



## ADOPTED 2015 RESOLUTIONS

### RETENTIONS

#### **RETENTION #1 - RETAINED**

#### **INVOLVING PARENTS AND TEACHERS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF DISTRICT SPECIAL EDUCATION PLANS – 2015 (R-'08, R-'01, R-'94)**

- Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. urge the Commissioner of Education and the Board of Regents to amend Part 200.2 (c) of the Commissioner's Regulations to require that District Special Education Plans be a product of a committee including parents, teachers and others, the specific number of participants and selection process being designated by the regulations, and be it further
- Resolved** that the parents be selected by school-related parent organizations that represent the interests of parents of students with special needs, and be it further
- Resolved** that the District Special Education Plans be required to include a long term general direction of where each district plans to be in regard to the provision of special education services, and be it further
- Resolved** that the District Special Education Plans be required to include all program aspects of the provision of special education services.

#### **RETENTION #2 - RETAINED**

#### **GIFTED AND TALENTED IDENTIFICATION PROGRAMS – 2015 (R-'08, R-'01, R-'94, R-'87)**

- Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. urge the New York State Education Department to continue to enforce regulations as found in Part 117 of amendments to the Commissioner's regulations, requiring the identification of gifted and talented students and the notification of their parent, and be it further

**Resolved** that the New York State PTA seek and support legislation that would mandate instructional educational programs and funding for these programs for students identified as gifted and talented, and be it further

**Resolved** that the New York State PTA urge public schools to establish Committees for Gifted and Talented, consisting of school administrators, teachers of the gifted and talented, parents of gifted and talented students, and other appropriately trained school and community specialists, to assist in identification of and determination of appropriate educational programs and services for these children, and be it further

**Resolved** that the New York State PTA urge the Board of Regents and the State Education Department to require undergraduate teacher training so that prospective teachers recognize and understand the unique characteristics and needs of gifted and talented children, and be it further

**Resolved** that in-service education in the instruction of gifted and talented children be urged for all teachers in the school districts in New York State and be enhanced by leadership, materials, and methods of instruction by the New York State Education Department.

### **RETENTION #3 - RETAINED**

#### **GIFTED AND TALENTED COUNSELING – 2015 (R-'08, R-'01, R-'94, R-'87)**

**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. urge the Board of Regents and the State Education Department to require guidance counselors to provide direct and on-going services to address the special needs of children who have been identified as gifted and talented.

### **RETENTION #4 - RETAINED**

#### **IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION – 2015 (R-'08, R-'01, R-'94, R-'87)**

**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. urge local Boards of Education to establish in-school suspension programs that provide for continuity of instruction.

**RETENTION #5 - RETAINED**

**CERTIFICATION OF ATHLETIC TRAINERS – 2015 (R-'08, R-'01, R-'94, U-'87)**

**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. urge the New York State Education Department to require each school district to have a NYS certified athletic trainer available during practices and home games of secondary school sports.

**RETENTION #6 - RETAINED**

**SCHOOL PROTECTION OF STUDENT PRIVACY – 2015 (R-'08, R-'01, R-'94, R-'87)**

**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. urge the New York State Education Department to investigate and report currently existing school policies regarding the body search of students, and be it further

**Resolved** that New York State PTA, units and councils encourage their local school districts to adopt student search policies expressly forbidding strip searches.

**RETENTION #7 - RETAINED**

**STAFF DEVELOPMENT – 2015 (R-'08, U-'01, R-'94, R-'87)**

**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. urge the New York State Education Department to continue to support staff development programs tailored to district needs, and be it further

**Resolved** that the New York State PTA urge the State legislature to provide consistent and appropriate funding for staff development programs.

**RETENTION #8 - RETAINED**

**FUNDING OF CHARTER SCHOOLS – 2015 (R-'08, U-'01)**

**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. urge and support legislation to change the method of funding charter schools to eliminate the adverse impact on public school districts, and be it further

**Resolved** that the NYS Congress of Parents and Teachers support legislation that will hold charter schools to the same financial accountability as all public schools.

**RETENTION #9 - RETAINED**

**GUN POSSESSION BY MINORS – 2015 (R-'08, U-'01, R-'94, U-'87)**

**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. urge its units and councils to promote educational programs for increased awareness of current gun possession laws, including those precluding possession of air/spring guns by youth under age sixteen, and emphasizing the effects of misuse of guns.

**RETENTION #10**

**REGENTS EXAMINATION SCHEDULES – 2015 (R-'08)**

**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers Inc. strongly urges the New York State Education Department to maintain the current practice of administering Regents Examinations only during designated Regents Exam periods.

**UPDATES**

**UPDATE # 1 – ADOPTED AS AMENDED**

**TREATMENT OF PERSONS IN NEED OF SUPERVISION (PINS) – 2015 (U-'08, R-'01, R-'98, R-'91, R-'84)**

**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. urge local communities to establish individual and family counseling services and crisis mediation centers - where conflicts may be worked out to maintain family stability- and programs for the identification and treatment of youth at risk for adjudication as Persons In Need of Supervision, and be it further

**Resolved** that the New York State PTA seek to have services and resources delivered to youth adjudicated as Persons In Need of Supervision in such a way as to keep the family together whenever possible, and be it further

**Resolved** that the New York state PTA oppose the placement of youth adjudicated as Persons In Need of Supervision in large correctional institutions or in facilities far from their homes.

