

2020 ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

RETENTIONS

Retention # 1 – Retained

Comprehensive NYS Tobacco Control & Prevention Program – 2020 (R-'13, R-'06, U-'99)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) seek and support sustainable funding at the recommended CDC levels for the New York State Department of Health Tobacco Control Program, and be it further

Resolved that NYS PTA urge that the essential components of the New York State Department of Health Tobacco Control Program be maintained and enhanced.

Retention # 2 - Retained

Definition and Identification of Gifted and Talented – 2020 (R-'13, R-'06, R-'99, R-'92, R-'85)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) urge the New York State Education Department to ask for increased funding to provide more stringent enforcement to ensure that both a district's gifted and talented students be identified to the full extent of the definition and appropriate programs be provided to address the three areas of gifted and talented as defined by the New York State Education Department, and be it further

Resolved that the school district be required to notify the parents or guardians of a student identified as gifted or talented regardless of whether or not the district has a program of gifted and talented education to meet their needs, and be it further

Resolved that the NYS PTA urge its units and councils to encourage their local school districts to comply with the New York State Education Department regulations.

Retention # 3 - Retained

Funding for Education Mandates – 2020 (R-'13, R-'06, R-'99, R-'92, R-'85)

Resolved that the New State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. encourage funding by the State Legislature for new and existing educational mandates.

Retention # 4 - Retained

Transferring Of Records – 2020 (R-'13, R-'06, R-'99, R-'92)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) urge the New York State Education Department (NYSED) to inform school personnel across the state of the concern for the lack of expeditious transfer of school records; and strongly encourage the NYSED to develop appropriate policies and guidelines that ensure the timely transfer of records, and be it further

Resolved that the NYS PTA encourage its units and councils to alert and educate parents and members as to this proposed policy and its compliance within their own districts.

Retention # 5 - Retained

Domestic Violence – 2020 (R-'13, R-'06, R-'99, R-'92)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) support legislation for public and private agencies within communities to establish or maintain temporary, alternate housing and shelters for victims of domestic violence, and be it further

Resolved that the NYS PTA urge that psychological and counseling services be made available for all family members in disrupted households in such a way that the safety of the victims is not jeopardized, and be it further

Resolved that the NYS PTA continue to promote and support legislation that would ensure sufficient funding for services to victims of domestic violence in NYS.

Retention # 6 - Retained

Challenges to Textbook and Educational Material Review – 2020 (R-'13, R-'06, R-'99, R-'92, R-'85)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) encourage its units/councils to work with their respective school districts to implement the procedures for selection of textbooks and educational materials, and be it further

Resolved that the NYS PTA urge all units/councils to work specifically to support adherence to the provision requiring that no challenged material be removed pending a decision arrived at through due process by an approved review committee.

Retention # 7 - Retained

Strengthening the Kindergarten Program – 2020 (R-'13, R-'06, U-'99, R-'92, R-'85)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) encourage its units and councils to urge school districts to strengthen the kindergarten program with full-day full day and developmentally appropriate programs taught by highly qualified teachers, and be it further

Resolved that the NYS PTA encourage the New York State Education Department to disseminate information by which school districts with full-day kindergartens may evaluate their program, and be it further

Resolved that the NYS PTA encourage the New York State Education Department to engage in research to determine the effectiveness of full-day full day kindergarten programs, and be it further

Resolved that the NYS PTA advocate for full funding for full-day full day kindergarten programs, staffing, and facilities.

Retention # 8 - Retained

Firearms Accident Prevention Law – 2020 (R-'13, R-'06, R-'99, U-'92)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) support legislation making parents and/or owners responsible for negligently stored firearms and ammunition.

Resolved the NYS PTA encourage its units and councils to offer programs to educate the parents and/or owners about their legal responsibility for negligently stored firearms and ammunition.

Retention # 9 - Retained

Bicycle Helmet Law – 2020 (R-'13, R-'06, U-'99, R-'92, U-'89)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. seek and support legislation that would require all persons who operate or are passengers on bicycles to wear bicycle helmets, and that existing law prohibiting passengers under 1 year of age remain the same.

Retention # 10 - Retained

Child Safety Seating – 2020 (R-'13, R-'99, U-'92)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) urge the appropriate agencies / organizations to provide assistance in obtaining federally approved child safety seats for families who are unable to afford them, and be it further

Resolved that the NYS PTA encourage enforcement of all existing statutes and regulations on the use of child safety seats.

