Question  
1:  How does the voting procedure work in relation to legislation to be supported by the National PTA organization in Washington, by count or by Electoral College?   
And how are the votes collected?   
For example, there are 25 total members of a PTA.  They have a meeting where 10 people attend and take a vote.  Six vote yes and four vote no.  What tally goes to the National  
PTA?  6 yes?  10 yes? Or 25 yes?

Delegate voting at annual convention and based on public policy agenda which has been created through all current and past conventions by the delegate body.

The votes are made in person either via voice or ballot.  The passing of a vote is by count.  PTA does not use an Electoral College process.

Each state is granted a number of delegates as outlined in the National Bylaws.

Article XXIII—Annual Convention, section 3., letter e.  states:

One (1) delegate per one thousand (1,000) members, or major fraction thereof, of each state PTA, as shown on the books of the secretary-treasurer of National PTA as of March 31 preceding an annual convention, and as accredited by the state PTA;

Question  
2:  How much training do you require for Executive Board members to take?  Are the  
courses online?  What is the consequence if there is a board member who does not take the training?

Training is strongly encouraged.  The more training each member participates in the more the stronger and more knowledgeable the PTA is.  The required training is determined by the membership of the PTA through the bylaws it adopts. There are webinars offered periodically as well as face to face training. National PTA also offers E-Learning courses on various leadership strategies. Illinois PTA does not have specific consequences for not participating in training but do want to remind local unit leaders that their position is always much easier to perform when they have taken the various classes offered. Some local units will address mandatory training in their bylaws or standing rules.

Question  
3:  When fundraising for our school, does the PTA get any “profit sharing” rights?   
In short, beyond the dues per member requirement, does the PTA take any  
additional funds or fees at all?

PTAs do not fundraise for the school. PTAs fund raise in order to obtain the money needed to fulfill the budget as adopted by the membership.  Budgets are created after the PTA determines its goals for the year and the board adopts the plan of works from each committee which support the PTA sponsored programs for the year. Illinois and National PTA take no additional funds or fees.

Question  
4 re: Insurance/Liability Protection: Does the PTA cover EB Members/PTA Members  
with Insurance to protect against any liabilities/accidents that occur? If so,  
are there costs associated with that coverage or is that a benefit we get as  
members and our dues?

PTAs are given the ability to purchase insurance from whomever they choose.  Illinois PTA requires each PTA to have liability insurance but the coverage and the purchase of additional types of coverage is up to each PTA to decide.

The Illinois PTA has selected the Association Insurance Management, Inc. (AIM) as its’ preferred provider.   AIM’s coverages and annual costs are:

General Liability insurance covers accidents that occur at any PTA event.  It covers any person in attendance that becomes injured at the event.

                $1 million coverage – Cost $150

                 $2 million coverage – Cost $195

 Accident Medical (Medical Coverage):

(Accident Medical can only be purchased with the General Liability)

                                $10,000  per occurrence – Cost $105

                                $25,000 per occurrence – Cost $115

                                $50,000 per occurrence – Cost $130

 Property Coverage (Business Personal Property):

                                $10,000 coverage – Cost $125

Officers Liability (Non-Profit Professional Liability):

                                $1,000,000 per occurrence – Cost $75

 Bond Coverage (Commercial Crime & Fidelity):

                                $10,000 – Cost $105

                                $25,000 – Cost $120

                                $50,000 – Cost $146

Question  
5:  What additional resources to aide in planning, fundraising, special programs and so forth are available to us as a member of the PTA? Are there costs associated with those benefits?

All of PTA resources are provided at no cost to accredited PTAs as a member benefit.  PTA offers:

·      Programs that align with the PTA mission, including a National Arts Program called Reflections that is open to all PTAs and recognizes children at all levels in 7 artistic categories

·      A Programs Quick Reference Guide that will help PTAs plan from inception to execution of their programs.

·      A Fundraising Quick Reference Guide specifically for PTAs.

