



NYS PTA 2024 FACT SHEET

MEMBERSHIP

Membership statewide is comprised of nearly 225,000 parents, families, teachers, educators, school-related professionals, administrators, students, and other child advocates in approximately 1,500 local units and councils representing our state's 2.6 million school children.

MISSION STATEMENT

PTA is

- A powerful voice for all children,
- A relevant resource for families and communities,
- A strong advocate for the education and well-being of every child.

PRESIDENT



Helen Hoffman

Administration Theme:

Supporting Kids, Raising Awareness

HISTORY

New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers is the first state branch of the National Congress, organized in October 1897. In 1899 it was incorporated as The Mothers' Assembly of the State of New York. In 1920 it was reincorporated as the New York State Congress of Mothers' and Parent-Teacher Associations. In 1925 the name was changed to the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. The NYS PTA:

- Coordinates programs statewide on behalf of children and youth
- Is represented on state committees and commissions dealing with children and youth
- Provides conferences, workshops, publications and resource materials on issues and leadership development
- Services units and councils through its 12 region PTAs

CONVENTION AND CONFERENCES

Summer Leadership Conference: Held in July, leaders from across the state are encouraged to attend this training opportunity. Workshops and idea-sharing are offered to aid unit and council leaders in all facets of leadership.

Annual Convention: Held in November, advocates from across the state come together to share information, elect officers, adopt resolutions, and attend workshops.

Legislative Summit: Usually held in late February or early March virtually, advocates address concerns about trends and conditions affecting children, youth, and schools and meet virtually or in-person with elected officials.

Note: For specific dates, locations and registration information check nyspta.org.

PUBLICATIONS

New York Parent Teacher: Produced two times a year, this periodical focuses on topics of concern to parents, educators, and others interested in the well-being of children and youth.

PTA Connection: Produced twice a month, this publication is sent to all NYS PTA members and non-members and features advocacy items, programs and awards, critical information, and partner resources.

NYS PTA Resource Guide: A comprehensive resource of PTA information; available for all members under the Leaders tab of the NYS PTA website.

Where We Stand: NYS PTA's official advocacy document, including resolutions and position papers.

CURRENT PROGRAMS

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI): NYS PTA continues to stand ready to support every child, with one voice. Our expanding DEI program continues to reflect current and systemic issues facing students and schools.

Arts and Reflections: Facilitated through the National PTA Reflections Program, which recognizes outstanding contributions to the arts by pre-K – 12th grade students.

Every Child Healthy: This partnership with Fidelis Care promotes health and wellness for children and families.

Every Child Travels Safely: This initiative focuses on transportation safety and encourages children and caregivers to increase safety in all aspects of child travel.

Family Engagement: Family Engagement is a school-family partnership that raises student achievement, improves school and community, and increases public support.

Literacy/Pick A Reading Partner (PARP): Initially created by Sen. James Donovan and now administered by NYS PTA, this program encourages literacy-based activities, which also includes financial literacy support for children and families.

Parent/Family Resources: Focuses on resources for all parents, families and educators, including support for all children and grade levels, college and career, CTE/STEM, diversity, and inclusion, English Language Learners and their families, immigrant families, and LGBTQ families.

Supporting Kids, Raising Awareness: A Focus on Mental Health: This initiative focuses on support for child mental health and social emotional learning.

FIELD SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

NYS PTA provides field service to local units statewide through region conferences, workshops, schools of instruction, publications and materials. Leadership Development initiatives feature webchats, leadership webinars, and other trainings and workshops for members and leaders across the state.

COALITIONS, COMMISSIONS AND BOARDS

NYS PTA, as the recognized statewide parent association, is a member of many statewide coalitions, commissions and boards, some are listed below. When the State Education Department is looking for parent/family input, we are the group to whom they look for representatives.

Educational Conference Board (ECB): A coalition of statewide educational organizations representing parents, teachers, administrators and other school personnel associated with each of New York's over 4,000 public schools, which addresses issues of mutual concern that affect education and the welfare of children. ECB members encourage their constituencies to provide funding and regulations necessary for the improvement of education along with health and welfare issues for children. NYS PTA holds three seats on this board, with our Executive Director serving as Vice Chair.

NYS Board of Regents and State Education Department Committees/Commissions: Meetings are attended by a representative of NYS PTA. The actions and proposals of the Regents are reported to the membership and are available on our website. The PTA representative is frequently called upon to sit on special committees formed by the Board of Regents and/or the Commissioner of Education.

Gubernatorial Committees/Commissions: NYS PTA representatives are appointed to serve on various statewide committees and commissions related to education and child welfare.

Rural Schools Association: A statewide coalition to advocate for small and rural schools. NYS PTA sits on the Board of Directors and brings a unique perspective to discussions of how best to support students and families in rural areas and school.

NYS PTA AWARDS

ADVOCACY, FAMILY ENGAGEMENT, LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE AWARDS:

Advocate in Action Award

Community Service Award

Distinguished Service Award

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Award

Family Engagement Award in Honor of Jami-Beth Knapp

Golden Oak and Diamond Awards for Special Recognition

Honorary Life Member Award

Leadership Award in Honor of Jane Skrzypek

PROGRAM AWARDS:

Pick A Reading Partner Award

Reflections Theme Search Award

STUDENT & TEACHER AWARDS:

Innovative Teacher Grant

Jenkins Memorial Scholarship for Teacher Education

Susanne Smoller Commitment to Advocacy Youth Award

Teacher Fellowship for Graduate Study in Memory of Richard Gazzola

Youth Humanitarian Award in Memory of Stanley Marcus

Note: For more award information, check nyspta.org/home/pta-leaders/awards-and-recognitions

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