



2023 RESOLUTIONS PACKET



To: All Unit/Council Presidents
Date: September 5, 2023
Re: Resolutions for Convention 2023

On behalf of the Resolutions Committee, we proudly present this year's Resolutions for your consideration.

NYS PTA delegates will vote on these resolutions at the **NYS PTA 127th Annual Convention** on November 10-12, 2023. We would love you to join us at Crowne Plaza-the Desmond Hotel in Albany for this in-person Convention!

At your next PTA meeting, you should discuss these Resolutions with your members, and then vote on whether or not you support them. Then, when your members attend Convention, they can carry that information with them to help inform them when they vote.

Resolutions are official NYS PTA positions and are the platform from which we advocate. All of our positions are located in [Where We Stand](#), and [Basic Policy](#), which gives a broader overview of general positions.

The committee has been preparing and researching the 2 Retentions, 16 Updates, 5 Rescissions, and 2 New Resolutions that will be voted on at Convention 2023 by the delegates state wide.

- *Retentions* are adopted resolutions that are up for renewal without any revision; delegates may therefore reaffirm or reject them in their current form, but may not amend them.
- *Updates* are adopted resolutions which are being revised to maintain their accuracy or relevance. Delegates will vote to reaffirm or reject each update as well, but may also amend *the revised wording* of the update.
- *Rescissions* are resolutions that can be retired because their resolves have been enacted. Once rescinded, a resolution becomes part of NYS PTA's historical record.
- *New Resolutions* are Resolutions brought to the floor of convention for the first time to be voted on by the delegates in attendance for possible adoption.

Resolutions debate is one of the high points of annual convention. When you come together with other delegates to voice your views and act on your principles, you will feel the collective power of volunteers to make a difference for children and schools.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns. I look forward to celebrating 127 years of PTA with you this November!

Susan Fisher
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2023 PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS

RETENTIONS

Retention # 1

LABELING OF MILK PRODUCTS – 2016 (U-'09, R-'02, U-'01, R-'94)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. urges the New York State Legislators to mandate that all milk coming from cows fed, injected with, or that have been administered hormones be labeled.

Statement: This resolution should be retained. While the FDA has stated that hormones, genetically modified organisms (GMOs) and genetically engineered (GE) products ingested by, or administered to, milk producing animals have no effect or ramifications on the milk produced by those animals, NYS PTA needs to continue to advocate for accurate and thorough labeling of milk products due to contradictory research.

Retention #2

PENALTIES FOR PASSING A STOPPED SCHOOL BUS – 2016 (R-'09, R-'02, R-'95, R-'88)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. seeks stronger enforcement of the existing law that requires all vehicles to stop and not pass a stopped school bus when its red lights are flashing.

Statement: This resolution should be retained to continue to promote traffic and school bus safety to protect all children.

UPDATES

UPDATES (NEW IS **BOLD AND UNDERLINED**, REMOVED IS *~~STRIKE THROUGH AND ITALICIZED~~*)

Update #1

DETOXIFICATION OF MINORS – 2016 (U-'09)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (**NYS PTA**), urges that public and private licensed detoxification services and substance use disorder treatment facilities for minors be made available within close proximity to an adolescent's area of residency at or above the level of access as available to adults, and be it further

Resolved that ~~New York State~~ **NYS** PTA seeks and supports legislation that gives parents and guardians rightful authority over a minor to obtain mental and medical assessment of such minor in order to determine whether ~~he/she~~ **they** requires involuntary detoxification and stabilization, and be it further

Resolved that the ~~New York State~~ **NYS** PTA seeks and supports **increased** legislation that would give substance use disorder treatment decision making authority to substance use disorder treatment professionals and remove authority from insurance companies, and be it further

Resolved that the ~~New York State~~ **NYS** PTA supports funding for recovery from substance use disorders, such as the Federal Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA) **and the** National Youth Recovery Initiative, be ~~implemented~~ **dispersed** throughout the state, and be it further

Resolved that the ~~New York State~~ **NYS** PTA ~~will urge~~ **urges** its units, councils, and regions to advocate for the education of parents/guardians, **families, students, school staff,** and community members about the dangers of substance use disorder and the treatment options available for minors.