·      Grant availability for some programs

·      Many training opportunities are available to all PTA members, such as:

* **Money Matters 101 and Money Matters 201** (these will assist with fundraising regulations as a non-for profit association as outlined by state and federal regulations)
* [**Board Basics**](https://www3.pta.org/Ebusiness/ELearning/ElearningDetail.aspx?ProductId=8414436): Learn the basic governance structures behind most PTA units. *(40 min.)*
* [**Local Unit President**](https://www3.pta.org/Ebusiness/Default.aspx?TabID=328&ProductId=8414455): This course is an introduction to the roles and responsibilities of the local unit PTA president.
* [**Local Unit Secretary**](https://www3.pta.org/Ebusiness/ELearning/ElearningDetail.aspx?ProductId=8414453): This course is an introduction to the roles and responsibilities of the local unit PTA secretary.
* [**Local Unit Treasurer**](https://www3.pta.org/Ebusiness/Default.aspx?TabID=328&ProductId=8414484): This course is an introduction to the roles and responsibilities of the local unit PTA treasurer.
* [**Running a Successful Program**](https://www3.pta.org/Ebusiness/ELearning/ElearningDetail.aspx?ProductId=8414418): Learn the steps for taking a program idea from concept to reality.

Question  
6:  What benefits are available to a Member PTA organization at no cost? What are benefits available for cost and what are those cost estimates?

Free items:

* Leadership tools and training, 501c3 tax exempt status, actual people in your area that will assist the PTA; Nationwide Reflections Program, Voice on Federal and State legislation, National Our Children digital magazine, volunteer management program.
* Healthy Lifestyles Programs: Create Healthy Schools; Create Healthy Homes; Healthy Habits Program
* Additional Healthy Lifestyles Topics:  
  Smart from the Start: Community Outreach Grant; Healthy Lifestyles Energy Balance 101; Childhood Obesity Facts; Creating Healthy Schools; Fire Up Your Feet  
  Safety Programs: Connect for Respect; TV & Video Game Safety; Internet Safety; School Violence  
  Resources on Safety Topics:   
  Bullying; Internet Safety; TV and Video Game Safety; School Violence; Physical Safety; Substance Abuse  
  and much more!

These are available with a cost but participation is determined by your PTA:

* In expensive Liability, Bonding and Officers Liability insurance (as noted above);
* PTA online bookkeeping system (cost is \_\_\_\_);
* State Convention; National Convention: Male Engagement Conference; Emerging Minorities Leadership Conference; Youth Summit; Federal Legislative Conference (cost is determined by Illinois and National PTA)

National PTA is able to partner with businesses and negotiate special discounts, fundraising opportunities and other valuable benefits exclusively for PTA members.

**Current Offers are available with: AARP, Hertz, MetLife, Schwan's Cares, Staples and Sylvan.**

PTA Partnerships:

