Dear Oregon PTA Leaders,

I am thrilled to extend a warm invitation to you for the upcoming 2024 Oregon PTA Convention! As the President of Oregon PTA, I am honored to welcome you to this extraordinary event, where we will come together to celebrate our accomplishments, learn from each other, and chart the course for the future of our PTA community.

Our Convention promises to be an enriching experience filled with an amazing keynote speaker, inspiring workshops, engaging discussions, and valuable networking opportunities. This year, we have curated an exceptional lineup of workshops designed to address key topics that are vital to our collective mission.

I am particularly excited about the diverse range of workshops we have planned, including sessions on engaging families of special education students in PTA, elevating student voice in your community, and suicide prevention for all ages. These workshops will equip you with practical strategies and insights to make a positive impact in your schools and communities. Additionally, we will delve into important topics such as raising resilient children and youth, empowering your community to be greener and healthier, and protecting your family and financial assets. These sessions will provide valuable information and resources to help you navigate the challenges and opportunities facing our families today.

We’ve also made space in our annual conference agenda to offer position-specific training for Presidents, Vice-Presidents, Secretaries, Membership Chairs, and Treasurers. These workshops are tailored to provide you with the knowledge and skills needed to effectively fulfill your roles within your PTA units and prepare you for the 2024-2025 school year.

I encourage you to take advantage of this unique opportunity to engage, learn, and grow with fellow PTA leaders from across Oregon. Together, we can continue to make a meaningful difference in the lives of our children and families.

Don’t miss out on this incredible experience! Register today and join us at the 2024 Oregon PTA Convention. I look forward to seeing you there!

Warm regards,

Lisa Kensel
President Oregon PTA
**OREGON PTA**  
**LOCAL UNIT MAIL – CALL TO CONVENTION**  
**March, 2024**

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<td>Oregon PTA Welcome Letter</td>
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<td>Oregon PTA Convention Proposed Bylaw Changes</td>
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<td>Teacher Education Scholarship (TES) Information</td>
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If you have any questions, or are missing any of these documents, please call the State Office at 503-234-3928. Questions may also be addressed to our e-mail address office@oregonpta.org.
JOIN US!

2024 PTA Convention

Register Now!
- Networking opportunities
- Education and training
- Amazing Keynote Presenter
- Get your 2024-2025 training credit!

Friday & Saturday
26-27 April 2024

www.oregonpta.org/events-training/conference-convention
Oregon PTA Leadership Conference and Convention Rules

1. **Registration:** Participants (delegates and non-voting delegates, guests, and exhibitors) must register to attend any annual meeting session. Official registration badges are required to be worn to all conference activities.
   a. Attendees registered before the conference will pick up their materials at the registration desk.
   b. Attendees registering on-site must report to the registration desk, where badges and all other materials will be issued upon payment of a registration fee.

2. **Session Seating:** It is requested that delegates, non-voting delegates, and visitors be seated before the opening of any session. No one will be seated during any voting.

3. **Addressing the Chair and the Conference Body During a General Session:**
   a. Microphones will always be used.
   b. A delegate must show their voting delegate card to the microphone monitor before being recognized by the chair.
   c. The delegate must first state their name (in full) and the name of the unit they represent.
   d. The delegate is limited to two (2) minutes to speak each time they are recognized. This limitation includes nominating candidates from the floor.
   e. A delegate may address the chair a maximum of three (3) times on a single topic.
   f. Speakers must conform to the ruling of the timekeeper.

4. **Motions:** Must be presented in writing, signed by the delegate with full name, and name of local unit, and given to a Page to hand to the Secretary immediately. Motion forms will be available from the microphone monitors. Please refer to “Addressing the Chair” above.

5. **Pages:** These are available while sessions are in progress to deliver messages and communication to the head table/podium.

6. **Non-PTA literature:** Shall not be distributed during conference activities without the permission of the Executive Committee of Oregon PTA.