Statement: This resolution should be updated for more inclusive and grammatically correct language.

Update # 2

POINT OF SALE ACCESSIBILITY AND ADVERTISING OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS – 2016 (U-'09, R-'02, U-'00)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc., (**NYS PTA**) ~~urges~~ and supports **stricter** legislation requiring that any establishment selling tobacco, electronic nicotine delivery systems, or any other nicotine-containing products ~~may~~ not engage in point-of-sale advertising of these products, except in adult only settings, and be it further

Resolved that the **NYS PTA** ~~New York State PTA~~ ~~urges~~ and supports legislation that would prohibit any visible or audio advertising at the point of sale, where underage persons might be exposed.

Statement: We recommend this resolution be updated. Although NYS passed Public Health Law Article 13-F Section 1399-DD-1 July of 2020, youth are still exposed to visible and audio advertising. Stricter enforcement of legislation restricting visible or audio advertising to youth is needed.

Update # 3

STUDENT PARTICIPATION – 2016 (R-'09, R-'02, R-'95, R-'88)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (**NYS PTA**) **encourages** units in secondary schools, **SEPTAs/SEPTSAs**, PTA councils, **Community PTA units**, and PTA regions *be encouraged* to have **secondary school** students on their boards, and be it further

Resolved that the **NYS PTA** *New York State PTA* urges school boards and **districts administrators** to establish channels for regular dialogue with secondary school students representing a cross-section of the students enrolled in the school district.

Statement: This resolution should be updated for more inclusive and consistent language to include additional PTA volunteer opportunities. Student participation refers to students in secondary school.

Update #4

PARENT PARTICIPATION – 2016 (U-'09, R-'02, R-'95, R-'88)

Resolved that the New York State Education Department (**NYSED**) advise and inform **the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA)** *NYS PTA* and local **school boards** of the existence of all **state**-mandated school committees, and be it further

Resolved that *the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc.* **NYS PTA** urges *the* NYSED *and the* state and local agencies, and *the* school boards to **appoint the** PTA **members** to serve on **state**-mandated school committees concerning children, wherever appropriate, and be it further

Resolved that *New York State PTA* **NYS PTA** and its regions, **units, and councils recommend** *make available* parent/**guardian** representatives to serve **on school committees** wherever appropriate, *and be it further*

Resolved ~~that PTA units and councils make themselves available to their school districts to serve on school committees, wherever appropriate.~~

Statement: This resolution should be updated to reflect more inclusive language. This resolution still remains relevant, as NYS PTA continues to urge NYSED to encourage and monitor parental participation in state-mandated school committees wherever appropriate at local and state levels. The third and fourth resolved statements were combined for clarity.

Update #5

REGIONAL COMMISSION TO STUDY COMMUNICATION OF PART 200 SPECIAL EDUCATION REGULATIONS (Part 200) – 2016 (U-'09, U- '02, R-'95, R-'88)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc., (NYS PTA) urges the New York State Education Department and its Regional Offices to maintain ongoing two-way communication, with parents, ~~and~~ guardians, ~~from~~ PTAs/SEPTAs, and BOCES on a regular basis and share information through ~~the state-funded~~ parent training information centers/family engagement centers, and be it further

Resolved that regional communication includes identification of any unmet needs within the region regarding the education of students ~~children~~ with disabilities ~~disabling conditions~~, and be it further

Resolved that regional reporting of data and evaluation of services provided to students ~~children~~ with disabilities ~~disabling conditions~~ be shared with parents, guardians, school districts, and educators.

Statement: There is a continuing need for communication between New York State Education Department and parents and guardians to ensure that needs of students with disabilities are met and that all children can reach their highest potential. The title has been updated to more clearly explain the content of the resolution. The resolution has been updated to reflect current designations and language.

