2026 PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS

New York State PTA®

everychild. onevoice.®

Resolutions Explained

Resolutions recommended for Adoption, Retention, Update or Rescission (then retired) will be moved to the floor for discussion and vote. Those not recommended for Adoption or Referred to Committee and any Emergency Resolutions must be moved by a delegate from the floor. Once moved, such resolutions must be seconded, and receive sufficient votes, in order to come to the floor for discussion and vote.

Retention – A previously adopted resolution which will be seven years old at the next convention; the resolve(s) may be retained or rejected but not amended.

Update – A previously adopted resolution in which the wording of the original resolve was changed.

Recommended for Adoption – Proposed resolution complies with Basic Policy and is in accordance with PTA Purposes.

Referred to Committee – Proposed resolution requires more study and knowledge before a position can be recommended.

Not Recommended for Adoption – When a resolution is not being recommended for adoption, it is because of one or more of the following reasons:

- It does not comply with Basic Policy or PTA Purposes.
- It is covered in NYS PTA *Where We Stand*.
- It is already covered by law.
- It is considered to be unwise or inappropriate for PTA.
- It is covered in the National PTA Resolutions and Positions notebook.
- It lacks sufficient documentation or supportive evidence.

Emergency Resolutions

1. To be considered an emergency resolution the following conditions must exist:
   a. The need for legislation was not evident prior to April 1.
   b. Reaction to a recent event that warrants a definition of position that serves as a basis for PTA action.
   c. An event after April 1 pointed to the need for an immediate addition to PTA concerns listed in the *Where We Stand*. Emergency resolutions may be presented to the convention if received in the New York State PTA Office at least ten (10) business days prior to the opening of convention or, if the need is not known before the ten (10) business day deadline, to the Resolutions Coordinator prior to the opening of convention.
2. The Executive Committee shall determine if the resolution truly represents an emergency.
3. An emergency resolution:
   a. Must be signed by the president or region director and secretary of the submitting body, which may be a unit, council, region or state PTA.
   b. Must be accompanied by background information to document each “Whereas” clause, in accordance with guidelines.
   c. Must be accepted by the Executive Committee before being presented to the delegate body.
   d. Must be duplicated by the submitting group in sufficient quantities for distribution to the delegate body.
   e. May be explained by the submitting group for two (2) minutes before the delegate body takes action.
   f. May be brought to the floor when moved by a delegate and seconded after the motion to discuss the emergency resolution has been approved.
4. Supportive materials for emergency resolutions shall be handled the same as for any other resolution.
   a. Convention Coordinator must approve distribution of materials to the delegate body.
   b. The ushers will distribute supportive materials at the convention room door.

Distribution of Printed Materials

1. Any voting delegate who wishes to have printed material distributed either for or against any proposed resolution or updated resolution must submit three (3) copies of same to the New York State PTA Office, no later than fifteen (15) business days before the opening of state convention.
2. A copy of any printed material that is supportive of a proposed resolution should be sent to the New York State PTA Office fifteen (15) business days before convention.
3. Any material supportive of positions to be retained should be sent to the Resolutions Coordinator.
4. Once permission is granted to distribute material at convention, it will be the obligation of that delegate to supply the copies in a manner stipulated at the time.
5. Every paper distributed must state the submitter’s name and address, name of unit, council or region that it represents and must be approved, dated and signed by the Convention Coordinator.

2026 PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS

RETENTIONS

Retention #1:

PAPER RECYCLING AND RECYCLED PAPER USE – 2019 (R-'12, R-'05, R-'98, R-'91)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) urge units and councils to reduce paper waste and encourage schools to reduce paper waste, and be it further

Resolved that NYS PTA units and councils encourage PTAs at local, region, state and national levels to use recycled paper in their PTA work, and be it further

Resolved that NYS PTA units and councils urge National PTA to promote the use of recycled paper and paper recycling in schools.

Statement: This resolution should be retained. While guidelines do exist for schools, state, and government agencies, advocacy is still needed to ensure that those guidelines are being followed and that electronic communications and publications are used whenever possible.

