



## **2017 ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

### **RETENTIONS**

#### **RETENTION #1:**

**SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IN SUPERMARKETS -- 2017 (R-'10, R-'03, U-'96, R-'89, U-'82);**

**RESOLVED** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. oppose any legislation permitting the sale of liquor and wine in supermarkets, convenience stores and drug stores.

#### **RETENTION #2:**

**ALTERNATIVE HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS AND SETTINGS FOR STUDENTS AT RISK -- 2017 (R-'10, U-'03, R-'96, R-'89);**

**RESOLVED** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc., support the educational concept of alternative high school programs and settings for students at risk, and be it further

**RESOLVED** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc., seek adequate fiscal resources from the State to support alternative high school programs and settings for students at risk that include the provision of counseling services, and further that the funding be unrestricted in nature so that school districts have the flexibility to support programs designed to meet the particular needs of their students at risk.

#### **RETENTION #3:**

**INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT -- 2017 (R-'10, U-'03, R-'96, R-'89);**

**RESOLVED** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc., urge the use of pesticides only as last resort and the promotion of alternative pest control methods in order to protect children's health, safety, and environment.

**RETENTION #4:**

**FOOD INSPECTION AND REGULATION -- 2017 (R-'10, R-'03, R-'96);**

**RESOLVED** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc., support the proper inspection and regulation of food by the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture and other agencies, such as the NYS Dept. of Health (DOH), to prevent mislabeling and to detect contamination.

**RETENTION #5:**

**PREVENTIVE HEALTH PROGRAMS -- 2017 (R-'10, U-'03, U-'96, R-'89, U-'82);**

**RESOLVED** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc., strongly support age-appropriate preventive health programs such as: prenatal and well-child care, newborn screenings, immunizations, nutritional screenings, dental care, vision and hearing screenings, scoliosis and blood pressure screenings, lead poisoning and tuberculin skin tests, and voluntary screening for genetic diseases.

**RETENTION #6:**

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATION COMMISSION (FCC) – EDUCATION REGARDING RADIO BROADCASTING -- 2017 (R-'10, R-'03, R-'96);**

**RESOLVED** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc., encourage the radio broadcast industry to comply with the letter and spirit of the FCC “safe harbor” provisions for children, and be it further

**RESOLVED** that the New York State PTA encourage the radio broadcast industry, and particularly those stations that appeal to children, to broadcast language and material that is suitable for children, and be it further

**RESOLVED** that the New York State PTA urge units and councils to educate parents about the need to monitor their children's radio listening and about the FCC “safe harbor” provisions and procedures for filing complaints.

**RETENTION #7:**

**CHILD CARE SERVICES – 2017 (R-'10, U-'03, R-'96, R-'89, R-'82);**

**RESOLVED** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers Inc. encourage units and councils to have programs addressing the need for child care, including school-age child care, in their communities and to share guidelines on quality child care with parents, and be it further

**RESOLVED** that the NYS PTA urge the state legislature to address the need to encourage home child care providers to register and to provide training programs for all child care providers in order to reduce turnover and improve quality of care, and be it further

**RESOLVED** that the NYS PTA encourage the state legislature to address the different needs of families for accessible child care by providing incentives for more infant slots, increased salaries for child care workers, and further incentives for business and other organizations to start quality programs.

**RETENTION #8:**

**CHANGE IN THE VEHICLE TRAFFIC LAW PERTAINING TO STOPPED SCHOOL BUSES – 2017 (R-'10, R-'03, R-'96);**

**RESOLVED** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. support programs to raise the awareness of dangerous traffic situations at school bus stops, and be it further

**RESOLVED** that the NYS PTA seek and support legislation to prevent a vehicle from making turns towards a school bus while it is discharging or receiving passengers to change the law to read “any” where it now reads “either” in section 1174(a) Vehicle and Traffic Law, and be it further

**RESOLVED** that the NYS PTA seek and support legislation to prohibit the establishment of bus stops at intersections or within 100 feet of intersections unless the Board of Education adopts a resolution indicating that an intersection location is unavoidable.

**RETENTION #9:**

**MONITORS ON SCHOOL BUSES – 2017 (R-'10, U-'03, R-'96, R-'89, U-'82);**

**RESOLVED** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc., encourage its local units to sponsor campaigns within their school districts to have money allocated in school budgets to pay the expenses incurred for hiring and training monitors, and be it further

**RESOLVED** that the New York State PTA continue to encourage the State Legislature to consider bus monitors an integral part of transporting children to and from school and, therefore, an “aidable” transportation cost.