Update #6

THE REAUTHORIZATION OF THE INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT – 2016 (U-'09, U-'02)

Resolved that the ~~Re~~authorization of Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) be for a ~~minimum~~ maximum of ~~six~~ five years ~~before it is necessary to reauthorize again~~, and be it further

~~**Resolved** that pursuant to the DSM 5 criteria, Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder be specifically added to the list of official classifications in the IDEA, and be it further~~

~~**Resolved** that a “Parent Member” be included in the official committee membership in the IDEA, and that the IDEA provide only the parent/guardian with the option to “waive” the requirement that the “Parent Member” be in attendance at the meeting, and be it further~~

~~**Resolved** that a school psychologist be included in the official committee membership in the IDEA, and be it further~~

Resolved that the IDEA provide full funding (~~Full funding is defined as 40% of the National Average of Per Pupil Expenditure in the 1975, 1997, and 2004 legislation~~) to the states and the

~~school districts~~ for programs and services, and that the full funding be designated in the federal education budget each year, and be it further

Resolved that the U.S. Department of Education continue to monitor the implementation of IDEA requirements for the education of all children. ~~high school graduation, and that any student, regardless of receiving special education related services, will be required to meet statewide assessments and credit requirements for graduation with a state recognized diploma.~~

Statement: This resolution is being updated as follows:

Resolve #1 We recommend updating this resolve as it is necessary for the federal government to revise/review IDEA every 5 years.

Resolve #2 is being stricken because ADD/ADHD already exists under OHI (other health impairments).

Resolve #3 is being stricken because “parent member” is included in the official committee membership.

Resolve #4 is being stricken because school psychologists are included under other individuals in the Committee for Special Education regulations in NYS (8 CRR-NY 200.3). Education Law 4402 states that a psychologist is part of the committee.

Resolve #5. We recommend updating this resolve since the US Department of Education has never fully funded IDEA. The closest they have come was in 2005 at 18%.

Resolve #6- This resolve has been updated to urge the monitoring of the implementation of regulations. The federal government does not monitor the requirements for High School Diplomas. NYS PTA continues to urge the NYS Education Department to expand pathways to graduation for all students. NYS PTA remains committed to supporting our students with disabilities.

Update #7

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE – 2016 (R-'09, U-'02, ~~U-'95~~, ~~U-'88~~)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. ~~units and councils~~ urges ~~encourage their~~ school districts to offer American Sign Language (ASL) ~~sign language as a second language option.~~

Statement: This resolution should be updated. The National Institute of Health's National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders recognizes ASL as a fully formed language. The NYS Education Department Pathways to Graduation offer a Checkpoint B exam for ASL to fulfill second language graduation requirements. The linguistic identity of Deaf culture should be included as part of a culturally-responsive education.

Update #8

MERCURY REDUCTION IN THE ENVIRONMENT --- 2016, (U-'09, U-'02)

- Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) supports legislation to reduce mercury discharge into the environment and to regulate industry contributing to mercury pollution by emissions or in products by including evidence-based minimum standards, and be it further
- Resolved** that the ~~New York State~~ NYS PTA encourages local ~~its~~ units and councils to inform and educate all communities ~~the public about as to~~ regarding the hazards of mercury exposure and means of reducing ~~mercury~~ exposure, including but not limited to the proper clean up and disposal of mercury containing products ~~such as but not limited to bulbs, batteries, auto parts, switches, thermostats, medical equipment, etc., (but not limited to)~~, and be it further
- Resolved** that the ~~New York State~~ NYS PTA encourages ~~their~~ local school boards to eliminate or reduce the use of mercury products in ~~the~~ schools.
- Statement:** This resolution should be updated to include all mercury containing products. We need to continue to advocate for continued and stricter legislation to reduce mercury discharge into the environment. Changes in emissions and in the Mercury and Air Toxics Standards (MATS) can and have been revised by each administration. Regulations need to be strengthened and evidence-based minimum standards established. We continue to encourage schools to eliminate or reduce their use of mercury products.
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Update # 9

GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS (GMOs), ~~AND~~ GENETICALLY ENGINEERED (GE) FOODS, AND BIOENGINEERED FOODS – 2016