7. **Campaign literature:** Must adhere to campaign policies. Campaign materials may not be attached or posted on the walls or doors of the conference facility or within 25 feet of the polling station. Campaigning during conference business including general sessions, workshops, and working meals is prohibited.

8. **Resolutions:** Brought to the conference floor must adhere to the following procedures:
   a. A resolution rejected by the Resolution Committee may be brought to the conference floor with a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the conference delegates (present at that session) to consider the resolution. Notice of such intention to submit this resolution must have been presented to Oregon PTA 30 days before the conference’s opening.
   b. An emergency resolution may be brought to the conference floor with a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the conference delegates (present at that session), providing notice of such intention to submit said resolution has been presented to the President no later than the opening of the first general session.
i. Emergency resolutions shall conform to all established criteria for other resolutions.
ii. The urgency of the subject matter shall have arisen after the deadline for submission of a resolution.
iii. Six copies of the emergency resolution must be submitted to the Oregon PTA President before the opening of the first general session.

c. The delegate presenting the resolution must furnish sufficient copies for the entire delegation at the end of the first general session.

9. **Agenda Items:** No agenda item may be on the floor for more than thirty (30) minutes (inclusive of all points of order and points of information). Within this time frame the chair shall recognize delegates speaking “for” and “against” motions in alternating order.

10. **Extension of debate:** For debate beyond the original thirty (30) minutes, the President will ask for general consent to extend the time to five minutes. If no delegate objects, the total time is automatically extended for five additional minutes for the pending item of business.

11. **Electronic Devices:** Will be placed in silent mode for all conference-related activities.
**Amendment 1: Update UGS Procedures**

**Proposed by:** Bylaws Committee

Amend Oregon PTA bylaws article VII, Local PTA/PTSA Units, section 3, paragraph a.

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<tr>
<td>a. If all documents required under Article VII, Section 2, subsection (a) are not submitted by November 30th, the local unit shall receive a written notice by indicating missing items and the Region Director shall contact local PTA/PTSA officers.</td>
<td>a. If all documents required under Article VII, Section 2, subsection (a) are not submitted by November 30th, the local unit shall receive a written notice by indicating missing items from an Oregon PTA representative, the Region Director shall contact local PTA/PTSA officers, indicating missing items.</td>
<td>a. If all documents required under Article VII, Section 2, subsection (a) are not submitted by November 30th, the local unit shall receive written notice from an Oregon PTA representative, indicating missing items.</td>
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**Rationale:** The proposed amendment is in line with current Oregon PTA practices.
Amendment 2: Removal from Office

Proposed by: Bylaws Committee

Amend Oregon PTA bylaws article IX, Officers Elections and Vacancies, section 5, paragraph a.

Amend Council bylaws article VII, Officers and their Election, section 9, paragraph c.

Amend Local Unit bylaws article VI, Officers and their Election, section 5, paragraph c.

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<td>a. Two (2) unexcused absences from required meetings shall be deemed equivalent to a resignation.</td>
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<td>b. Three (3) consecutive absences from required meetings, excused or unexcused, shall be deemed equivalent to a resignation.</td>
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<td>b. An unexcused absence is defined as an absence not pre-scheduled with or authorized by the President.</td>
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<td>c. Two (2) unexcused consecutive absences (as defined in the Standing Rules of the Oregon PTA Board of Directors) from required meetings shall be deemed equivalent to a resignation.</td>
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<td>d. Two (2) unexcused consecutive absences from required meetings shall be deemed equivalent to a resignation. An unexcused absence is defined as an absence not pre-scheduled with or authorized by the President.</td>
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Rationale: Consecutive excused absences are addressed in Oregon PTA Board Policies through the filing of a leave of absence form. The definition of an unexcused absence provides clarity.

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Rationale: Defining an unexcused absence provides clarity for Local Units and Council’s and is not dependent on Oregon PTA Board of Director Standing Rules.
Amendment 3: Council Operating Grants  
**Proposed by:** Bylaws Committee

Amend Oregon PTA bylaws article XIV Councils, section 5.

