

Involving Students in your PTSA

Todd Hougaard
Utah PTA Student Leadership Commissioner

Job Interview

Position Applying for:

Student Club

Job Interview

Qualifications:

“I’m different than all of your other clubs...”

**What is the difference
between
a PTSA student group
and all of the other student
clubs and groups at your
school?**

Student Body Officers
National Honors Society
HOPE Squad
Golden Gate
Latinos in Action
Kindness Club
FBLA

Job Interview

Qualifications:

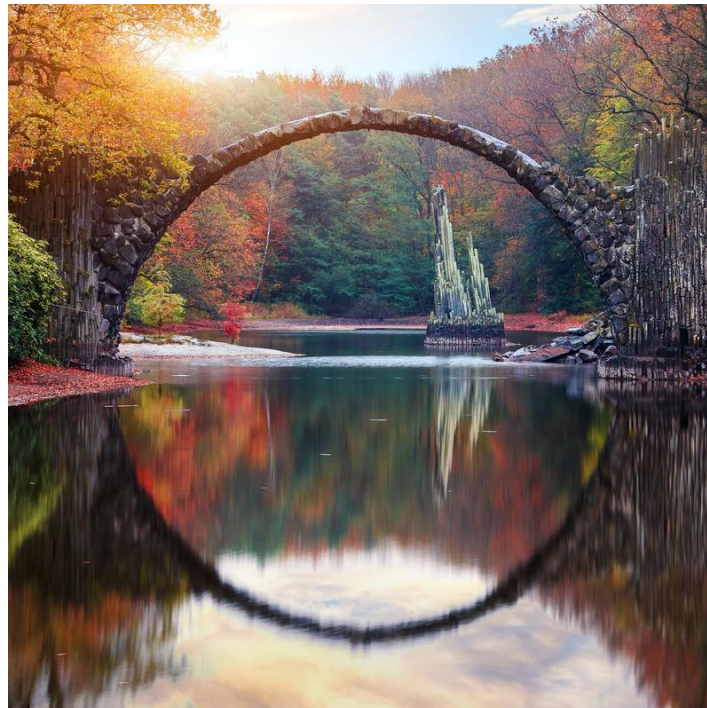
“I’m a bridge...”

BRIDGE: (verb)
**Make (a difference between
groups) smaller or less
significant.**

BRIDGE: (verb)
synonyms – join, link,
connect, unite
antonyms – divide, separate



How can PTSA be a...



How do parents, teachers, and students interact?

Bridge between students & parents

1)

2)

3)

4)

5)

(answers from the audience)

How does
the mission
change
when it
becomes a
PTSA?

Mission of PTA

ADVOCATE

Support and
speak on behalf
of children and
youth, and...

ENGAGE

Encourage positive
engagement in all
facets of a child's
life, and...

DEVELOP

Assist in
developing skills
to raise and
protect children
and youth.

The main change is helping them to advocate for themselves.

Mission of **PTSA**

ADVOCATE

Support and help youth to speak up for themselves, and...

ENGAGE

Encourage positive engagement in all facets of a child's life, and...

DEVELOP

Assist in developing skills to raise and protect children and youth.

Utah
PTA

everychild.one voice.

What are some **natural** ways to **bridge** this gap?



Are your school PTSA activities Bridges?

1)

2)

3)

4)

5)

6)

(activity examples from the audience)

Are our State PTSA activities Bridges?

- 1) PTSA Student Day at the Capitol
- 2) Battle of the Bands
- 3) Healthy Relationships Month
- 4) Safe Driving Week
- 5) Service Project
- 6) State Student Leadership Committee
- 7) Student Leadership Conference
- 8) Reflections