- Resolved** that New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers Inc. (NYS PTA) supports legislation and regulations that require mandatory labeling of all foods, with clear and conspicuous words, of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs), ~~and~~ Genetically Engineered (GE) foods, and Bioengineered foods, and be it further
- Resolved** that ~~New York State~~ NYS PTA supports legislation and regulations that restrict pesticide tolerant GMOs, ~~and~~ GE, and Bioengineered foods, from use in food and beverages provided by school meal programs and vending services, and be it further
- Resolved** that until such legislation and regulations are in effect, all school districts be encouraged to avoid the use of foods and beverages that contain pesticide tolerant GMOs, ~~and~~ GE, and Bioengineered foods, provided by the school meal programs and vending services, and be it further

Resolved that ~~New York State~~ **NYS** PTA encourages units and councils to educate parents and community members on the health and environmental effects of pesticide tolerant GMOs, ~~and~~ **GE, and Bioengineered food products.**

Statement: This resolution should be updated to reflect new language used in legislation and regulations. Bioengineering of foods and food production animals continues to be an extremely complex issue that involves agricultural practice, the chemical industry, environmental quality, health and nutrition. NYS PTA urges acting with caution and keeping these products out of school provided food and drinks.

Update #10

SCHOOL NURSES – 2016 (R-'09, R-'02, R-'95, R-'88)

~~**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. encourages its units and councils to assess with the staff and school boards of their districts the risks of having inadequate health care for students, and be it further~~

Resolved that the New York State ~~PTA~~ **Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc.** urges the **New York** State Education Department to mandate a full-time, registered nurse in every school building.

Statement: This resolution should be updated to reflect the importance of school nurses. There is definitive evidence of the risks of not having health care professionals in schools. The first resolved statement has been stricken to clarify the original intent of the resolution.

Update #11

~~UP-TO-DATE AND UNBIASED, CURRENT, AND ACCESSIBLE EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS~~ **– 2016 (R-'09, R-'02, U-'01, R-'94, R-'87)**

~~**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. supports ongoing challenges to the decisions of cases that limit the content of school books, and be it further~~

Resolved that the **New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA)** ~~New York State PTA~~ **urges local units and councils to** communicates **with and educate** ~~with~~ school **boards and leaders** ~~textbook publishers to make them aware~~ of the continuing need for ~~textbooks~~ **educational materials** that **provide** ~~offer an overview of opinion and~~ **age- and developmentally-appropriate, factual, unbiased, and comprehensive information, and be it further**

Resolved that the ~~New York State~~ **NYS** PTA encourages school boards ~~and school board associations to unite in their determination~~ to purchase **age- and developmentally-appropriate** educational materials which ~~contain up to date information and present~~ **present unbiased current information and** ~~facts in an unbiased manner~~, and be it further

Resolved that every New York State school district ensures that all ~~instruction materials and textbooks~~ **educational materials** to be used in schools are available in ~~useable~~ **accessible** alternative formats *for all students (Chapter 377 Education Law 2001)*.

Statement: This resolution has been updated for more inclusive language. The first resolved has been deleted because the process for challenging and approving educational materials is addressed in the resolution “CHALLENGES TO TEXTBOOK AND EDUCATIONAL MATERIAL REVIEW.” Language has been updated to reflect all educational materials currently being used in schools.

<https://www.pta.org/home/advocacy/ptas-positions/Individual-Position-Statements/Position-Statement-Libraries-and-Educational-Material>

Update #12

TV/VIDEO VIEWING IN SCHOOLS – 2016 (R-'09, U-'02, R-'95)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (**NYS PTA**) encourages the ~~Board of Regents to adoption~~ **of** regulations that would require every school district to have a policy for the use of **the following, including but not limited to** movies, videos (~~DVD, Blue-Ray, etc.~~), **streaming platforms, and** television, ~~and the internet~~ in all classrooms, and be it further

Resolved that this policy be formulated with parent/~~guardian~~ **and school community** involvement.