**PTA is proud to work with:**

* [Action for Healthy Kids](http://www.actionforhealthykids.org/)
* [Alliance for a Healthier Generation](http://www.healthiergeneration.org/)
* [All Pro Dad](http://www.allprodad.com/)
* [America’s Promise Alliance](http://www.americaspromise.org/)
* [ASCD](http://www.ascd.org/)
* [The Big Help](http://www.thebighelp.com/)
* [Campaign for Youth Justice](http://www.campaignforyouthjustice.org/about-us.html)
* [Coalition of Juvenile Justice](http://www.juvjustice.org/)
* [Consumer Reports](http://www.consumerreports.org/cro/index.htm)
* [Corporation for National & Community Service](http://www.nationalservice.gov/)(United We Serve)
* [Council of Chief State School Officers](http://www.ccsso.org/)
* [Grandparents.com](http://www.grandparents.com/)
* [Harvard Family Research Project](http://www.hfrp.org/)
* [iMom](http://imom.com/)
* [Investigation Discovery](http://investigation.discovery.com/)
* [James R. Jordan Foundation](http://www.jamesjordanfoundation.com/)
* [Learning First Alliance](http://www.learningfirst.org/)
* [Mothers Against Drunk Driving](http://www.madd.org/)(MADD)
* [Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund](http://www.maldef.org/)(MALDEF)
* [National Association of Parliamentarians](http://www.parliamentarians.org/)
* [National Association of School Nurses](http://www.nasn.org/)
* [National Center for Fathering](http://www.fathers.com/)
* [National Family, School and Community Engagement Working Group](http://www.hfrp.org/publications-resources/browse-our-publications/national-family-school-and-community-engagement-working-group-recommendations-for-federal-policy)
* [National Governors Association](http://www.nga.org/)
* [National Human Services Assembly](http://www.nassembly.org/)
* [National Policy & Legal Analysis Network to Prevent Childhood Obesity](http://www.nplanonline.org/)(NPLAN)
* [National Urban League](http://www.nul.org/)
* [NBC News – Education Nation](http://www.educationnation.com/)
* [Nickelodeon](http://www.nick.com/thebighelp)
* [Parent Information Resource Center](http://www.nationalpirc.org/)
* [Reading is Fundamental](http://www.rif.org/)
* [Scholastic](http://www2.scholastic.com/browse/index.jsp)
* [Sesame Workshop](http://www.sesameworkshop.org/)
* [United Way Worldwide](http://www.national.unitedway.org/)
* [Univision](http://noticias.univision.com/educacion/)
* [US Green Building Council](http://www.usgbc.org/)
* [USA Network Characters Unite](http://www.charactersunite.com/#/the_pledge)

**PTA Alliances:**

* PTA Alliance to Support Military Families
* [PTA's Men Organized to Raise Engagement (MORE) Alliance](http://www.pta.org/programs/content.cfm?ItemNumber=3212)

Question  
7:  At what level is the PTA involved in decisions we make for our school? When involved, to what degree and what turn-around time is guaranteed in those decisions?

PTAs part in decision making at your school is entirely up to the administration at the school.  PTA and schools are separate entities. It is our experience that when PTAs are involved with the schools, the administration tends to look toward the PTA volunteers as voices on their district committees and/or task forces.  Administration can see by the PTAs bylaws what their goals are and how the PTA is aligned with the enrichment of children's education and both bodies have a mutual respect for one another.  There is never a guarantee that what the PTA wants is what the administration will decide.  There are numerous factors in that process, however being a PTA does lend the group consideration by administration.

Illinois and National PTA works for the betterment of all children on a state and national level. Decisions made by your PTA are not subject to the approval of Illinois or National PTA but must never violate the Bylaws, Mission and Purposes of PTA.

Question  
8: How many members are required to be a PTA in year 1?  Year 2?   
Year 3?...

Year 1, 10 members to charter the PTA  
Year 2, 25 members by Dec 31 and every year after.

Question  
9: When was the last dues increase for the state and/or federal level?  How much did dues increase?  When is the next expected increase?

At the 94th Illinois PTA Annual Convention in 1996, the delegates voted for a fifty cent ($0.50) increase in the State Dues starting in the 1997-1998 fiscal year.  This brought the State dues portion to $1.50.  Dues were raised again twelve years later at the 2009 PTA Convention, the delegates voted for a fifty cent ($0.50) increase in the State Dues starting in the 2010-2011 fiscal year. This will bring the State dues portion to $2.00.

After 10 years of rising costs absorbed by National PTA, delegates to the 115th National PTA Convention (June 2010) approved a 50-cent dues increase, raising the national dues to $2.25.

No dues increase is in the foreseeable future for either Illinois PTA or National PTA.

Question  
10: Can you provide a list of 3-5 references?   
Ideally we would like to talk to representatives of schools that are  
similar in our size and demographic that converted to being a PTA in the last  
12-18 months.  

We would have to reach out to members in the requested demographic as we do not share the personal information, such as the contact information of members.  Those members would be more than happy to contact you.