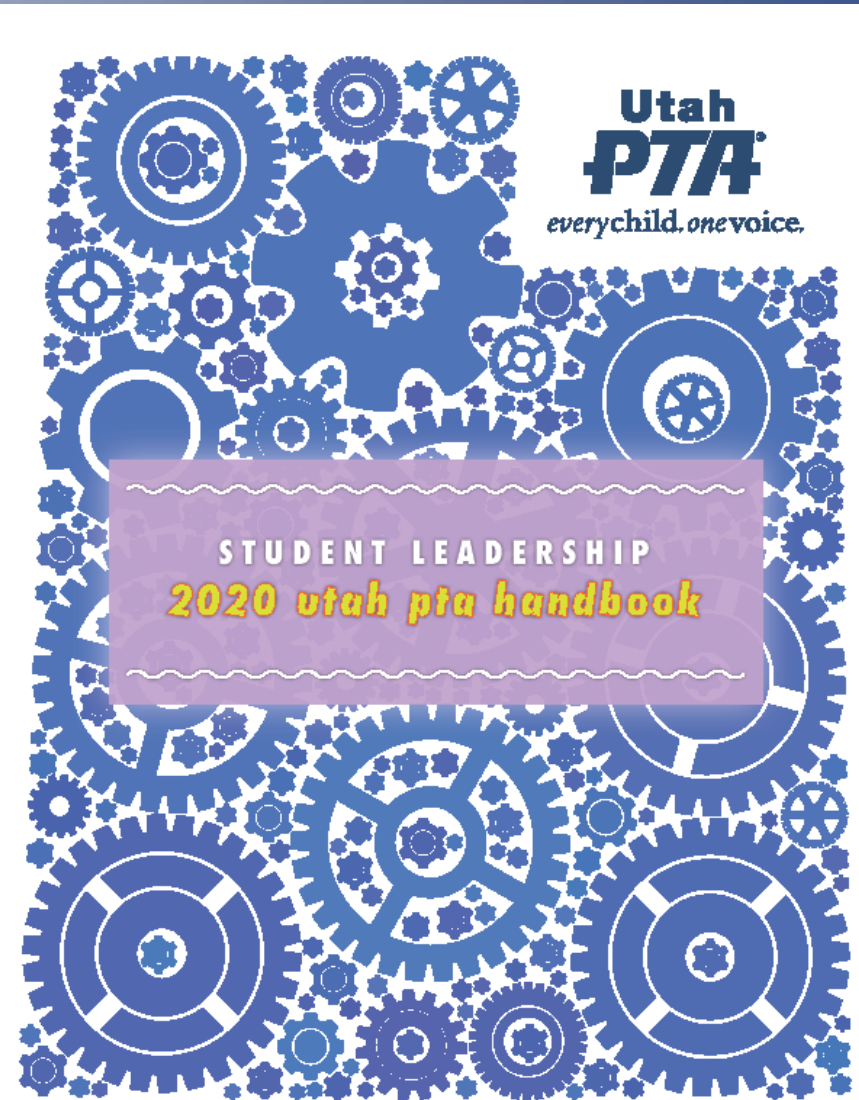
Job Interview

Job Requirements:

Involve the students

ACCORDING TO
Local bylaws
Article X, Section 3
Each PTSA NEEDS
STUDENT
INVOLVEMENT

Pages 20-22 in the Student Leadership Handbook specifically goes over the many different ways a PTSA can be designed to provide student involvement.



A PTSA must have student involvement with the adult PTSA. To provide even more opportunities to involve and develop student leaders, a Student PTSA Committee could also be formed. Make sure to follow local and district school policies concerning the creation of a student club or initiative.

Possible Ideas on How to Structure a PTSA Having a Student Committee

1) Student applications are taken and a certain number of students are selected to be on the Student PTSA Committee. These students represent the student membership as they plan and carry out PTA/PTSA programs and functions. (General student membership is included where possible.) One member of this committee sits on the adult board to facilitate communication.

Possible Ideas on How to Structure a PTSA Having a Student Committee

2) Officers are elected by the student membership and have similar positions as the adult board. Since you can't have a Board within a Board, this is a Committee. You will have a Chair & Vice-Chair instead of President & President-Elect, and a Secretary, but no Treasurer – students do not handle money. They work hand in hand with the adult member of the board with the similar title.

Possible Ideas on How to Structure a PTSA Having a Student Committee

3) The student committee may be made up from students who are recommended by teachers. One member from each homeroom class is selected to be on the Student PTSA Committee.

Possible Ideas on How to Structure a PTSA Having a Student Committee

4) Where schools have both a student government and a Student PTSA Committee, a Student PTSA Committee member will meet with the student government to facilitate communication and coordination of activities.

Possible Ideas on How to Structure a PTSA **Without** Having a Student Committee

- 1) A student body officer is appointed as a representative to the PTSA.
- 2) A student PTSA representative is elected as part of the student body election process.
- 3) A student PTSA representative is selected from the school's Peer Leadership Team.
- 4) A student PTSA representative is nominated by the PTSA Nominations Committee.