Statement: This resolution should be updated since there are no regulations that specifically address the use of movies, videos, streaming platforms, or television in the classrooms. Regulations currently only address internet safety training and privacy under the Children’s Online Privacy Protecting Rule (COPPA), Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA), and Dignity for All Students’ Act (DASA).

Update #13

~~VOLUNTEERISM~~ **IRS MILEAGE DEDUCTIONS FOR VOLUNTEERS – 2016 (R-'09, R-'02, R-'95, R-'88)**

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. supports an amendment to the Internal Revenue Code to allow volunteers the same standard of deduction for their mileage rate as that used by business people in computing their expense deduction.

Statement: The title of this resolution is being updated for clarity. The deduction rate for the service of charitable organizations (14 cents per mile in 2023) is still substantially lower than that of the standard business mileage deduction rate (65.5 cents per mile in 2023). Since volunteers

are also conducting business, they should be given the same consideration as those getting paid for their time. The cost of transportation could limit the ability of some people to volunteer and disproportionately burdens volunteers.

Update #14

SCHOOL BUS STOP VULNERABILITY – 2016 (U-'09, U-'02, U-'01, R-'94)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc., (NYS PTA) encourages PTA units and councils ~~to mount a campaign~~ to raise awareness of student vulnerability at school bus stops, and be it further

Resolved that ~~the~~ NYS PTA New York State PTA **urges school districts and leaders to develop and clearly communicate** school bus **stop** safety **guidelines** ~~and make parents aware that they are responsible~~ **and parental/guardian responsibility** for monitoring and protecting their children until the school bus arrives ~~at the stop~~ and the ~~red lights begin to flash~~ **students board the bus.**

Statement: This resolution needs to be updated to clarify the supervision and responsibility of student safety at bus stops. NYS PTA urges the development and communication regarding the transfer of responsibility for student safety.

Update #15

ADULT SUPERVISION – 2016 (R-'09, R-'02, R-'95, R-'88)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA), ~~units, and councils~~ **urges** ~~their~~ local school boards to provide ~~adequate~~ adult supervision of children during lunch, ~~and~~ recess, **and dismissal at** ~~and that~~ a minimum of one adult **responsible for up to 25 students** ~~be assigned to in~~ each area where such activities ~~take~~ ~~are taking~~ place.

Statement: This resolution should be updated to provide a clear expectation of an adult to student ratio for supervision during lunch, recess, and dismissal periods. The ratio of one adult per 25 students is aligned with new law limiting class sizes in NYC (Chapter 556 of the Laws of 2022).

Update #16

HORSEBACK RIDING SAFETY – 2016 (R-'09, U-'02, R-'98, R-'91)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. supports stronger legislation to enact a riding safety code for operators of horseback riding facilities ~~which~~

~~would include, but not be limited to, the use of protective helmets and safety instructions~~ to reduce the chance of injury.

Statement: NYS law requires the use of helmets for those under 18. However, there has been no requirement on facilities to enact any type of safety code beyond that. NYS PTA continues to advocate for the use of helmets for all ages and increased safety requirements to prevent injuries.

RESCISSIONS

Rescission #1

SALE OF TOBACCO TO MINORS – 2016 (U-'09, R-'02, R-'95, R-'88)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc., urge local units to seek the cooperation of their local law enforcement agencies in enforcing the law banning the sale of tobacco and nicotine delivery products to minors and those local ordinances pertaining to it, and be it further

Resolved that the New York State PTA urge its local units to communicate with their local governments expressing their desire to see stringent penalties for offense of these laws and to seek local ordinances banning cigarette machines, demanding their removal after first offense or at least regulating their locations within an establishment, making them less accessible.

Statement: This can be rescinded. In 2019, Article 13-F Section 1399-CC of the NYS Public Health Law prohibited the sale of tobacco and vapor products and smoking paraphernalia to people under the age of 21.

Retailers cannot sell cigarettes, cigars, chewing tobacco, powdered tobacco, shisha or other tobacco products, herbal cigarettes, liquid nicotine, electronic cigarettes, rolling papers, or smoking paraphernalia to people under 21 years of age. Penalties for illegal sales to minors include fines, loss of license to sell lottery tickets, and loss of registration to sell tobacco and vapor products. Every registered tobacco retailer is assessed annually for compliance with this law.

