



Welcome to the 2020 Little People of America Election.

You will be electing the following
four positions, to **three-year** terms:

President		Mark Povinelli
Senior Vice President		Jonathan North
Finance Director		Bryce Schelhaas
Membership Director		Antonio Orriola Faith Pedersen

Voter Eligibility

Again this year, LPA will be providing online voting as an option for casting your ballot. Each LPA member listed in our database who is 18yrs or older and has a valid email address will receive an email with instructions on how to cast your vote online. For more information, or to request an online ballot if you have not received one, please visit our webpage:

www.lpaonline.org/2020_election

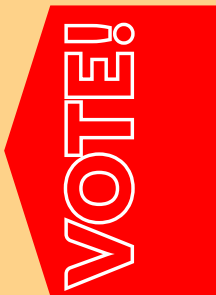
Thank you for your attention to these important matters that will affect the future of Little People of America.

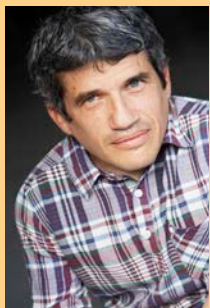
2020

ELECTION

Ballots must be postmarked by
Saturday, June 6, 2020

EXERCISE YOUR RIGHTS!





President
Mark Povinelli



Senior Vice President
Jonathan North



Finance Director
Bryce Schelhaas

Combined statement for all three incumbent candidates.

As your current President, Senior Vice President and Finance Director, we are asking for your vote to continue our positions in LPA for a second term. It has been our sincere honor to serve LPA in these capacities over the past three years and we feel there is much more we can accomplish going forward.

Serving on the LPA Board has been an extremely rewarding endeavor. We are proud of the accomplishments we have been able to achieve over the past term. As outlined in our recent Annual Report, LPA has seen progress in many areas since 2017. Our membership has grown to over 8,000, our financial stability has improved and our budgets have been balanced. Our advocacy efforts have reaped rewards, our programs such as scholarships and Kitchens' grants have increased, and our rules, processes and best practices have been solidified.

None of this has been achieved alone. Working with our tremendously dedicated staff, our legion of volunteers, including District and Chapter officers, Chairpeople and Conference volunteers, has allowed us to tout accomplishments that are a true team effort. We each would be thrilled to continue collaborating and learning from our dedicated LPA team and our Board of Directors.

We also strongly believe there is much more to do. The events of the past few months have crystalized for us the value and importance of LPA in our members' lives. We know LPA can be even better and we would be honored to help continue to forge a lasting bond between our members through community, education and awareness. Some of the goals we hope to highlight over the next three years include:

- Improved educational awareness amongst genetic counselors, pediatricians and OBGYNs - the front line medical professionals who meet new parents of LPs.
- Diversity amongst our leadership and membership.
- Continued advocacy efforts to eliminate offensive mascots and derogatory language and events.
- Improved financial resources from outside the organization to stabilize our amazing programs.
- More robust content and access through our new website.
- High-level, comprehensive and memorable National Conferences that maintain affordability.

Ultimately, it is our goal to continue to improve upon the amazing, life-altering experiences LPA can provide. There has been no greater time for our community to engage, than now. We believe in celebrating the diversity of our membership that collectively can unite through our shared experiences and learn, laugh and lead together.

Thank you all for an amazing, complex, and ultimately, satisfying three years. Jon, Bryce and I look forward to listening and serving the membership for the next three years. We are stronger together and our organization can continue to thrive no matter the challenges that lie ahead.



Membership Director
Antonio Orriola

My Name is Antonio Orriola and I would like to be elected for the membership director position for LPA. I have had a strong passion for working with people with a familiar lifestyle as me, working with people that have faced some of the struggles as me. I would love to help with enrolling people into members. This is a place where we all belong,

a place where we feel comfortable and we feel as though we are all the same, as I personally know how hard it can be feeling out of place. I hope you all consider me as a good candidate for this position.



Membership Director
Faith Pedersen

Greetings everyone, my name is Faith Pedersen. I have gained a great amount of experience since being a lifelong member of Little People of America for the past 24 years. Through my involvement, I learned more about the importance of leadership in LPA on the national, district, and local levels. I am also informed on how the

organization continues to serve members every year. I strongly believe that our organization would not be possible without the number of volunteers who continuously offer their service, since the founding of LPA. I will now state the importance of setting goals for LPA's growth and also my credentials in why I believe I am a good candidate for the Membership Director position.

My goals if elected are to continue connecting with members through all levels of LPA, working with the national's committees, and communicating openly with members. Finally, I want to look into expanding programs that will continue to be beneficial to you as a member of LPA. Continuing to focus on these programs will help give recognition in assisting both first-timers and those who consistently attend LPA hosted events. Through our open community of members, we are able to discuss topics that are most relatable to families and international members. Working on these programs will help to better the lives of current and future potential members of the organization.