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<td>5. Oregon PTA shall provide each Council an operating grant of one dollar ($1.00) for each member of each PTA in that Council that paid Oregon PTA dues during the previous fiscal year. The grant shall be distributed to the Council by November 15th of each year. The Board of Directors may withhold part or all of a Council’s grant if one or more of the following conditions are not met: a. For every 1000 PTA members a council has, one council member shall attend the annual Oregon PTA State Conference and Convention, at the council’s expense.</td>
<td>5. Oregon PTA shall provide each Council with an annual operating grant of one dollar ($1.00) for each member of each PTA in that Council that paid Oregon PTA dues during the previous fiscal year $1500 to cover administrative costs. The grant shall be distributed to the Council by November 15th of each year. The Board of Directors may withhold part or all of a Council’s grant if one or more of the following conditions are not met: a. For every 1000 PTA members a council has, one additional one council member shall attend the annual Oregon PTA State Conference and Convention, at the council’s expense.</td>
<td>5. Oregon PTA shall provide each Council with an annual operating grant of $1500 to cover administrative costs. The grant shall be distributed to the Council by November 15th of each year. The Board of Directors may withhold part or all of a Council’s grant if one or more of the following conditions are not met: a. One council member shall attend the annual Oregon PTA State Conference and Convention, at the council’s expense.</td>
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**Rationale:** The proposed amendment to the operating grant policy reflects a strategic shift aimed at promoting equity, sustainability, and effective resource allocation within Oregon PTA. While the current policy ties grant distribution for Councils to the previous year’s membership dues, the amendment introduces a more equitable and predictable funding mechanism by providing each Council with a fixed annual operating grant of $1500 to cover administrative costs. This ensures that every Council receives a fair and consistent level of support from the Oregon PTA, regardless of variations in membership dues or other financial factors.

The proposed amendment to the operating grant also lays the foundation for the establishment of a statewide grant program, paving the way for additional funding opportunities that benefit all local units and councils across Oregon.

By instituting a grant program, Oregon PTA embraces a dynamic approach to resource allocation, empowering local units and councils to pursue initiatives and projects that align with their unique needs and priorities.
Amendment 4: Duties of Officers

**Proposed by:** Bylaws Committee

Amend Council bylaws article VIII, section 1.

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<td>1. The president shall preside at all meetings of the council, including the executive committee and board, and shall be an ex-officio member of all committees, except the nominating committee. The president shall be a member of the Oregon PTA Board of Directors, act as an aide to the president, and act as a liaison between the Oregon PTA Board of Directors and local PTA/PTSA units in the council. The president or alternate shall attend the annual state conference and convention and upon request, meetings of the Executive Committee and/or Board of Directors of Oregon PTA, and such other meetings as may be required by the President/Executive Committee of Oregon PTA.</td>
<td>1. The president shall preside at all meetings of the council, including the executive committee and board, and shall be an ex-officio member of all committees, except the nominating committee. The president shall be a member of the Oregon PTA Board of Directors, act as an aide to the president, and act as a liaison between the Oregon PTA Board of Directors and local PTA/PTSA units in the council. The president or alternate shall attend the annual state conference and convention and upon request, meetings of the Executive Committee and/or Board of Directors of Oregon PTA, and such other meetings as may be required by the President/Executive Committee of Oregon PTA.</td>
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**Rationale:** The role of Council Presidents within the Oregon PTA Board of Directors is pivotal to the effective governance and representation of the organization. The current provision allowing alternates to attend meetings in place of the President may inadvertently diminish the effectiveness of the Council President's role as an alternate’s participation may not fully embody the depth of knowledge, experience, and direct engagement that the Council President brings to board deliberations and decision-making processes.

This amendment aligns the Council President's responsibilities with those of other Oregon PTA board members, who are not afforded the option to select an alternate to attend meetings in their place.
Amendment 5: Officers and their Election  
**Proposed by:** Bylaws Committee

Amend Council bylaws article VII, section 11 (new).