Rescission #2

SPECIAL EDUCATION – 2016 (R-'09, U-'02, R-'95, R-'88)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. urges the State Education Department to change the regulations to read that all children with disabling conditions from age 11 and up are entitled to career and technical training for “real work” by using the

New York State Education Department Career Development Occupational Study (CDOS) Standards, and be it further

Resolved that the New York State PTA urges the State Education Department to monitor school districts carefully to ensure continued compliance.

Statement: Current state education commissioner regulations, policy, and guidance outline graduation pathways for all students and provide meaningful exit pathways and safety nets for students with disabilities and trump the need for this outdated resolution. In addition, CDOS has now been made an official pathway to graduation. Furthermore, the Blue Ribbon Commission will continue to work on reviewing and updating Graduation Requirements and NYS graduation pathways. Their recommendations will be adopted by the State Board of Regents. NYS PTA remains committed to supporting our students with disabilities and meaningful graduation, diploma, and exit options for ALL students.

Rescission #3

EDUCATION ON THE SAFE USE OF DEET – 2016

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers Inc. urges units and councils to educate parents, teachers, and the community on the correct usage and potential dangers of incorrect usage of products containing DEET using the most current available positions of reliable medical experts, such as the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Statement: This resolution should be rescinded. The CDC and EPA have approved the use of DEET for kids older than 2 months of age. NYS PTA continues to encourage parents and families to use DEET and other insect repellents as directed and according to CDC, EPA, and American Association of Pediatrics guidelines.

Rescission #4

REFORM OF STATE AID TO EDUCATION – 2016 (R-'09, R-'02, R-'95, R-'88)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. supports and encourages legislation that would set a minimum level of state aid of at least 50% of the total educational costs for the state, and be it further

Resolved that the New York State PTA supports and encourages legislation to create built-in minimum levels of funding for state-prescribed staffing ratios and other mandates.

Statement: This resolution should be rescinded since Foundation Aid was fully funded in the 2022 budget. NYS PTA will be working with the NYS Educational Conference Board, the NYS Board of Regents, and the State Education Department alongside other policymakers on a new formula for implementation in the 2024-2025 State Fiscal Year and 2024-2025 School Year.

Rescission #5

HAZING – 2016 (R-'09, U-'02, U-'01, R-'94, R-'87)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers Inc. urges that schools educate their students and that PTAs educate their members as to the possible dangers that may occur in hazings.

Statement: This resolution should be rescinded. At the 2023 National PTA convention, the association adopted the resolution “Hazing” which includes and expands upon our 2009 Hazing resolution. As a constituent association of National PTA, this new resolution is our official position on hazing and can be found at <https://www.pta.org/docs/default-source/files/events/convention/2023/hazing-resolution-amended-rev.pdf>.

NEW

NEW RESOLUTION #1

REGULATION OF VIDEO GAME GAMBLING

Whereas loot boxes are a popular gambling-like randomized monetization feature embedded within video games, and

Whereas there are no regulations for the buying, selling, or implementation of loot boxes, and

Whereas loot box purchasing is associated with problem gambling behaviors in youth and adolescents, therefore be it

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) supports the classification of loot boxes as a form of gambling, and be it further

Resolved that NYS PTA urges the creation and implementation of regulations overseeing the sale, purchase, and implementation of loot boxes, and be it further

Resolved that NYS PTA urges video game companies to assign higher age limits and include gambling content descriptors on any game produced with embedded loot boxes, and be it further

Resolved that NYS PTA encourages the education of youth, parents/guardians, families, educators, school staff, and community members about the impacts of gambling-like monetization features in video games.