**UPDATE #2 – ADOPTED AS AMENDED**

**DOMESTIC AND/OR INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE/SEXUAL HARASSMENT – 2015 (U-'08, R-'01, R-'94)**

**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. support implementation of family life curricula in every school, and be it further

**Resolved** that the New York State PTA support inclusion of Domestic and/or Intimate Partner Violence /Sexual Harassment education as part of a comprehensive health education curriculum including family life education, and be it further

**Resolved** that the New York State PTA urge local PTA units to bring these issues to the attention of PTA members and youth in their communities, and encourage parent participation in prevention and awareness of sexual harassment and domestic and/or intimate partner violence, and be it further

**Resolved** that the New York State PTA will focus on prevention of domestic and/or intimate partner violence through education and publications, and be it further

**Resolved** that the New York State PTA urge school districts to adopt a formal policy on dating violence.

**UPDATE #3 – ADOPTED AS AMENDED**

**TO PROMOTE NON-VIOLENT CONFLICT RESOLUTION IN THE MEDIA – 2015 (U-'08, R-'01, R-'94)**

**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. urge the Federal Communication Commission (FCC) to review the incidence of violence in relation to the incidence of non-violent conflict resolution whenever a media outlet seeks a license renewal, and be it further

**Resolved** that the New York State PTA urge the FCC to demand proof that the ratio of violence to non-violent conflict resolution presented by a media outlet be in the public interest, and be it further

**Resolved** that, in cases where the ratio given is not deemed to be in the public interest by the FCC, the New York State PTA urge the FCC to refuse renewal of that license.

**UPDATE #4 – ADOPTED AS AMENDED**  
**PREJUDICE – 2015 (U-'08, U-'01, U-'95, R-'88)**

**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. express its condemnation of all hate crimes, acts of desecration directed against houses of worship and cemeteries, and acts of violence, intimidation, and harassment of individuals because of their actual or perceived: race, ethnicity, or religion, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, age, disability, or other personal characteristics, and be it further

**Resolved** that the New York State PTA support and encourage law enforcement agencies to continue to apprehend and, where applicable, prosecute individuals who are responsible for acts of racism, vandalism, discrimination and harassment , and be it further

**Resolved** that all local PTA units and councils in cooperation with schools and community agencies aid in developing more effective programs in human relations, or encourage their school districts to use already developed curricula available through the State Education Department or other agencies, thereby encouraging the respect for the rights of all humanity.

**UPDATE #5 – ADOPTED AS AMENDED**  
**MULTICULTURAL IN-SERVICE – 2015 (U-'08, U-'01, U-'94, R-'87)**

**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. support updates to the Commissioner's Regulations in line with New York State Teaching Standards (Element I.5, Element II.5, Element IV.1 and Element VI.3) to require all candidates for professional certification to receive culturally responsive training that would prepare them to serve the needs of a diverse student body, and be it further

**Resolved** that PTA units and councils encourage their local school district to provide culturally responsive in-service instruction to teachers, administrators, and other school related personnel that would prepare them to serve the needs of students and families from diverse ethnicities and cultures.

**UPDATE #6 – ADOPTED AS AMENDED**

**SCOOTER, SKATEBOARD AND IN-LINE SKATING PROTECTIVE GEAR – 2015 (U-'08, U-'01, R-'95, U-'90)**

**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. encourage each unit and council to promote educational programs concerning the need for skateboard and in-line skating protective gear (which includes a helmet, elbow pads, knee pads, and wrist guards), and be it further

**Resolved** that the New York State PTA encourage each unit and council to urge physicians, manufacturers and sales personnel to educate and encourage parents, guardians and children in the use of scooter, skateboard and in-line skating protective gear, and be it further

**Resolved** that the New York State PTA encourage its units and councils to advocate for regulations within their communities to control the use of scooter, skateboard and in-line skates on public streets and in areas of busy pedestrian activity and to advocate for specially designed skateboard and in-line skating areas to serve as an alternative to using the street.

**UPDATE #7 – ADOPTED AS AMENDED**

**SECURING A NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT ENDORSED DIPLOMA FOR ALL STUDENTS – 2015 (U-'08)**

**Resolved** that New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. urge the New York State Education Department (NYSED) to continue to offer a variety of options of diplomas that meet the unique needs of all students and that will ensure opportunities for these students to graduate and earn or receive a valid diploma recognized by higher education and the work place; and therefore be it

**Resolved** that the New York State PTA continue to urge the NYSED to offer an additional standards-based diploma for students who cannot successfully fulfill Regents requirements.

## NEW RESOLUTION

### BIO-SOLIDS IN NEW YORK STATE - 2015

**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. seek and support legislation banning human bio-solids from being used in public areas that are near schools, playgrounds, or other areas frequented by youth until such time that independent studies on the environmental impact can be performed and bio-solids are determined to be safe, and be it further

**Resolved** that the New York State PTA urge Congress, the New York State Legislature, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to regulate and control how human bio-solids are to be used.