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

Update #1:

FAIR HOUSING – 2019 (U-'12, U-'05, R-'98, R-'91, R-'84)

Resolved ~~*that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) urge its units to be aware of discriminatory housing practices against families with children, particularly single-parent, minority, and LGBTQ+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer (or questioning) and others), and be it further*~~

Resolved ~~*that NYS PTA urge its units to promote programs disseminating information of fair housing laws and the rights of individuals under those laws, and be it further*~~

Resolved that NYS PTA support measures to strengthen ~~*existing laws to promote stronger*~~ enforcement of fair housing laws that protect ~~*single parents, minorities, and LGBTQ+*~~ individuals based on characteristics that can include but are not limited to race, color, religion, national origin, sex (including gender identity, sexual orientation, or expression), familial status, and disability.

Statement: This resolution should be updated. The first two resolved statements should be removed because they fall outside the scope and responsibilities of NYS PTA leaders. Though laws exist that prohibit discrimination in housing practices, advocacy is still needed to protect families by increased consistency in enforcement. The protected

classes listed have been expanded to include characteristics in the federal fair housing law.

Update #2:

FINES AND/OR SERVICES FOR VANDALISM – 2019 (R-'12, R-'05, R-'98, U-'91, R-'84)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) urge that school districts and courts provide counseling **and implement restorative practices** ~~*or other preventive educational measures*~~ for all students who have been found guilty of vandalism to school property, and be it further

Resolved ~~*that NYS PTA urge that when courts find a minor guilty of vandalizing school property, school boards set restitution through the court in the form of service to the school community and fines to cover the cost of the vandalism. to the legal limit, and be it further*~~

Resolved ~~*that, if the vandals and/or their parents are unable to provide full monetary compensation, additional service to the school or community be sought in lieu of, or in addition to, the fines, and be it further*~~

Resolved for those incidents of vandalism which are not brought to the courts, school districts adopt policies establishing consequences **that implement restorative practices** such as service to the school or community for the students involved.

Statement: This resolution should be updated. The original resolution submitted in 1977 with recommendations for court and school board sanctions was an overstep of NYS PTA's authority, and those statements have been removed. We feel strongly that the implementation of restorative practices for instances of vandalism on school property is an important component in supporting families and youth and is in line with NYS PTA's mission and vision.

Update #3:

ABSENTEE NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES – 2019 (R-'12, R-'05, R-'98, R-'91, U-'84)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) seek legislation that would **amend** ~~*repeal*~~ Sections 2c and 2d of NYS Education Law 3213 **to include middle and high school students and automatically enroll all parents/guardians into the school district's absentee notification procedure that will inform them in a prompt and expedient manner of a child's absence from school via phone, text, or email.** ~~*, and be it further*~~

Resolved ~~*that NYS PTA seek legislation that would require that persons in parent/guardian relationships of all school-aged students be notified that they may submit a written request for notification by phone, text, or email of a child's absence from school in a*~~

~~*prompt and expedient manner by the school district., which includes the telephone number & email address of the person(s) to be notified, and be it further*~~

Resolved ~~*that the written request includes the telephone number of the person or persons to be notified and any other information to facilitate communication, and be it further*~~

Resolved ~~*that said notification take place by the most prompt and expedient manner possible by a person or persons authorized by the school district, and be it further*~~

Resolved ~~*that NYS PTA urge its units and councils to educate persons in parental relationships as to the reasons for and significance of completion of the request for notification form.*~~

Statement: This resolution should be updated to expand the notification procedures to include middle and high school students and to automatically include parents/guardians in the notification practice rather than requiring parents to opt in.