Statement: Loot boxes are embedded items in video games that can be paid for with real-world money but contain randomized contents. Children and adolescents play many games that feature loot boxes. Loot box practices are often deceptive and predatory and are designed to be attractive to game players. Similarities between loot boxes and gambling have led to concern that they are linked to the development of problem gambling in adolescents. In

recent years, loot boxes have become a staple of the gaming industry, generating up to \$15 billion per year. Loot boxes are conceptually and structurally gambling because players pay real money for a random chance to obtain the valuable in-game rewards they want. The purchase of loot boxes encourages repeat purchases, which promotes and increases the risk of developing problem gambling behaviors and addiction. The lack of recognition of loot boxes as gambling means that game ratings are not required to assign higher age limits or gambling content descriptors. The potential harms of loot boxes and other randomized monetization methods are increasingly recognized.

In the rapidly evolving world of technology and social media, it is important that we protect our children and youth from potentially harmful and predatory practices. Loot boxes have become increasingly popular and are embedded in most video games. This is potentially the first experience that most children and youth will have with gambling, and it may increase the likelihood of developing problem gambling behaviors in adolescence and adulthood.

NEW RESOLUTION #2

YOUTH GAMBLING

- Whereas** gambling is addictive, similar to alcohol and other substances, and can lead to risky behaviors, and
- Whereas** gambling is not currently included in health education regulation and evidence-based youth gambling education has been proven effective, therefore be it
- Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) urges the NYS Education Department to issue evidence-based guidance regarding the dangers of youth gambling and gambling addiction, and be it further
- Resolved** that NYS PTA urges local school boards to adopt and implement evidence-based, age- and developmentally-appropriate curriculum on youth gambling prevention, and be it further
- Resolved** that the NYS PTA encourages units and councils to educate school administrators, school staff, youth, parents/guardians, families and community members on the harmful effects of gambling on youth.
- Statement:** As the human brain is not fully developed until approximately 25 years of age, youth and adolescents are at significantly higher risk of developing problem gambling disorders. This has a harmful effect on their mental, emotional, social, and physical health, and can negatively impact school performance. The increase in accessibility, advertising, and marketing of online and mobile gambling increases the normalization and attraction of gambling to our youth. In this emerging crisis, raising awareness of the dangers of gambling on our youth is imperative. We encourage parents/guardians, families, educators, school staff, and medical and mental health providers to collaborate to develop and provide the necessary strategies to prevent problem gambling in all youth and adolescents.

2023 PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS - Checklist

RETENTIONS

	YES	NO
1. LABELING OF MILK PRODUCTS	_____	_____
2. PENALTIES FOR PASSING A STOPPED SCHOOL BUS	_____	_____

UPDATES

1. DETOXIFICATION OF MINORS	_____	_____
2. POINT OF SALE ACCESSIBILITY AND ADVERTISING OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS	_____	_____
3. STUDENT PARTICIPATION	_____	_____
4. PARENT PARTICIPATION	_____	_____
5. COMMUNICATION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION REGULATIONS (Part 200)	_____	_____
6. THE REAUTHORIZATION OF THE INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT	_____	_____
7. AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE	_____	_____
8. MERCURY REDUCTION IN THE ENVIRONMENT	_____	_____
9. GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS (GMOs), GENETICALLY ENGINEERED (GE) FOODS, AND BIOENGINEERED FOODS	_____	_____
10. SCHOOL NURSES	_____	_____
11. UNBIASED, CURRENT, AND ACCESSIBLE EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS	_____	_____
12. TV/VIDEO VIEWING IN SCHOOLS	_____	_____
13. IRS MILEAGE DEDUCTIONS FOR VOLUNTEERS	_____	_____
14. SCHOOL BUS STOP VULNERABILITY	_____	_____
15. ADULT SUPERVISION	_____	_____
16. HORSEBACK RIDING SAFETY	_____	_____

RESCISSIONS

1. SALE OF TOBACCO TO MINORS	_____	_____
2. SPECIAL EDUCATION	_____	_____
3. EDUCATION ON THE SAFE USE OF DEET	_____	_____
4. REFORM OF STATE AID TO EDUCATION	_____	_____
5. HAZING	_____	_____

NEW RESOLUTIONS

1. REGULATION OF VIDEO GAME GAMBLING	_____	_____
2. YOUTH GAMBLING	_____	_____