

WORKING TOGETHER

Leadership Services Commission



THE PRINCIPAL REPORTS

THESE ARE THE THINGS THAT OBSTRUCT GOOD RELATIONS –

- Lack of understanding between the school and the PTA
- Relationships between individuals – gossip and cliques – jealousy among members
- Lack of cooperation in planning
- Parents trying to direct the school program
- Pressure groups
- Lack of trained PTA leadership
- Lack of planned program
- Feeling that PTA is being used to criticize school and teachers
- Lengthy business meetings
- PTA leaders unwilling to take suggestions

PRINCIPALS DESCRIBE A GOOD PTA PRESIDENT –

- Good organizer
- Has the welfare of children at heart and does not seek personal glory
- Works well with others and gives credit to others
- Friendly, tactful and intelligent
- Knows and upholds school policies
- Delegates responsibility
- Decisive but not dictatorial
- Presides well

THE PTA PRESIDENT REPORTS

THESE ARE THE THINGS THAT OBSTRUCT GOOD RELATIONS –

- Lack of understanding between the school and the PTA
- Lack of participation by teachers
- Lack of interest on the part of the principal or one who is too dominant
- Teachers who feel PTA is trying to run the school
- Failure to talk over problems
- Making plans without consulting with the principal
- Individuals who seek PTA office to exploit themselves or their children
- Failure to keep personal matters out of meetings
- Gossip and cliques

PTA PRESIDENTS DESCRIBE A GOOD PRINCIPAL –

- Cares for and is concerned about children
- Cooperative, friendly, intelligent and has a sense of humor
- Knows and understands the work of PTA
- Well trained in his/her field
- Inspires loyalty and confidence of staff, parents and students
- Willing to listen to parents
- Interested in the community
- Active in the PTA

PLANNING TOGETHER



THE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S ROLE

PTA PRESIDENTS LIKE PRINCIPALS WHO –

- Believe in and support PTA
- Attend PTA meetings, including executive board meetings
- Cooperate with the PTA in use of school facilities
- Make the PTA feel welcome and a part of the school
- Help PTA and the school work toward mutual goals
- Keep PTA informed on school programs, problems and needs
- Help with program planning and cooperate in money raising projects
- Encourage teachers to join the PTA, help with program planning, and participate in the activities
- Encourage teachers to stress the importance of taking PTA notices home

PTA PRESIDENTS BELIEVE THAT PRINCIPALS WHO IMPROVE RELATIONSHIPS DO THESE THINGS –

- Encourage teachers to attend PTA meetings and socialize with parents
- Offer leadership – guide, but not dominate the PTA
- Be decisive and accessible
- Be informed about PTA policies and procedures and encourage PTA leaders to carry out the policies
- Help to increase parent attendance at meetings
- Know parents in an open, friendly way

THE PTA PRESIDENT'S ROLE

PRINCIPALS LIKE PTA PRESIDENTS WHO –

- Plan with the principal
- Keep channels of communication defined and operating
- Respond to requests for help
- Respect the areas of responsibility
- Foster good home-school relationships
- Understand the school's policies and procedures
- Interpret the school and community
- Show thoughtfulness and pre-planning in the use of school facilities
- Consider school schedule when planning PTA activities
- Always include principal or representative in meetings
- Support PTA legislative positions

PRINCIPALS BELIEVE THAT PTA PRESIDENTS WHO IMPROVE RELATIONSHIPS DO THESE THINGS –

- Provide for more parent participation in PTA programs and activities
- Work to secure better attendance at meetings
- Use time and energy wisely
- Secure a balance between organizational matters and student-oriented activities
- Plan ahead the time and types of meetings and projects
- Work through principal – never bypass him/her
- Encourage teacher participation in PTA planning
- Emphasize the usefulness of reports that highlight accomplishments and provide suggestions for future work
- Be sure plans are clear as to what is entailed in a job to be done
- Give credit when and where it is due