UPDATES

Update # 1 – Adopted as presented

Parents and/or Guardians On Shared Decision Making Committees – 2020 (U-'13, R-'06, U-'99, R-'92)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) recommend that the New York State Education Department provide to all unit and council presidents and region PTA leaders a copy of Regulation 100.11 as adopted by the Board of Regents, and be it further

Resolved that the NYS PTA urge the training of participants in the process of shared decision-making and the showcasing of school districts that have school-based planning teams with parents and/or guardians as active participants, and be it further

Resolved that the NYS PTA recommend that units, councils, and regions sponsor training for parents and/or guardians on the process of shared decision-making, group dynamics, interpersonal skills, and listening skills, and be it further

Resolved that local PTA units and councils advocate that in the planning for these school-based planning teams that training of all team members be included as part of any policy adopted by the school district, and be it further

Resolved that local PTA units and councils urge that school districts train the team together and that parents and/or guardians are included in that training.

Update # 2 - Adopted as presented

Homeless Children and Youth – 2020 (U-'13, R-'06)

Resolved that New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. and its units, councils and regions shall disseminate information and educate parents and families, students, and the community on the importance of full access to education for homeless children and youth, including emancipated youth, as provided for in the McKinney-Vento Act.

Update # 3 - Adopted as presented

Implementing Environmental Educational and Legislative Action – 2020 (U-'13, R-'06, R-'99, U-'92)

Resolved the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) seek and support legislation on the national, state, and local levels which encourages conservation of resources and use of more environmentally sound, renewable energy sources, and be it further

Resolved that the NYS PTA urge the New York State Education Department (NYSED) to develop environmental outcomes so that each student will acquire knowledge of the ecological consequences of choices in the use of the environment and natural resources, and be it further

Resolved that the NYS PTA urge local school districts to use school facilities as environmental living, learning laboratories to promote understanding of interdependency and how human activities relate to our ecosystems, and be it further

Resolved that the NYS PTA encourage the NYSED to accept collegiate level Environmental Science Courses as fulfilling both general and content area requirements for science teacher certification.

Update # 4 - Adopted as presented

Food Animal Production and Antibiotic Resistance – 2020 (U-'13)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) urge Congress and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to act to protect human health by prohibiting the overuse and misuse of antibiotics in food animal production and aquaculture (farmed seafood), and be it further

Resolved that the NYS PTA seek and support legislation to improve labeling of meat, ~~and~~ poultry, and farmed seafood products at federal and state levels to adequately and accurately identify antibiotic use during food production, and be it further

Resolved that the NYS PTA seek and support legislation requiring public disclosure on the amount, type and purpose of antibiotic use during food animal and farmed seafood production, and be it further

Resolved that the NYS PTA support initiatives that would encourage local school districts to purchase meat and poultry products sourced from animals and seafood receiving antibiotics only for treatment of disease, and be it further

Resolved that the NYS PTA encourage PTA units and councils to educate parents, school district staff, and Boards of Education about antibiotic overuse and misuse in food animal production and aquaculture and its contribution to antibiotic-resistant infections in adults and children.

Update # 5 - Adopted as presented

Training of School Employees in the Care of a Choking Victim – 2020 (U-'13, R-'06)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) supports regulation or legislation that would require, at minimum, one school employee trained in the care of the choking victim to be present at each food service period, in each lunchroom, and wherever food is consumed, and be it further

Resolved that the NYS PTA advocate for funding to be provided to school districts for the training of school employees in the care of the choking victim.

Update # 6 - Adopted as presented

Infection Control and Universal Precautions for Volunteers – 2020 (U-'13, R-'05, R-'98, R-'91)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) urge the New York State Education Department to require school districts to develop and implement infection control and universal precautions policies for all volunteers to ensure the safety and health of all students and adults in the school setting, and be it further

Resolved that the NYS PTA encourage its units and councils to adhere to public health and school district guidelines to protect children and adults from infections and participate in infection control and universal precautions training in conjunction with the school district for those members volunteering in the school.

Update # 7 - Adopted as presented

Digital (Internet) Safety – 2020 (U-'13, R-'06)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) will work to inform and educate parents and families, students, educators, school district staff and communities on the dangers associated with the use of digital technology and communication, and be it further

Resolved that NYS PTA units, councils and regions will work to heighten parents' and families' technologic awareness and skills and encourage the use of digital safety strategies to ensure the safety of children and youth, and to encourage responsible and ethical use of digital technology and communication resources, and be it further

Resolved that the NYS PTA shall work with collaborating partners and others to advocate for the protection of children and youth in a digital world, and be it further

Resolved that the NYS PTA, its units, councils and regions shall work to ensure that appropriate laws, policies and regulations are in place to protect children and youth when using digital technology and communications.

