



Conversation Starters for PTAs and Principals

National PTA's Principal Fellows for Family-School Partnerships crafted this guide to help start discussions between PTAs and their school administrators. Use these questions to align your priorities and strengthen family-school partnerships.

School Vision and Goals

- What are the top priorities for the school and PTA this year? How can we collaboratively support these priorities?
- What are the key challenges the school and PTA are facing? How can we work together in addressing these hurdles?
- How do you envision the school's growth over the next five years? How can the PTA advance and support this vision?

Communication

- What times work best for us to meet regularly?
- What communication channels are most effective for keeping families engaged? How can help to strengthen this?
- Which communication outlets do the school and PTA have that can cross promote announcements?
- What contact information does the PTA collect? Who manages this information and with whom is it shared?
- How will we measure the success of our collaboration?

Curriculum and Educational Excellence

- Are there any new educational initiatives or curricula being introduced this year that families should be aware of?
- How can the PTA support the school's efforts in promoting STEM or other specialized programs?
- What can the PTA do to help improve the school's overall academic environment and student outcomes?
- How can we work together to ensure that our students have access to a well-rounded, high-quality education?

Community Building

- How do we foster a sense of community among families? What can we jointly do to strengthen these efforts?
- What community partnerships or collaborations could the PTA help facilitate to benefit the school?
- How can we create more opportunities for families, teachers and staff to communicate and share ideas?
- What events or programs can we organize to build stronger connections between families and the school?
- How can the school engage with the community to support the school? How can we support these initiatives?

Equity and Inclusion

- What are the most effective ways school and PTA leaders can help foster a positive and inclusive school culture?
- How can we address and reduce any gaps in student achievement or opportunity?
- How can we work together to create a more inclusive and positive environment for all families and students?

Budgets and Accounting

- How does the school prioritize funding needs? Where can the PTA focus its efforts to make the biggest impact?
- What can we do to ensure our respective budgets focus on school-wide efforts and initiatives for student success?
- What are the most pressing funding needs at the school right now? How can the PTA assist with these needs?

Membership

- How can school administrators support the PTA in getting staff to join?
- How much are annual dues to join the PTA?
- Are there any membership discounts available to teachers and school staff?

Leadership

- Who are the key individuals at the school and in the PTA? What are their roles?
- How can we work together to best support each other?