Update #4:

PARTICIPATION IN DECISION-MAKING – 2019 (R-'12, R-'05, R-'98, R-'91, R-'84)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) urge ~~*its*~~ **NYS PTA units, councils, and regions** ~~*regions, councils and units*~~ to **provide** ~~*place greater emphasis on*~~ training **and resources to** ~~*its*~~ members **regarding** ~~*to analyze*~~ programs, curricula, ~~*and*~~ school budgets**,** ~~*and to better comprehend*~~ education law, and school district policies and procedures, **so that members are prepared** ~~*thereby preparing members*~~ **to engage in shared decision-making** ~~*effectively advocate engage in more knowledgeable discussion*~~ with educators, school boards, and legislators **for issues affecting students and youth.** ~~*in order to convey priorities, innovative approaches, and options necessary to maintain quality education for all children.*~~

Statement: This resolution should be updated for clarity. It is essential that members have the knowledge they need to advocate effectively on behalf of PTA for issues affecting children and youth. NYS PTA stands ready as a resource alongside National PTA to provide information and support units, councils, and regions with implementation of this resolution and in shared decision-making on all issues affecting students and youth.

Update #5:

REDUCING AND PHASING OUT THE USE OF POLYVINYL CHLORIDE (PVC) PLASTIC IN NEW YORK SCHOOLS – 2019 (R-'12)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) seek and support legislation that ~~*would reduce and phase out the use of PVC products at all New York State school facilities.*~~ **reduces the use of polyvinyl chloride (PVC) products in New York State school facilities and prioritizes the adoption of safer, cost-effective, and environmentally preferable alternatives that promote healthy learning environments and reduce potential health and environmental risks**, and be it further

Resolved that NYS PTA urge school districts and the New York State Education Department to develop ~~*green procurement policies to reduce and phase out the use and purchase of PVC building materials and office and education supplies in school facilities where safer cost-effective alternatives are available.*~~ **and implement sustainable policies for the procurement and replacement of PVC products and to prioritize the purchase of safer, cost-effective, and environmentally preferable alternatives that support healthy school environments.**

Resolved that NYS PTA ~~*and its constituent units educate parents and community members about the potential health effects of PVC and work to eliminate PVC products at all PTA-sponsored events.*~~ **encourage its units, councils, and regions to educate and engage parents, guardians, families, educators, school personnel, and community members about the potential health and environmental impacts associated with PVC products and the availability of safer, sustainable, cost-effective alternatives that support healthy school environments.**

Statement: This resolution should be updated to include current terminology, widen the focus of education efforts to include educators and school personnel, and to emphasize the adverse environmental and health impacts of using PVC materials and the existence of safer and more sustainable alternatives.

Update #6:

AIR QUALITY STANDARDS IN INDOOR ICE ARENAS – 2019 (R-'12)

Resolved ~~*that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) urge the New York State Department of Health (NYS DOH) to establish air quality standards of less than 20 parts per million (ppm) for carbon monoxide (CO) within enclosed ice arenas, and be it further*~~

Resolved ~~*that NYS PTA urge the NYS DOH to establish air quality standards of less than 0.3 ppm of nitrogen dioxide (NO2) within enclosed ice arenas, and be it further*~~

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) urge the New York State Department of Health to establish ~~*air quality standards for less than 50 micrograms per cubic meter for course particulate matter (PM 10) and less than 12 micrograms per cubic meter for fine particulate matter (PM 2.5) within enclosed ice arenas.*~~ **indoor particulate matter standards for enclosed ice arenas that are aligned with current health-based guidance, including particulate matter concentrations consistent with current Environmental Protection Agency standards and continuous monitoring of particulate matter levels, with corrective ventilation and mitigation measures when elevated concentrations are detected**, and be it further

Resolved that NYS PTA support legislation ~~*for low-emission or electric resurfacers, including proper maintenance thereof, within enclosed ice arenas.*~~ and non-competitive utility rebate opportunities that encourage the transition to low-emission or zero-emission ice

resurfacing equipment, including electric resurfacers, and require proper maintenance and operation of all resurfacing equipment within enclosed ice arenas to reduce harmful air pollutants and protect public health, and be it further

Resolved that NYS PTA seek and support legislation ~~*that requires adequate ventilation and the installation of air quality measuring devices in all enclosed ice arenas.*~~ **requiring all enclosed ice arenas to install and maintain air quality measuring devices and conduct continuous or routine air quality monitoring**, and be it further