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<td>11. NA</td>
<td>11. A succession plan for the vacancy of the President shall be specified in the council’s standing rules.</td>
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**Rationale:** A well-defined succession plan is essential for maintaining continuity and stability within the leadership structure of a Council. Incorporating explicit guidance on succession planning into the Council bylaws ensures a smooth transition of leadership in the event of unexpected vacancies. This proactive approach minimizes disruptions to the Council’s operations and facilitates the seamless transfer of responsibilities to successors.
Amendment 6: Special Meetings (Councils)

**Proposed by:** Bylaws Committee

Amend Council bylaws article X, Executive Committee/Board, section 4.

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<td>4. The executive committee/board shall meet regularly during the school year or at the call of the president. Meetings may also be called at the request of two (2) members of the committee, provided two (2) days prior notice be given to all committee members.</td>
<td>4. The executive committee/board shall meet regularly during the school year or at the call of the president. Meetings may also be called at the request of two (2) members of the committee, provided two (2) days prior notice be given to all committee members. A majority of the board members, provided five (5) days notice is received by all board members.</td>
<td>4. The executive committee/board shall meet regularly during the school year or at the call of the president. Meetings may also be called at the request of a majority of the board members, provided five (5) days notice is received by all board members.</td>
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**Rationale:** This amendment more adequately reflects the collective needs and availability of all board members. Additionally, extending the notice period from two to five days allows board members ample time to adjust their schedules and adequately prepare for meetings. Aligning meeting procedures with the preferences and availability of the majority ensures that decisions are made with the fullest participation and engagement of the board.
Amendment 7: Special Meetings (Local Units)

**Proposed by:** Bylaws Committee

Amend Local Unit bylaws article VIII, Executive Committee/Board, section 4.

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<td>4. Regular meetings of the board shall be held during the year; the time to be fixed by the board at its first meeting of the year. A majority of the board shall constitute a quorum. Special meetings of the executive committee/board may be called by the president or by the majority of the respective members of the executive committee/board, with due notice being given.</td>
<td>4. Regular meetings of the board shall be held during the year; the time to be fixed by the board at its first meeting of the year. A majority of the board shall constitute a quorum. Special meetings of the executive committee/board may be called by the president or by the majority of the respective members of the executive committee/board, with due notice being given. <strong>Due notice is defined as five (5) or more days.</strong></td>
<td>4. Regular meetings of the board shall be held during the year; the time to be fixed by the board at its first meeting of the year. A majority of the board shall constitute a quorum. Special meetings of the executive committee/board may be called by the president or by the majority of the respective members of the executive committee/board, with due notice being given. <strong>Due notice is defined as five (5) or more days.</strong></td>
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**Rationale:** This amendment defines the term “due notice”, enhancing clarity and consistency in meeting procedures and reducing ambiguity and potential misunderstandings among board members. By stipulating that due notice consists of five or more days, this amendment ensures that board members have sufficient time to plan and prioritize their attendance, thereby optimizing participation and decision-making processes.
The Oregon PTA Legislative Platform builds upon the goals and positions of the National PTA as laid out in National PTAs resolutions, position statements, policy priorities and other advocacy guidance.

As approved by the 2024 Oregon PTA State Convention, Oregon PTA works towards the following advocacy goals.

Full and Equitable Funding of Public Schools

A. School Funding

1. Full and equitable funding of public schools.
   1.1. Support legislative retention and use of “kicker” dollars to adequately fund public education, rather than returning overages to corporate and personal taxpayers.
   1.2. Support the use of lottery funds to improve the stability of equitable school funding.
   1.3. Support system development charges on new housing developments to help provide for construction of new school buildings or to acquire land and to generally provide safe and adequate public school facilities.

2. Stability of school revenue.

3. Local, state and federal funds for education will be appropriated only for publicly-controlled and tax-supported schools.
   3.1. Opposition to tuition tax credits, vouchers, choice/scholarships for the education of K-12 students outside of public school settings.