**UPDATES**

**UPDATE #1:**

**COMPREHENSIVE K-12 DRUG, ALCOHOL, AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION EDUCATION – 2017 (U-'10, U-'02);**

**RESOLVED** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc., urge SED and the Legislature to mandate and fund comprehensive evidence-based K-12 drug, alcohol, and other substance abuse prevention education, and be it further

**RESOLVED** that the New York State PTA urge school districts to join community substance abuse prevention coalitions to work in partnership with other key stakeholders to reduce local substance abuse, and be it further

**RESOLVED** that all evidence-based substance abuse prevention program implementation be monitored and improved on a regular basis. Prevention initiatives shall be modified based on assessment of current substance use trends, as well as student, family, and community attitudes and behaviors.

**UPDATE #2:**

**COMPULSORY EDUCATION – 2017 (U-'10, R-'03, R-'96, R-'89);**

**RESOLVED** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc., support legislation that would amend the Education Law to change the compulsory education attendance age to eighteen.

**UPDATE #3:**

**USE OF POLYSTYRENE PRODUCTS – 2017 (U-'10, U-'03, R-'96, R-'89);**

**RESOLVED** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc., seek and support legislation that would ban or phase out the use of polystyrene products at all state and public school facilities until infrastructure is in place to recycle these products in an environmentally safe manner, and be it further

**RESOLVED** that the New York State PTA urge the state to encourage local municipalities to issue their own ban or phase out plan of polystyrene products until infrastructure is in place to recycle these products in an environmentally safe manner, and be it further

**RESOLVED** that New York State PTA and its constituent units work to eliminate or phase out the use of polystyrene products at all PTA-sponsored events until recycling infrastructure is available to recycle these products in an environmentally safe manner, and be it further

**RESOLVED** that the New York State PTA encourage legislation that would further the recycling capabilities of all polystyrene products in an environmentally safe manner throughout the entire state of New York.

**UPDATE #4: Sent Back to Resolutions Committee [HAZARDS FROM LAND, WATER, AIR, NOISE AND LIGHT POLLUTION -- 2010 (U-'03, U-'96, R-'89, U-'82);]**

**UPDATE #5:**

**ESTABLISH A LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE TO REFORM STATE AID TO EDUCATION FORMULAS – 2017 (U-'10, R-'03);**

**RESOLVED** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc., encourage the NYS Legislature to establish a task force that includes all key stakeholders to study current and proposed school aid formulas and develop a funding solution that is adequate, equitable, predictable, and understandable.

**UPDATE #6:**

**SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAMS – 2017 (U-'10, R-'03, R-'96, R-'89, U-'82);**

**RESOLVED** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc., oppose any cuts in federal children's nutritional support programs, including but not limited to the National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, Child and Adult Care Food Program, Summer Food Service Program, Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP), and Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program, and be it further

**RESOLVED** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. urge Congress to reauthorize child nutrition programs and SNAP, and be it further

**RESOLVED** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc., urge school districts and schools to operate school breakfast/lunch programs where there is a demonstrated need.

**UPDATE #7:**

**BACKGROUND CHECKS OF SCHOOL EMPLOYEES AND CONTRACTORS – 2017 (U-'10, U-'03, R-'96, R-'89);**

**RESOLVED** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. urge school districts to verify that background checks are performed on employees of companies under contract with the school district or any persons in an employee, consultant, or trainee/internship situation not covered by SAVE (Safe Schools Against Violence in Education Act) who may come in direct contact with the school district's children, and be it further

**RESOLVED** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. urge school districts' boards of education to have specific policies that define what appropriate background checks should be.

**UPDATE #8: ADOPTED AS AMENDED**

**MANDATED FIRE/LOCKDOWN/LOCKOUT DRILLS – 2017 (U-'10, R-'03, U-'96, R-'89);**

**RESOLVED** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc., urge the New York State Education Department to consider amending the requirement of mandated fire/lockdown/lockout drills so that at least one drill occurs annually during non-traditional situations.

## **RESCISSIONS**

### **RESCISSION #1:**

#### **3020-A HEARINGS – 2010 (R-'03, R-'96, R-'89, U-'82);**

**RESOLVED** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc., support modification to Education Law 3020-a to expedite the resolution of charges while preserving the rights of the teacher or administrator.

### **RESCISSION #2: RESCINDED**

#### **PROTECTING YOUTH IN CULTS – 2010 (R-'03, R-'96, R-'89, U-'82);**

**RESOLVED** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc., urge enforcement of all compulsory education, abuse, neglect and health laws for those minor children being raise by “cults”, and be it further

**RESOLVED** that the New York State PTA support legislation that will enable the courts, upon sufficient evidence that radical changes in behavior have coincided with an individual’s close association with a certain group, to grant parents conservatorship for a reasonable period of time over their child.