Resolved that NYS PTA seek and support **legislation and** regulations requiring ~~*proper training of operators and staff in maintenance and use of equipment and in emergency procedures*~~. **ongoing training for ice arena operators and staff in the operation and maintenance of equipment, indoor air quality standards, and emergency procedures**, and be it further

Resolved that NYS PTA urge its units, councils and regions to **educate and** advocate for ~~*the education of parents/guardians and community members about the dangers of elevated levels of CO, NO2 and particulate matter in enclosed ice arenas.*~~ **increased awareness among parents/guardians, families, athletes, coaches, and community members regarding the health risks associated with exposure to carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen dioxide (NO_2), and particulate matter in enclosed ice arenas; how to recognize the signs and symptoms of exposure, appropriate response measures, and the reporting of potential indoor air quality hazards.**

Statement: This resolution should be updated to ensure that NYS PTA advocacy reflects current scientific research, modern air quality management practices, and updated public health standards regarding indoor air quality in enclosed ice arenas. Since this resolution was adopted the air quality standards we sought have been achieved and the thresholds for exposure to CO, NO_2, and particulate matter have been lowered, creating stricter regulations for air quality in enclosed ice arenas. New York State still lacks a comprehensive regulatory framework specifically addressing indoor air quality in enclosed ice arenas, making continued PTA advocacy both necessary and timely. Updating this resolution provides an opportunity to promote continuous air quality monitoring and modern ventilation practices and strengthen support for low and zero-emission resurfacing.

Update #7:

EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF STATE AID – 2019 (R-'12, R-'05, R-'98, R-'91, R-'84)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) **advocate for** ~~*support*~~ full, equitable, and adequate funding of all public schools, **including restructuring the existing Foundation Aid Formula to ensure student needs are met** and ~~*development of an equitable*~~ **that the** distribution of state funds**,** ~~*to*~~ provide equal and equitable educational opportunities for all public-school students.~~*, and be it further*~~

Resolved ~~*that NYS PTA continue to urge the legislature and the governor to increase public education funds to ensure beyond a sound basic education for all children.*~~

Statement: This resolution should be updated for stronger, clearer language. Foundation Aid is currently fully funded by New York State, but the formula used to determine the amount of aid provided to individual school districts does not provide equitable funding statewide. Additional advocacy is needed to revise the Foundation Aid Formula to more accurately reflect the needs of each community and the equitable distribution of state education funds.

Update #8:

~~*AWARENESS OF*~~ MEDICATION MANAGEMENT IN SCHOOLS – 2019 (R-'12, R-'05, R-'98)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) **require** ~~*urge units and councils to encourage*~~ school districts to **strictly adhere to** ~~*ensure implementation of*~~ New York State regulations and guidelines **regarding administration and management of prescription medication**, and be it further

Resolved that NYS PTA **require school districts to develop meaningful** ~~*as well as*~~ local ~~*school*~~ policies and procedures regarding administration and management of prescription medication **and notify parents, guardians, and families of the policies and procedures**, and be it further

Resolved ~~*that NYS PTA urge units and councils to provide programs and information to raise awareness through education of adults in a parental role regarding access to medications, and be it further*~~

Resolved that NYS PTA **require** ~~*support*~~ annual in-service **training** ~~*programs*~~ for **all** faculty and staff that include awareness of symptoms of **medical emergencies and** identified medical conditions for students under their supervision.

Statement: This resolution should be updated to strengthen the language regarding strict adherence to the existing regulations. The second resolved statement should be removed, since providing medical training on the administration of medications is beyond the scope of NYS PTA's role. District-provided training should be expanded to include all district staff to allow them to respond appropriately to medical emergencies for students.

Update #9:

TV AND INTERNET **PARENTAL** CONTROL**S** ~~*DEVICES*~~ – 2019 (R-'12, R-'05, U-'98, R-'91, R-'84)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) urge PTA units to educate their members **about** ~~*as to*~~ the availability of parent**al** control**s** ~~*devices*~~ for both TV and the Internet.

