

Building Blocks Installation

One gift most young children receive early in life is a set of blocks. Blocks fuel the imagination and children can spend hours building houses, skyscrapers, and cities with them. Children learn quickly that every block in their created structures is essential. If one block is removed, the building can come tumbling down. Likewise, every member in a PTA is vital to the well being of an organization. If one member falters, a group is weakened.

Officers are a significant part of the framework in PTA. Just as the blocks at the bottom of a structure support an entire building, an organization's officers support their PTA when they provide competent leadership. When officers perform their specific tasks, the PTA structure remains strong.

Today, the officers of the _____ PTA shall be installed using a theme of blocks. The blocks given are symbolic reminders to the officers that they are now an integral part of the PTA's framework. The successful completion of their duties will help keep our PTA intact. Will the newly elected officers, please come forward? [Have the officers line up in order, with the treasurer first.]

_____ [name of treasurer], as treasurer, you are the cornerstone of this PTA. As the cornerstone is the basic element of a structure, you are a necessary element of your PTA. Your duties include collecting and depositing money, paying PTA bills as directed by the executive board, and giving a monthly financial statement to your PTA. Do you promise to fulfill the many duties of your new office? [Officer should answer, "I do." Pick up officer's block.] You have publicly declared that you will help to keep your PTA's framework intact. May this block be your constant reminder. [Give the block to the officer.]

_____ [name of secretary], as secretary, you are a buttress of this PTA. As the buttress supports and gives stability to a building, you support your PTA with accurate records. Your duties include listening attentively at all times, writing up the minutes of each meeting, and keeping the history of the PTA. Do you promise to fulfill the many duties of your new office? [Officer should answer, "I do." Pick up officer's block.] You have publicly declared that you will help to keep your PTA's framework intact. May this block be your constant reminder. [Give the block to the officers.]

_____ [name of vice-president], as vice-president of membership, you are the arch of this PTA. As the arch is a graceful span of an opening in a structure, you, through your recruiting, represent your PTA in a graceful manner. Your duties include designing a member recruiting theme, and plan to inform the entire school how important PTA is to the development of our children. Do you promise to fulfill the many duties of your new office? [Officer should answer, "I do." Pick up officer's block.] You have publicly declared that you will help to keep your PTA's framework intact. May this block be your constant reminder. [Give the block to the officers.]

_____ [name of vice-president], as vice-president, you are the pillar of this PTA. As a pillar provides firm upright support for a super structure, you provide strength to this PTA. Your duties include chairing the membership committee, keeping all PTA members informed as to PTA business, learning about PTA policies and procedures, and working closely with your president. Do you promise to fulfill the many duties of your new office? [Officer should answer, "I do." Pick up officer's block.] You have publicly declared that you will help to keep your PTA's framework intact. May this block be your constant reminder. [Give the block to the officers.]

_____ [name of president], as president, you are the facade of this PTA. As the front of a building, or facade, is given special architectural treatment, you take on a special dignity representing your PTA. Your duties include presiding at all meetings, appointing committees and chairmen, following up on all PTA matters, and representing your organization at all times. Do you promise to fulfill the many duties of your new office? [Officer should answer, "I do." Pick up officer's block.] You have publicly declared that you will help to keep your PTA's framework intact. May this block be your constant reminder. [Give the block to the officers.]

[To the membership.] Members, you are the rest of the elements in this PTA's structure. Each one of you has different skills and talents that are needed by this organization. Use your many abilities and support your officers. When you work together, you can build a strong PTA from top to bottom and accomplish great things. Keep your PTA's framework solid.