Ideas on How to Structure a PTSA By Integrating Students With the Adult PTSA

- 1) Integrate the students right into the adult board. (But students can't be in positions that deal directly with finances.)**
- 2) Student officers have similar positions as the adult board. They plan events and programs together.**
- 3) Have a PTSA student leader selected by each teacher. They become the Student PTSA Committee and work hand-in-hand with the adult PTSA to learn leadership skills.**

Leadership Tip

A leader of students needs to do two things.

- 1) Make it fun.
- 2) Help everyone have a purpose for being there.

Clara Pitts, Student Vice Chair
State Student Leadership Committee

Look at the activities you do.
Are they fun?
Do they provide a purpose?
Are they a bridge?

ADVOCATE

RED RIBBON WEEK

STUDENT DAY AT THE CAPITOL

DOT SURVEYS

DOT SURVEYS

**A DOT survey is exactly what it says,
a survey that can be taken by placing
DOTs on the things you choose.**

**This is an easy way to survey
students on what they are thinking.**

TIMELAPSE TO

Tell us the story of your commute
#TimelapseTO

How long does it take for you to get from home to school? Put a sticker on your average commute time.

Under 15 mins.	15-30 mins.	30mins - 1 hr	1 - 1.5 hrs	1.5-2 hrs.	Over 2 hrs.

How do you travel? Put a sticker on every mode of transit that you use on your commute.

Walking	Biking	Bus	LRT	Subway	GO Train	Car	Car Share

How do you like your trip? Rate your average commute experience.

★	★★	★★★	★★★★	★★★★★

ENGAGE
PTSA ACTIVITIES
SERVICE PROJECTS
WORKING WITH OTHER
SCHOOL CLUBS

DEVELOP
STUDENT COMMITTEE
STATE STUDENT COMMITTEE

Job Interview

Job Timeframe

“When can you start?”

Student Memberships

You can sign up members any time, but best opportunities are:

- 1) At the start of the school year.
- 2) During your school's Club Week.
- 3) At any PTSA activity.

Student Committee

You should try to have your student leadership in position before the end of the current school year.

Application Forms

Available at:

utahpta.org/

student-leadership-commissioner

PTSA[®]

everychild.one voice.[®]

**Utah PTSA Student
Leadership Committee
Application**

**Utah
PTA[®]**

everychild.one voice.

State Student Committee

Up to \$250 scholarships

One student rep from each school

Summer Leadership Camp

State Student Committee

Monthly meetings on the 2nd Saturday
at 10 AM at Utah PTA Office or Zoom.

If interested contact:
todd@utahpta.org

State Student Committee

Helps plan and carry out
State PTSA activities

Student Leadership Conference

PTSA Days at the Capitol

State Battle of the Bands

State Day of Service

Student Leadership Conference

October 9, 2021

Recommended for all PTSA students,
especially those in leadership roles,
but all students could have a position.

Student Leadership Roles

Student Chair	Student Vice Chair
Secretary	PTSA Board Rep
Publicity VP	Student Advocacy Chair
Club Liaison	Service Chair
Leadership VP	Volunteer Coordinator
T-shirts	Memory Book
Student Membership Chair	
Student Activity Chair	

Student Leadership Roles

Other possible positions under Student
Advocacy Chair

Vaping/Smoking/Marijuana/Alcohol
Prevention Chair

Suicide Prevention Chair

Green/White/Red Ribbon Week Chair

Student Day at the Capitol Chair

Steps to take NOW to prepare for next year

1)

2)

3)

4)

5)

(answers from the audience)

“PTSA is a powerful resource to every secondary school in Utah.”

“PTSA can and does make a difference.”

“It can change lives and can save lives.”

“It is the springboard for tomorrow's leaders giving them tools to be resourceful and successful.”

If you have any questions, or would like additional training, please contact:

Todd Hougaard
Utah PTA Student Leadership Commissioner

todd@utahpta.org

Follow Utah PTA



Facebook

Groups you can join:

- Utah PTA Advocacy
- Utah PTA Super Secondary
- Utah PTA Excellent Elementary
- Utah PTA Treasurers
- Utah PTA Reflections
- Utah School Community Councils



Twitter



Pinterest



YouTube



Instagram

Utah PTA One Voice App

Sponsors