Statement: This resolution should be updated to remain current with usage of the internet and devices used by youth and adolescents. There is still a need for increased awareness of the parental controls available to parents, guardians, and families.

Update #10:

BAN OF STANDARDIZED TESTING OF YOUNG CHILDREN – 2019 (U-'12, R-'05, R-'98, R-'91)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) **encourage** ~~*local*~~ school districts to stop the mass use of standardized tests from pre-school through second grade (with the exception of mandated bilingual and certain special education assessments), and be it further

Resolved that NYS PTA **advise** ~~*urge*~~ local school districts to develop and replace standardized tests below the third grade with alternative, **developmentally appropriate** assessment methods ~~*that go by various names (authentic, appropriate, performance-based and direct)*~~ **which** ~~*and*~~ will provide useful data and genuine accountability, and be it further

Resolved that NYS PTA urge that the **New York** State Education Department, **the New York** State Board of Regents, **the New York** State Legislature, and local school districts not ~~*NOT*~~ call for new or additional standardized tests below the third grade, **while working to** ~~*and*~~ **reduce or cease reliance** ~~*NOT rely*~~ on existing standardized tests below the third grade as indicators of educational progress, and be it further

Resolved to **encourage** ~~*urge*~~ **New York State PTA units and** councils ~~*and local units*~~ to provide information to parents about developmentally appropriate alternative **assessment methods that recognize diverse learning styles and provide meaningful measures of student progress and achievement.** ~~*means of assessment*~~.

Statement: This resolution should be updated for stronger, clearer language. Current standardized tests are not developmentally appropriate for young learners and do not accurately reflect their capabilities, nor do they make accommodations for the strengths and needs of diverse learners. While classroom assessments can provide usable data that can be used to inform instruction, standardized test scores should never be used in decisions regarding student promotion or retention, and should never be the sole measure of student achievement or progress for young children.

Update #11:

FUNDRAISING POSITION – 2019 (R-'12, R-'05, R-'98)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) seek to prevent the exploitation of children through fundraising by NYS PTA units, councils, and regions, and be it further

Resolved that children and youth should never sell door-to-door for **NYS** PTA, and be it further

Resolved that children and youth should never be offered **individual** prize incentives for fundraising, and be it further

Resolved that NYS PTA educate units and councils about the dangers involved in fundraising practices which ~~*utilize*~~ **exploit** children in the generation of sales and revenue, and be it further

Resolved that all **NYS** PTA~~s~~ **units, councils, and regions align** ~~*reexamine*~~ their fundraising practices **with** ~~*as to whether those activities promote*~~ **NYS** PTA's **mission and vision.** ~~*objects and purposes*~~.

Statement: This resolution should be updated to strengthen the existing language in NYS PTA guidelines that prevent the exploitation of children in NYS PTA fundraising efforts.

RESCISSIONS

Rescission #1

MARIJUANA – 2019 (U-'12, R-'05, R-'98, U-'91, R-'84)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) reaffirm its position against the legalization of marijuana, except for medical use approved by the Food and Drug Administration or NYS Law, and continue to work toward the education of children, parents, families, and communities regarding the harmful effects from recreational marijuana use.

Statement: This resolution should be rescinded. National PTA has a current position statement on the dangers of marijuana use among children and adolescents. As a constituent association of National PTA, this is also our position. The position statement addresses regulations, signs and symptoms of acute marijuana intoxication, and the promotion and marketing of cannabis products to youth. NYS PTA encourages continued advocacy and education using this position statement.

Rescission #2

UNDERAGE ACCESS RESULTING FROM THE DIRECT SHIPPING OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – 2019 (U-'12, U-'05, R-'98)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) seek and support legislation that would make the sale of alcoholic beverages over the Internet to minors and the subsequent delivery to minors a felony with increased fines and penalties, and be it further

Resolved that NYS PTA seek and support legislation that would prohibit marketing via social media, as well as traditional advertising platforms, geared to attracting youth, and be it further

Resolved that NYS PTA urge units and councils to educate their members about the ease of access to alcohol on the Internet, by mail, by telephone and through the use of credit/debit cards and any other electronic payment methods, and be it further

Resolved that NYS PTA urge units and councils to educate their members about the risks involved and the need for vigilance in safeguarding credit cards.