4. State and federal government maintain an adequate educational and funding commitment to children with special needs.

Creating Great Schools for All

B. School Governance

1. Agencies with responsibilities for the education, health or welfare of children and youth have:
   1.1. Clearly defined responsibilities.
   1.2. Provisions for adequate funding and structure to effectively meet legislative intent.
   1.3. Provisions for review of administrative rules by the legislature and interested citizens.
2. All federal legislation concerned with education and child welfare includes provisions which respect state and local control.
3. Site-based decision making is empowered.
4. Federal funds for educational, health and welfare services for children and youth are distributed in coordination with appropriate state or local governmental boards or agencies (e.g., the Department of Education).
5. Federal and state legislation and regulations provide protection of the constitutional and civil rights of each individual.
6. Opposition to legislation that requires a specified percentage of legal voters participating in a school election or requires a supermajority vote to determine the results of a school election.
7. Equal quality of education throughout the state of Oregon.

C. Family Engagement
   1. Families are included in all levels of education-related decision-making, with a focus on encouraging and promoting family engagement.
   2. All employers – public and private - are encouraged to grant time for employees to volunteer and participate in children's school activities within the workday without any loss of income, stature, or job security.
   3. Family involvement is recognized as a state and national education goal.

D. Welcoming, Supportive and Inclusive Learning Environment for All Students
   1. Federal and state support of services for children ensure equalization of opportunities.
   2. Equity in educational financing at all levels of government.
   3. Adequate counseling and guidance services and/or school social worker programs at all levels.
   4. School districts meet the needs of all children and youth.
   5. Children and youth are protected from violence in schools.
   6. Implementation of diverse and inclusive curricula.
   7. Education of the whole child, including but not limited to art, music, technical education, critical thinking, decision-making and creative thinking.
   8. Effective family focused, school-based interventions for children who are chronically absent.
   9. Opposition to all legislative attempts to suppress information about family diversity and sexual orientation.
10. Children have tools, resources, and services to access social emotional learning.
E. Teacher development
1. Sufficient number of capable and qualified teachers for the education of Oregon children and youth.
2. Teacher evaluations are professional learning tools, and school districts provide effective professional development to promote excellence in the classroom.
3. Improved qualified teacher retention and diversification of the teaching workforce in Oregon.

F. Early Learning
1. Adequate investments for quality early learning programs.
2. Expansion of public schools’ ability to provide quality early childhood education programs.

G. Higher Education
1. Adequate financial assistance for education beyond high school in publicly controlled, tax-supported institutions.

Protecting and Enhancing the Well-Being of Our Children

H. Basic Needs
1. Federal support to states for providing necessary public health and welfare services for all children and families.
2. End of hunger and houselessness among children and families in Oregon.
   2.1. Children and families have access to emergency food and sustainable food assistance.
3. Extension and support for research focusing on the needs of all children and families.
4. Adequate funding for the implementation of runaway, houseless youth and missing children programs, including programs to temporarily provide safe, secure shelters while families or appropriate agencies are contacted.

I. Health
1. Children and families receive public health and welfare services necessary for their physical and mental well-being.
2. Public health services and public health education opportunities are provided to all children and youth.
3. Healthy lifestyles and eating habits both at home and at school are promoted.
   3.1. Legislative policies promote healthy eating and lifestyle and access to the same for all children.
4. Children, pregnant women, and other family members have equal access to health care services and guarantee that children and youth get quality health care.
5. Full and adequate funding of necessary state services that benefit children, such as public agencies that provide children and family services, and other public programs including drug abuse prevention, and sexually transmitted infections prevention.

6. Legislative retention and use of “kicker” dollars, rather than returning overages to personal taxpayers, to fund needed and necessary state services that benefit children, such as schools, children and family services, drug and alcohol abuse and prevention programs, STI awareness, research, and prevention programs.

