

## PTA leadership qualities

### A good PTA leader:

- Should have basic PTA knowledge and a willingness to learn
- Is willing to attend training opportunities to further understand the organization
- Believes in people and helps others achieve goals
- Communicates well orally and in writing
- Delegates responsibility
- Is willing to do the job others are unable to do

### Leadership qualities to expect of yourself and others

#### Knowledge of, and commitment to, PTA positions

A commitment to PTA's views and beliefs is essential to being a PTA leader.

#### Good communication skills

Successful leadership also requires excellent oral and written communication skills, as well as active listening allowing you to be more empathetic with others. This includes the ability to offer constructive criticism.

#### Conflict management skills

An effective leader has the ability to stand back and see what is happening within the group, assure that each member is heard, and not allow anyone to feel alienated or insecure because of another's ego or ambition.

#### Critical thinking skills

Critical thinking skills allow leaders to ask the right questions, select relevant data, weigh conflicting information, and determine the right course to follow.

#### Decision-making abilities

A good leader knows when to determine if additional resources or input is required and when it is time to end discussion and determine a course of action.

#### Faith in the process

A leader must have faith in the ability of everyday people to work to change school policy, succeed with a ballot initiative and engage in petition campaigns.

#### Encouragement of others

The true test of leadership is putting the national, state, and local PTA goals before your own. This involves delegating tasks and authority, complementing others, thanking them and sharing credit.

***The art of leadership is the ability to make what one is doing attractive to others ... attractive enough for others to want to join and take on responsibilities!***