Statement: This resolution should be rescinded. National PTA has a resolution entitled Preventing Solicitation of Adult Products to Minors that addresses this issue. As a constituent association of National PTA, this is also our position. NYS PTA will continue to advocate for the enforcement of social host laws and education about alcohol and substance abuse prevention, as stated in our accepted resolutions.

Rescission #3

MIGRANT CHILDREN – 2019 (R-'12, R-'05, R-'98, R-'91, U-'84)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) encourage local and state educational agencies to develop and implement processes that improve migrant students' access to secondary school services in the following areas: instructional opportunities, credit accumulation, and counseling and support services.

Statement: This resolution should be rescinded. In 2026, National PTA adopted an updated position on Immigrant and mixed status families. This position addresses access to education and the health and safety of immigrant and mixed status students. National PTA also has a position statement, "Education Emphasis," addressing access and equity of education for underserved populations, including migrant children. As a constituent organization of National PTA, these are also our positions. These position statements allow for strong advocacy on behalf of migrant children.

Rescission #4

HEALTHY CHOICES – 2019 (R-'12, R-'05)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) raise awareness of and educate children and youth, parents, school personnel, and the community about healthy choices, and be it further

Resolved that NYS PTA encourage units and councils to advocate for healthy choices in the home, school and community, and be it further

Resolved that NYS PTA urge parents to participate in school wellness committees and work to establish policies regarding healthy choices, and be it further

Resolved that NYS PTA encourage decision makers, including legislators, to implement, support and fund programs and activities that foster healthy choices.

Statement: This resolution should be rescinded. The advocacy items listed here are covered in other, existing resolutions, and the adopted New York State Standards for Health, Physical Education, and Family and Consumer Sciences require instruction for students on healthy eating habits, the importance of physical exercise, healthy relationships, and the dangers of alcohol and substance use. Additionally, the required mental health

standards also include instruction for students about healthy choices to improve mental wellness.

Rescission #5

ELIMINATION OF TRANS FATS FROM SCHOOL FOODS – 2019 (R-'12, R-'05)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) is concerned about obesity and other diet-related diseases and their effects upon children and youth and supports the elimination of non-naturally occurring trans fats from school foods, and be it further

Resolved that NYS PTA actively work to reduce non-naturally occurring trans fats from school meals, à la carte vending choices, foods available for sale at after-school events and other events, and foods used in fundraising, and be it further

Resolved that NYS PTA encourage units and councils to work actively to educate school administrators, faculty, food service providers, parents, and children about healthy food choices.

Statement: This resolution should be rescinded. Non-naturally occurring trans fats are heavily regulated and prohibited by the Food and Drug Administration, which has effectively removed them from the food supply, including in school foods. New York State law prohibits artificial trans fats in foods, including school foods. NYS PTA continues to advocate for good nutrition, healthy school meals, increasing physical activity/wellness, reducing childhood obesity, and maintaining healthy schools in other resolutions and position papers.

Rescission #6

MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE INSURANCE PARITY – 2019 (U-'12, U-'05)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) urge units and councils to work to educate parents and the school community about parity issues and available mental health and substance use services and programs.

Statement: This resolution should be rescinded. New York State passed a Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Health Insurance Coverage Parity law in 2024 that provides parity for insurance coverage. NYS PTA is committed to educating families and school communities about mental health and substance use insurance parity, individuals' rights to equitable coverage, and the resources available to support children and families. NYS PTA will continue to advocate for timely, affordable, culturally responsive, and appropriate mental health and substance use services that promote the health, safety, and well-being of all children.

