

# 2025 ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS



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## RETENTIONS

**Retention #1**                      **RETAINED 2025**

### MANDATED DEADLINE FOR STATE BUDGET – 2018 (R-'11, R-'04, R-'97)

**Resolved**                      that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. units and councils educate their community on the effects of a late state budget on its school district, and be it further

**Resolved**                      that NYS PTA units and councils urge the legislature to meet its constitutional duty by passing the budget on time.

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**Retention #2**                      **RETAINED 2025**

### HEAD INJURIES – 2018 (R-'11, U-'04, R-'97)

**Resolved**                      that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. seek and support legislation establishing a state tracking system for head injuries in all children and students and a record that would follow each child and student from year to year, and be it further

**Resolved**                      that NYS PTA urge local school districts and community athletic organizations to include the addition of head injuries on health summaries and yearly physical forms, and be it further

**Resolved**                      that NYS PTA local units and councils educate their communities on the dangers of head injuries.

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**Retention #3**                      **RETAINED 2025**

### INERT INGREDIENT LISTING ON PESTICIDE PRODUCTS – 2018 (R-'11, U-'04, R-'97)

**Resolved**                      that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. urge and support legislation which would require pesticide manufacturers and formulators to disclose by product labeling the total composition of pesticide products including each inert ingredient in the formulation.

**Statement:**                      This resolution should be retained. There are currently no laws in NYS requiring pesticide manufacturers to fully disclose all ingredients and the quantity of each ingredient in pesticide products. Further advocacy is needed.

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**Retention #4**                      **RETAINED 2025**

### SCHOOL PRAYER AMENDMENT – 2018 (U-'11, R-'04, R-'97, R-'90, R-'83)

**Resolved**                      that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. oppose a constitutional amendment that mandates organized prayer in public schools.

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**Retention #5                      RETAINED 2025**

**SAFETY ITEMS ON SCHOOL BUSES – 2018 (U-'11, U-'04, R-'97, R-'90, R-'83)**

**Resolved**                      that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. urge school districts to purchase and/or contract for school buses with optional safety equipment such as video cameras, two-way radios, external strobe lights, and Child Safety Alarm Systems.

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**Retention #6                      RETAINED 2025**

**EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBER 911 – 2018 (R-'11, R-'04, R-'97, R-'90, R-'83)**

**Resolved**                      that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. urge its units, councils and regions to disseminate information to its members available from local police authorities regarding the emergency telephone number 911, both its proper use and precautions about misuse.

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**Retention #7                      RETAINED 2025**

**YOUTH CAMP SAFETY – 2018 (R-'11, R-'04, R-'97, R-'90, R-'83)**

**Resolved**                      that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. support the passage of a federal youth camp safety act.

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**UPDATES**

**Update #1                      UPDATED 2025**

**ENFORCEMENT OF CURRENT REGULATIONS FOR PLACEMENT OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH DISABILITIES – 2018 (R-'11, R-'04, R-'97, R-'90, R-'83)**

**Resolved**                      that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. oppose any changes in federal or state laws and/or regulations that could lead to delays or extensions of state deadlines regarding the evaluation and appropriate placement of children and youth with disabilities, and be it further

**Resolved**                      that NYS PTA oppose any changes in federal or state laws and/or regulations that would allow any increase in class size, and be it further

**Resolved**                      that NYS PTA advocate for the New York State Education Department to strongly enforce all current regulations regarding the education of children and youth with disabilities.

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**Update #2                      UPDATED 2025**

**COMMUNITY SCHOOLS PROGRAM – 2018 (R-'11, R-'04, R-'97, R-'90)**

**Resolved**                      that the NYS Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. encourage development and support of the Community Schools Program in all areas, and be it further

**Resolved** that NYS PTA promote continued allocation of the resources and funding necessary to sustain and expand the Community Schools Program.

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**Update #3** **UPDATED 2025**

**PARENT MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION (CSE) AND THE COMMITTEE ON PRESCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION (CPSE) – 2018 (R-'11, U-'04, R-'97, U-'90)**

**Resolved** that the NYS Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. support maintaining a parent member as a mandated member of the CPSE and CSE committees, and be it further

**Resolved** that NYS PTA urge the NYS Education Department's Office for Special Education to require appropriate and comprehensive training for the parent member on the CSE and CPSE.

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**Update #4** **UPDATED 2025**

**RECESS FOR STUDENTS – 2018 (R-'11, R-'04)**

**Resolved** that the NYS Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. urge the Board of Regents and the NYS Education Department to encourage every school district to offer at least twenty minutes a day of supervised, unstructured time/~~{recess}~~ for all students in NYS, and be it further

**Resolved** that NYS PTA urge that unstructured time/recess not be eliminated from a child's school day due to academic failure, misconduct, or maladaptive behavior, and that teachers, parents, guardians, families, and administrators consider alternative interventions.

