



everychild.one voice.

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Memo

Re: Oregon PTA and candidate campaigns

Oregon PTA thanks you for your commitment to public service by running for public office. We are grateful there are individuals dedicated to such service.

We do, however, believe a reminder is in order. Oregon PTA is a nonpartisan, 501(c)(3) organization under the Internal Revenue Service Code. As such, Oregon PTA does not endorse, approve, or support any candidate for any public office. And, while officers of the organization (local unit, council or state officers) may indeed use their titles **for identification purposes only** when personally supporting a candidate, this should not be in any way construed as an endorsement by the organization, either at the local unit, council or state level. In fact, Oregon PTA strongly advises that candidates citing the support of such individuals clearly identify in print, electronic or website literature that their titles are included **for identification purposes only**.

We would further like to remind each candidate that during the course of a campaign, candidates may not discuss political or legislative matters **at a PTA meeting**, unless they are taking part in a "Candidate's Forum," where all candidates for a particular office have been invited to speak. Such forums may be hosted by a PTA in coalition or partnership with other nonpartisan organizations, and a nonpartisan moderator should be in charge of the event. Fair procedures must be agreed upon in advance and absolutely **no political fundraising of any kind** may occur at such events.

Again, thank you for making this commitment to public service. We wish you luck in your endeavor.

Sincerely,

Anita Olsen, President
Oregon PTA