Update # 8 - Adopted as presented

Juvenile Offenders – Prevention, Intervention and Follow-Up – 2020 (U-'13, R-'06, R-'99)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) seek and support legislation to increase funding for prevention and intervention programs for high-risk youth, (e.g. mentoring programs, after-school activities, substance use counseling, etc.), as well as the implementation of restorative justice and practices, and be it further

Resolved that the NYS PTA seek and support legislation to increase the programs (e.g. mental health, sex offense, and substance use treatment programs) for juveniles accused of serious offenses, and be it further

Resolved that the NYS PTA seek and support legislation to create aftercare programs for juvenile offenders once they return to their neighborhoods and communities.

Update # 9 - Adopted as presented

Suicide Prevention – 2020 (U-'13, R-'06, R-'99, R-'92, R-'85)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) support legislation that provides funding for suicide prevention and intervention programs for students in grades K-12, and be it further

Resolved that school districts be encouraged to provide in-service training for teachers and support staff, on the problem of youth suicide, and be it further

Resolved that the NYS PTA encourage its units and councils to offer programs to educate parents and families about youth suicide, and be it further

Resolved that the NYS PTA support the development of services for survivors of suicide attempt(s) and for families who have lost someone to suicide.

Update # 10 - Adopted as presented

Revising New York State Department of Transportation Child Safety Zone Point System – 2020 (U-'13)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) urge the New York State Department of Transportation (NYS DOT) to amend the guidelines for child

safety zones to allow greater points to be given to roads with more than four lanes, and be it further

Resolved that the NYS PTA urge its units and councils to educate schools, parents, families, and children on the dangers of crossing multilane highways.

Update # 11 - Adopted as presented

Charter Bus Safety – 2020 (U-'13, R-'06, U-'99, R-'92)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) seek and support legislation that requires the Department of Motor Vehicles to retain all bus drivers' accident and moving violation records over a ten-year period of time, and be it further

Resolved that the NYS PTA seek and support legislation to increase civil penalties against bus companies for non-compliance with intra- and inter-state motor carrier laws, and be it further

Resolved that the NYS PTA seek and support legislation that requires seat belts on charter buses, and be it further

Resolved that the NYS PTA seek and support legislation that would require the superintendent of schools to obtain the charter bus company's records to approve the services of charter bus drivers and approve only drivers who meet the additional requirement of school bus driver certification, including fingerprinting and background checks, and be it further

Resolved that the NYS PTA seek and support legislation that would require the superintendent of schools to obtain a bus driver's inter- and intra-state accident and moving violation records before allowing them to drive buses transporting children, and be it further

Resolved that PTA units, councils and regions urge local school districts to obtain bus drivers' inter- and intra-state accident and moving violation records before allowing them to drive buses transporting children.

NEW RESOLUTIONS

New Resolution #1 - Adopted as presented

Maximum Temperature in the School Setting - 2020

Whereas there are negative impacts on students and staff when the room climate in the school setting exceeds maximum healthy temperatures, AND

Whereas there are no regulations that establish a maximum room temperature in school buildings, **THEREFORE, BE IT**

Resolved that New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) seek and support that regulations be established to set a healthy maximum room temperature in school buildings, **AND BE IT FURTHER**

Resolved that the NYS PTA urge its units, councils, and regions to educate families, teachers, other school personnel, and community members regarding the signs and symptoms of all heat-related illnesses.

New Resolution #2 - Adopted as presented

Cannabidiol (CBD) and Related Products - 2020

Whereas the manufacturing of Cannabidiol (CBD) and related products is unregulated, with the exclusion of the medication Epidiolex, **AND**

Whereas labeling of ingredients in CBD and related products can be inaccurate, **AND**

Whereas advertising and marketing of CBD and related products may make false or unsubstantiated health claims, **AND**

Whereas more research is necessary to understand the impacts and determine the medically appropriate usage of CBD and related products. **THEREFORE, BE IT**

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) urge the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to establish regulations for the manufacturing and labeling of CBD and related products, **AND BE IT FURTHER**

Resolved that the NYS PTA encourage the education of youth, parents, families, educators, community members, and medical community regarding possible benefits and risks of usage of CBD and related products, **AND BE IT FURTHER**

Resolved that the NYS PTA support the passage of legislation to enforce the regulation of CBD and related products.