

PVTA Elections Policy

Beliefs:

1. members should have a voice within their Association through its elected officials;
2. Elections are the best way to engage interested members to become the voice of the Association in matters with the Division, Federation, and other Education Stakeholders;
3. members have the right and responsibility to participate in the democratic process of choosing its representatives.

Principles:

1. Any PVTA member can run for election under the following guidelines:
 - 1.1 for the position of Councillor, provided they are on a continuing or temporary contract for the duration of the school year in which they are seeking election;
2. Positions of President, Vice President, Councillor and LINC shall be elected by a vote of all the membership.
3. All members are entitled to one ballot per election.
4. Specific numbers of votes received by each candidate will not be released to the membership. Voter turn out will be released.

Elections Procedures

The following procedures shall be adhered to:

1. The Chief Returning Officer (CRO) shall
 - a. be the secretary of the PVTA as indicated in the Constitution.
 - i. should the secretary be unable or unwilling to act in the role, a CRO will be appointed by the President
 - b. be a member of the PVTA membership.
 - c. not run for a position in the election which they are CRO.
 - d. ensure that all elections procedure are adhered to and will report results to the PVTA Executive and membership.
 - e. ensure nomination forms are sent to the membership prior to the nomination period
 - f. ensure that ballots are distributed via an online voting system to all members
2. Positions
The order of Elections shall be as follows:
 - a. President;
 - b. Vice-President;
 - c. Councillor and LINC
 - i. The number of Councillors elected may vary annually according to STF bylaw 2.3.1, which states:
STF Bylaw: 2.3.1 "Each local association shall elect councillors based on the number of members within the local association as at September 30 of that year as follows: Fewer than 130 members, two councillors plus one additional councillor for each 65 members, or fraction thereof, in excess of 129 members. Part-time teachers shall be counted as full-time teachers but substitute teachers shall not be counted."
 - ii. The number of LINC representative will be determined by PVTA Constitution and Policy

3. Nominations
 - a. Nomination forms will be sent to the entire membership prior to the nomination period commencing
 - b. Nomination forms must be signed (personally or electronically) by two members of the PVTa membership.
 - c. Nomination forms will indicate the positions available and the dates of the nomination period and election period
 - d. The nomination forms for President and Vice President shall be distributed at the same time.
 - e. Nominees for President shall indicate their intention to run for Vice President if unsuccessful in the President election.
 - f. Nomination forms must be received by the deadline listed on the form.
 - g. Nomination forms must be filled out correctly or will be returned to the nominee. In the case that a form is returned to a nominee and not resubmitted prior to the deadline, the nominee will not be included on the ballot.
 - h. All nominee biographies must be received by the deadline for nominations or will not be included with the nomination package.
 - i. Nominee information shall be distributed to voting membership prior to the start of the vote.
 - j. Names of nominees will be placed on the ballot in the order that their nomination forms were received by the CRO.

4. Elections
 - a. All initial voting shall occur prior to Victoria Day weekend.
 - b. Voting shall take place via an electronic voting system (example Election Buddy). In the case that no suitable electronic system is available, the CRO may decide to run the election via paper ballot.
 - c. Members shall be notified of voting and given electronic access via their PVSD email. In the case that a teacher is on leave, notice will go to the personal email address as provided.
 - d. The voting system shall be set up to ensure that results cannot be viewed by anyone, including the CRO or vote administrator until the election closes.
 - e. Elections shall run for a minimum of two full work days.
 - f. Candidates will be contacted with election results within 24 hours of the end of the election.
 - g. In the event of tie, the election will be run again with only the names of the tied nominees being on the ballot.