J. Gun safety
1. Legislation to improve safe storage of firearms and to ensure gun owners require training in the safe use and responsibility of gun ownership.

K. Legal and Illegal Drugs
1. Regulation of the manufacturing, advertising, or sale of products hazardous to children and youth (e.g., tobacco, alcohol).
2. Effective drug and substance misuse awareness, prevention, and treatment programs.
3. Legislation declaring that the advertising, sale, manufacture, delivery and/or possession of look-alike drugs be unlawful and urge and support legislation banning the manufacture, advertising, and sale of paraphernalia for use with illegal drugs.
4. Alcoholic beverage advertising on radio and TV is counteracted and eliminated.

L. Sexual and Reproductive Health
1. Prevention of teenage pregnancy.
2. Effective education regarding healthy relationships, consent, and body image.

M. Environmental Quality / Health Hazards
1. Protection of the ecological and environmental qualities of life necessary to the development of healthy and productive youth.
2. Mitigation of and adaptation to climate change.
3. Reduction of children's exposure to harmful substances such as lead, asbestos, radon, air pollution, and pesticides.
4. Public policy and funding options protecting children through the construction and retrofitting of seismically resilient schools.

N. Consumer Protection
1. Consumer protection for youth and families.
   1.1. Child safety programs for all areas of unintentional injury prevention.
   1.2. Increased safety for children and to help prevent unintentional injuries.
1.3. Legislation to require sale of anchoring kits with new furniture units, anchoring of furniture and televisions in public spaces, such as childcare centers, schools, and foster care facilities, and to prohibit sale of furniture that does not meet anti-tip safety standards.

O. Child Protection
1. States agencies and localities develop and fund educational and prevention programs to protect children from physical, sexual, mental, and emotional abuse or neglect.
2. Legislation relating to child labor protects the education, health, safety, and welfare of young people.

P. Safe and Positive Media Experiences
1. Support appropriate media programming for children and youth.
2. Strengthen online privacy protections for children and youth.
3. Expand broadband access and enhance digital infrastructure to ensure equity.
4. Increase awareness, including research, of the impact of technology on children and strengthen digital literacy skills for children and families.
5. Address threats to the safety and well-being of children that can happen online, such as cyberbullying, exploitation, criminal activity and violence.

Q. Juvenile Justice
1. Prevention of juvenile delinquency and promotion of alternatives to institutionalization.
2. Removal of juveniles from adult jails and lockups.
3. Adequate funding for the implementation of juvenile justice.
4. Adequate protection and care for juvenile victims of crimes.
As a valued supporter of education, we invite you to contribute to the Oregon PTA Teacher Education Scholarship (TES) fund. This scholarship aims to make a meaningful impact on the lives of aspiring educators by providing financial support to Oregon residents pursuing a degree in education at any public college or university in the state.

**About the Oregon PTA Teacher Education Scholarship:**

- **Eligibility:** Open to Oregon residents studying for a degree in education.
- **Award:** $1000 one-time scholarship (non-renewable).

**How You Can Make a Difference:**

Your support can help shape the future of education by empowering promising individuals to pursue their dreams of becoming educators. By contributing to the Oregon PTA TES fund, you play a vital role in fostering the growth and development of future teachers who will undoubtedly make a positive impact on our communities.

**How to Donate:**

Donating is simple and can be done securely online here. Your generous contribution will directly provide educational opportunities and ease the financial burden for deserving scholarship recipients.

**Contact Information:**

If you have any questions or would like more information, please feel free to contact us at our office, at 503-234-3928 or email me at TES@oregonpta.org.

Thank you for considering supporting the Oregon PTA Teacher Education Scholarship. Together, we can make a lasting impact on the future of education and inspire the next generation of teachers.

Warm regards,

Jamie Thomas
Oregon PTA
TES Committee Chair
TEACHER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

Reasons to Donate

☑ Empower future educators
☑ Foster access to education
☑ Strengthen schools

LEARN MORE

DONATE

Deadline For Registration 20 July 2026