I was first invited to serve LPA in the fall of 2014 when I was appointed by the board as the National Teen Coordinator. Since then it has sparked a continuation of wanting to give my service back to LPA. After working with the teens from fall 2014 to summer 2019, I learned about the importance of our organization's outreach for future generations. In 2017, I created a way to improve connecting with the teens of the organization. In doing so, I expanded the Teen Mentorship program with the goal to give the teen and young adult members the opportunity to serve LPA. Participants of the program were able to gain leadership experience through LPA and learn more about the organization. As the previous National Teen Coordinator, I hosted a combination of 9-10 teen events and workshops at 5 National Conferences and worked closely with the Conference Committee to put these events together. From the first-time of volunteering with LPA, I have been so grateful to have gained numerous mentors within the organization. After passing the role of National Teen Coordinator to Emily Burke, I strive to discover ways in continuing to give back. I also volunteered with LPA when I was elected as the President of Chapter 20-Little Prairie located in District 6 from 2016 to 2018. In this position, I learned about serving the local chapter level by reaching out to members and providing them important information through newsletters and meetings.

In May 2020, I will be receiving a Bachelor's degree in Communications-Public Relations from Illinois State University. While attending university, I have taken courses that focus on organizational leadership, interpersonal and nonverbal communication. At ISU, I completed a full year internship program with the university communicating with graduates. In this opportunity I created an alumni newsletter for recent graduates, looking for ways to give back to ISU. I am currently a member of Toastmasters, which is a public speaking group that focuses on helping others achieve their communication goals. Throughout my college career, I have been an active participant in many registered organization groups that has prepared me for this role. I served as the Student Body President by representing students at the community college that I attended. I spoke with the students about the importance of the Monetary Award Program that assists them financially. Informing students on the Monetary Award Program also allowed me to connect with them and I sent a petition of 300 signatures for state funding to our local representatives.

If elected as your next Membership Director, I genuinely would like to continue giving back to LPA by creating ways to serve the membership through the programs that this organization has to offer. I hope that together we can continue building LPA on the principles of education and inclusion that the organization was founded on. By doing that we, together, can actively serve the organization by participating and watch future generations grow with LPA. I hope that you will have faith in LPA and in me, Faith Pedersen, to serve as the next Membership Director and together we can better the future of LPA. Thank you!

#1 ARTICLE X – STANDING COMMITTEES

SECTION 1-4 [Unchanged]

SECTION 5 - DUTIES

It shall be a primary duty of each Standing Committee to deliver a written report to the Board of Directors at the National Meeting, summarizing key highlights and accomplishments for such Standing Committee since the prior National Meeting. ~~Committee Chairs are at-will positions and may be removed or~~ appointed by the decision of the President.

PROPOSED BY:

Jonathan North, LPA Senior Vice President

REASON FOR PROPOSED CHANGES:

Sections 1 and 5 of Article X are in conflict, as Section 1 states "The Board of Directors shall appoint the Chairperson for the following standing committees," while Section 5 states "Committee Chairs are at-will positions and may be removed or appointed by the decision of the President." The proposed amendment simply deletes the conflicting statement in Section 5, so Standing Committee Chairs will be approved by the Board of Directors, as is current practice.

STATEMENTS IN SUPPORT: None received.

STATEMENTS IN OPPOSITION: None received.

#2 ARTICLE X – STANDING COMMITTEES

SECTION 1-2 [Unchanged]

SECTION 3 – COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Each standing committee chairperson should appoint other members to assist as necessary to carry out the work of the committees. Personal and financial information gathered by some committees should be confidential and discussed only during committee and Board of Directors deliberations. The term of the committee chairperson ~~and members~~ will coincide with the term of the ~~Board Members~~ President.

SECTION 4-5 [Unchanged]

PROPOSED BY:

Jonathan North, LPA Senior Vice President

REASON FOR PROPOSED CHANGES:

The current wording of Section 3 is confusing and difficult to implement, because after the Bylaw amendments of 2016, the elections of the Board of Directors members are now staggered over a three-year cycle. The proposed amendment aligns the review and appointment or re-appointment of all of the Standing Committee Chairs to the term of the President for simplicity and consistency. Per the first sentence of this section, other members of a Standing Committee are appointed by the Chair of the committee, and thus are not tied to the terms of the President.

STATEMENTS IN SUPPORT: None received.

STATEMENTS IN OPPOSITION: None received.

3 ARTICLE XVI – AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1 [Unchanged]

SECTION 2 - REQUIREMENTS

To become effective, any amendment must receive a two-thirds favorable vote of the District Directors with each Director voting as instructed by a two-thirds favorable vote of the district members that submit a ballot. ~~Mail in ballots will be used.~~

SECTION 3-4 [Unchanged]

PROPOSED BY:

Jonathan North, LPA Senior Vice President

REASON FOR PROPOSED CHANGES:

Article XIX Section 1 and Article XVI Section 2 are in conflict, as the first states “For voting on Board Members and Bylaws Amendments, mail-in ballots will be used prior to the National Conference. Electronic balloting may be used if the Board of Directors obtains or identifies an acceptable and secure system, and non-profit laws allow electronic balloting,” while the second states “Mail-in ballots will be used.” The proposed amendment simply deletes the old and conflicting statement in Article XVI, Section 2, as it was the intent of the Bylaws Revision of 2013 to allow electronic voting for both officer elections and Bylaw amendments, per Article XIX.

STATEMENTS IN SUPPORT: None received.

STATEMENTS IN OPPOSITION: None received.