



2020 SLATE OF NOMINEES

Vice President of Legislation – Jessica Wong-Sumida

Jessica Wong-Sumida was born in Honolulu, Hawaii and graduated from Roosevelt High School. She went on to major in Psychology at the University of Hawaii, then attended Chapman University, where she graduated with a Master's Degree in psychology and a Juris Doctor from Trinity Law School. Jessica volunteered as executive director for the Autism Society of Hawaii from 2011-2017, the professional co-chair of the Community Children's Council from 2011-2019, the National PTA resolution committee from 2012-2016, and the National PTA strategic outreach committee from 2016-2018.

Jessica works for Department of Human Service, Child Welfare Service with the crisis response team and has over 15 years of experience working collaboratively with the DOE and DOH servicing children with special needs. She would like to give back to the community to changes people's lives in a meaningful way by showing and providing opportunities, through opening doors, that would not otherwise have been available.

Vice President of Membership – Missy Hoesel

Missy Hoesel has been an active member of local PTSA units for the past nine years, with experience at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. As the current Vice President of Membership for the Hawaii State PTSA, Missy feels that it is important to advocate for all of Hawaii's keiki to ensure that they are getting the best possible educational experience. Missy's goal is to continue in this leadership role, seeking additional ways to engage people in our school communities to become PTA members and add their voice in support of Hawaii's children.

Vice President of Programs – Vacant**

Secretary – Kellee Hearther

Kellee is the spouse of an active duty Naval officer and has moved ten times since she and Bill were married in 1992. With three wonderful daughters ages 21, 19 and 17, one constant in all the moves has been involvement in the local community where the family has lived. Kellee has served in PTA or parent group positions at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. She has been President, Reflections Chair, Secretary, Jog-a-thon Chair, as well as initiated and organized Veterans' day programs at three different schools and started a community service club in Virginia. Kellee currently serves at the President of the Radford High School PTSA and the Secretary of the Hawaii State PTSA. She loves all things outdoors, especially swimming, surfing, paddling and hiking and feels very fortunate to call Hawaii home for the past eleven years.

East Hawaii Regional Director – Cheryl Kiefer

As a retired teacher who taught for over 20 years at the middle school level, Cheryl Kiefer first became involved with the Keaau Middle PTSA thirteen years ago in the role of teacher liaison. In her current role of treasurer, Cheryl has worked hard to get Keaau Middle PTSA back on fiscal track. Cheryl's PTSA experience includes involvement with fundraising (Scholastic Book Fairs and School Kine Cookie Sales), assisting with the 8th grade banquet, and helping to coordinate the PTA Reflections art program.

Cheryl stepped into the East Hawaii Region Director position at the 2016 Hawaii State PTSA Convention. She would like to continue in this capacity, with the goal of assisting other struggling PTSAs and seeing the Big Island be an outstanding representation of parents, students, and teachers in the ever-changing landscape of education.

West Hawaii Region Director – Vacant**

(Originally submitted name withdrawn as of August 2020.)

Windward Oahu Region Director – Michelle Letchford

Michelle Letchford has been with the PTSA for a total of nine years, including seven years with the Kailua Elementary School PTSA and five years with the Kalaheo High School PTSA. She has experience in serving as a PCNC- (Parent Community Networking Center Parent Facilitator), a Correspondence Secretary, Secretary, Vice President, and President. She is currently serving a second term as the Kalaheo High School PTSA President, as well as serving her first interim term as the Hawaii State PTSA Windward Region Director. Michelle is also a member of the first graduating class of The Hawaii PLTI-(Parent Leadership Training Institute).

Michelle is married to her wonderful husband Todd for 24 years and they have two beautiful daughters. She strongly believes that it takes a village to raise a child and that is why she is certified in facilitating two different parenting classes; Positive Solutions for Families-(CSEFEL)- (ages 0 – 5yrs.) and Loving Solutions-(ages 5yrs. – 10yrs.). Being a volunteer and providing valuable information, references, & tools to parents is what she loves to do. By electing her to another term as Windward Region Director, she would have the opportunity to reach out and help more parents and their children.

Central Oahu Region Director – Vacant**

**Anyone interesting in one of these positions may run from the floor. Procedures to run from the floor include:

The Hawaii State PTSA bylaws provide for the opportunity for interested, qualified candidates to run from the “floor” for both vacant positions, as well as positions with a slated nominee. Current vacant positions include: West Hawaii Region Director, Central Oahu Region Director, and Vice President of Programs/State Reflections Chair.

Interested parties considering running from the floor for any position should:

- Review the [Hawaii State PTSA bylaws](#) pertaining to these positions.
- Confirm that they meet the qualification required to run. (Must be a confirmed, current PTA/PTSA member, from a local unit in good standing within the state of Hawaii. Verification from said PTA/PTSA will be required.)
- Complete and submit the [Potential Leader Form](#) by September 25, 2020. Form should be emailed to hawaiiptsapresident@gmail.com.
- Questions regarding these roles or election procedures can be directed to hawaiiptsapresident@gmail.com.

Candidates qualified to run from the floor will be notified by September 27, 2020 and added to the election ballot.