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**Update #5** **UPDATED 2025**

**SCHOOL COUNSELORS IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS – 2018 (R-'11, U-'02, U-'01, R-'94, R-'87)**

**Resolved** that the NYS Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. urge the NYS Education Department and the Board of Regents to require certified school counselors in all public secondary schools, and be it further

**Resolved** that NYS PTA urge the NYS Education Department and the Board of Regents to establish a maximum number of students per school counselor in all public secondary schools and that this ratio not exceed 250 to 1, and be it further

**Resolved** that NYS PTA advocate for every school district to receive equitable, adequate, and sustainable funding allocated for school counselors.

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**Update #6** **UPDATED 2025**

**SEWAGE WASTE PROBLEMS – 2018 (R-'11, U-'04, R-'97, R-'90, R-'83)**

- Resolved** that the NYS Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. support state legislation for environmental air quality and health risk studies of proposed and existing sewage plants, and be it further
- Resolved** that NYS PTA urge authorities to establish new regulations and update current regulations, including a mandatory notification to the public of sewage discharge events, and enforce existing statutes and regulations in regard to indiscriminate use of sanitary sewage systems for the disposal of unlawful material (toxic waste) by industrial, commercial, and residential users.
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**Update #7** **UPDATED 2025**

**TOXIC ART SUPPLIES – 2018 (R-'11, U-'04, R-'97, R-'90, R-'83)**

- Resolved** that the NYS Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. urge school districts to evaluate the art products used in their schools and to seek removal of such products as may be necessary for the health and safety of students, and be it further
- Resolved** that NYS PTA work to educate students, parents, guardians, families, school staff, and community members about how to identify unsafe or toxic art supplies.
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**Update #8** **UPDATED 2025**

**CPR/AED AND FIRST AID – 2018 (R-'11, R-'04, U-'97, R-'90, R-'83)**

- Resolved** That the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. seeks NYS Education Department regulations, and funding for schools to provide annual opportunities for all school personnel to receive training in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR)/automated external defibrillation (AED) and first aid.
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**Update #9** **UPDATED 2025**

**TRAFFIC LIGHT INSTALLATION AT SCHOOLS WHICH ARE LOCATED ON STATE OWNED ROADS – 2018 (R-'11, R-'04, U-'97, R-'90)**

- Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. support the passage of legislation that would enable the NYS Department of Transportation to expend state funds for the installation and maintenance of traffic lights at schools which are located on state owned roads.
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## ***RESCISSIONS***

**Rescission #1** **RESCINDED 2025**

**RAISING THE MINIMUM SALES AGE OF TOBACCO AND OTHER NICOTINE DELIVERY SYSTEMS TO 21 – 2018**

- Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers urge raising the Minimum Legal Sale Age of all tobacco products and nicotine delivery systems to 21 years of age statewide, and be it further

**Resolved** that NYS PTA urge its units, councils, and regions to advocate for the education of all students, parents/guardians, and community members about the dangers of all tobacco products and nicotine delivery systems and their hazardous health effects.

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**Rescission #2                    RESCINDED 2025**

**LEVELING UP LOW WEALTH DISTRICTS – 2018 (R-'11, R-'04, R-'97, R-'90, R-'83)**

**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. continue to support state aid formulas that provide for more equitable educational opportunity by leveling up the low wealth districts.

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**Rescission #3                    RESCINDED 2025**

**TO REQUIRE COORDINATING COUNCILS ON SCHOOL HEALTH AS A MEANS OF EFFECTIVELY USING SCHOOL TIME – 2018 (U-'11, R-'04, R-'97)**

**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. urge the Board of Regents and the State Education Department to require every school district to establish a district-wide comprehensive school health and wellness advisory committee which would include health and education professionals, parents, community leaders and other stakeholders.

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**Rescission #4                    RESCINDED 2025**

**RAPID WEIGHT LOSS DIETS – 2018 (R-'11, R-'04, R-'97, R-'90, R-'83)**

**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. encourage school districts to include as part of nutrition education the possible health hazards of rapid weight loss diets, and be it further

**Resolved** that coaches not encourage rapid weight loss or gain for participation in sports programs.

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**Rescission #5                    RESCINDED 2025**

**HEALTHY SCHOOL FOODS – 2018 (U-'11, R-'04);**

**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc., support initiatives that would encourage local school districts to provide optional plant-based vegetarian and vegan school entrees and nutrition education materials and instruction; eliminate high calorie, high fat, low nutrition desserts from the menu; eliminate à la carte and vending items that are low nutrient, high calorie, high fat or high sodium and replace them with high nutrient and generally low calorie items; and support Farm to School programs, including organic foods where possible, and be it further

**Resolved** that NYS PTA encourage its units/councils to educate parents and school district staff about healthy eating patterns, including plant-based entrees, and be it further

**Resolved** that NYS PTA urge its units/councils to participate in the decision making about implementing, within their own schools and school districts, healthy choices, such as plant-based vegetarian or vegan, in school lunch programs.

