School District of Cheltenham Township.

Proposed:

(1) School associations are the Parent-Teacher Organization, ~~the Home and School Association,~~ or the other official body representing parents and teachers in each school of the School District of Cheltenham Township.