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**Rescission #6                      RESCINDED 2025**

**MISSING AND EXPLOITED CHILDREN – 2018 (U-'11, U-'04, R-'97, R-'90, R-'83)**

**Resolved**                      that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. inform PTA members of the provisions of legislation regarding missing and exploited children, such as the Bringing Missing Children Home Act, the Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act, the Kevin and Avonte's Law, and Amber Alerts.

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**Rescission #7                      RESCINDED 2025**

**FINGERPRINTING CHILDREN – 2018 (R-'11, R-'04, R-'97, R-'90, R-'83)**

**Resolved**                      that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc., in areas where fingerprinting programs are to be implemented, urge the local units and councils to adopt the following guidelines: (1) Seek advice and cooperation from police departments so that fingerprints are taken properly; (2) Program should be arranged for other than school hours (evenings or Saturday) so that there is no possibility of fingerprinting a child without a parent or guardian's permission; (3) A parent or guardian must accompany the child to the fingerprinting program; (4) All sets of fingerprints should be retained by the parent or guardian, thus avoiding conflicts over lost fingerprints or any question of improper use of fingerprints; (5) The cost of the program, if possible, should be defrayed by nominal fees; (6) Parent or guardian should be advised of how best to retain fingerprint records.

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**Rescission #8                      RESCINDED 2025**

**LIMITING CHILD LABOR – 2018 (R-'11, U-'04, R-'97, U-'90)**

**Resolved**                      that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. urge councils and high school units to inform parents of the existing child labor laws and the effects of inappropriate work experience on the education, social development, safety and health of our children.

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**Rescission #9                      RESCINDED 2025**

**SEAT BELT USAGE ON SCHOOL BUSES – 2018 (U-'11, R-'04, R-'97, R-'90, R-'83)**

**Resolved**                      that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. encourage its units and councils to support the use of seat belts on all school buses, and be it further

**Resolved**                      that NYS PTA seek and support federal legislation to require seat belts on school buses.

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***COMBINED UPDATE AND RESCISSION***

**Update & Rescission #1                      UPDATED AND RESCINDED**

**UPDATE - INFLUENCE OF MEDIA ON TOBACCO, Cigarette, and Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) USE – 2018 (R-'11, U-'04)**

**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. encourage units and councils to educate parents and guardians, children, youth, and community members that viewing media that depict tobacco, cigarette, and electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS) use greatly increases the probability that children and youth will experiment with and become addicted to tobacco, cigarette, and Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS), and be it further

**Resolved** that NYS PTA endorse and support the four actions within the Smoke Free Movies Initiative, to:

- rate new movies showing tobacco use “R” except if they reflect clear dangers or to portray a historical figure;
- certify no payoffs or placements from the tobacco industry;
- provide strong anti-smoking ads in any film with smoking; and
- stop identifying tobacco brands.

### **RESCISSION - PROTECTING CHILDREN AND YOUTH FROM THE INFLUENCE OF TOBACCO USE IN MOVIES – 2021 (R-'14, R-'07)**

**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. endorses and supports the four actions within the Smoke Free Movies Initiative, to: 1) rate new movies showing tobacco use “R” except if they reflect clear dangers or to portray a historical figure; 2) certify no payoffs or placements from the tobacco industry; 3) provide strong anti- smoking ads in any film with smoking; 4) stop identifying tobacco brands.

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## ***NEW RESOLUTIONS***

**New Resolution #1                      ADOPTED 2025**

### **IMPLEMENTATION OF STRUCTURED LITERACY FOR STUDENTS WITH DYSLLEXIA – 2025**

**Resolved** that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. calls for districts to discontinue use of literacy curriculum that does not align with evidence of how students learn to read, and be it further

**Resolved** that districts require teacher/staff training and ongoing professional development to improve the understanding of dyslexia, recognize early warning signs, require universal early screening with timely reporting of results to parents and guardians, implement prompt, evidence-based interventions specific to dyslexia, and be it further

**Resolved** that NYS PTA calls for the use of evidence-based literacy instruction and structured literacy intervention that is appropriate for each student and can be accessed by both the general and special education populations, and be it further

**Resolved** that students with dyslexia have access to assistive technologies and appropriate classroom accommodations, and be it further

**Resolved** that NYS PTA calls for the full adoption of the NY State Dyslexia and Dysgraphia Task Force report and recommendations by appropriate parties, and be it further

**Resolved** that NYS PTA seeks and supports equitable, adequate, and sustainable state funding for training and implementation of appropriate evidence-based literacy instruction, universal dyslexia screening, and intervention services for students with dyslexia.