Rescission #7

INGREDIENT LABELING – 2019 (R-'12, R-'98, R-'91, R-'84)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) support legislation that would require full disclosure, in clear language, of all ingredients and additives, (including chemical additives) on food, drug, water, and cosmetic labels, and be it further

Resolved that NYS PTA encourage its units and councils to educate its members as to the importance of reading labels and understanding the possible significance of the effects of the listed ingredients on the human body in order to protect the nutrition and health of children.

Statement: This resolution should be rescinded. A bill has passed both the NYS Assembly and Senate to require the date labeling of food items, a law was enacted to require the listing of possible allergens, and the NYS Department of Agriculture has established rules for the labeling of ingredients for packaged foods. Federal regulations now exist that require the labeling of ingredients for cosmetics, and the Modernization Cosmetics Regulation Act of 2022 requires ingredient lists for cosmetic products.

Rescission #8

SAFEGUARDING EXPLOITED AND MISSING CHILDREN – 2019 (R-'12, R-'05, R-'98, R-'91, R-'84)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) urge school districts to develop procedures for the registration of new students that would include a special check on individual students whose records are missing, incomplete, or suspicious to verify their validity, and be it further

Resolved that NYS PTA seek and support legislation that will toughen the laws and enforce more stringent punishment for perpetrators of serious and repeated sexual abuse crimes and murders of children.

Statement: This resolution should be rescinded. At their 2026 Convention, National PTA passed the updated resolution, "Child Fingerprinting Identification" which contains much more specific safeguards for missing and exploited children. The Missing Children's Assistance Reauthorization Act of 2023 renews the Missing Children's Assistance Act (MCAA) and makes critical updates to help the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) better respond to crimes affecting children. The second resolved statement was added in a previous review cycle and deviates from the original intent of the resolution.

Rescission #9

TEACHING OUR CHILDREN PERSONAL SAFETY – 2019 (R-'12, R-'05, R-'98, R-'91)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) encourage each unit and council to promote educational programs (for parents, families, children and youth) based on currently mandated NYS Education Department Personal Health and Fitness, and Safe and Healthy Environment Standards with emphasis upon personal safety techniques.

Statement: This resolution should be rescinded. The New York State Learning Standards for Health, Physical Education, and Family and Consumer Sciences include guidelines for instruction on healthy choices and personal safety. Revised in 2020, the NYS Physical Education Standards focus on six anchor standards targeting motor skills, movement concepts, physical fitness, personal/social behavior, wellness, and career opportunities. Since topics regarding children's personal safety and health are covered in the required curricula for health, physical education, and family and consumer science courses, additional programs are not necessary.

Rescission #10

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. (NYS PTA), 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) Programs should be arranged for other than school hours (evenings or Saturday) so that there is no possibility of fingerprinting a child without a parent's 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.

Statement: This resolution should be rescinded. National PTA adopted an updated resolution at their 2026 Convention entitled "Child Fingerprinting Identification" that addresses this issue with stronger recommendations and updated legislation. As a constituent association of National PTA, this is also our position.

COMBINED UPDATE AND RESCISSION *(*NEW IS **BOLD AND UNDERLINED**,
REMOVED IS ~~*STRIKE THROUGH AND ITALICIZED*~~*)*

Update & Rescission #1

UPDATE - **TRAFFIC SIGNAL INSTALLATION AT** ~~*IDENTIFYING UNSAFE*~~ SCHOOL CROSSINGS ~~*ON STATE OWNED ROADS*~~ – 2019 (R-'12, R-'05, R-'98)

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) support the passage of legislation which would enable the Department of Transportation **at the state, county, and local levels** to expend funds on identified risk areas ~~*and*~~ for the purpose of **installation and maintenance** ~~*erecting, maintaining and upkeep*~~ of traffic signals **at school crossings** on state, county and local roads.

Statement: This resolution should be updated and the resolution "Traffic light installation at schools which are located on state owned roads" should be rescinded. The 1986 law (§ 1681. State traffic-control devices) prohibits state funds from being used to erect and maintain traffic signals on state roads at the entrances to schools, so advocacy on this issue is still needed. These resolutions have been combined to provide clarity by combining two resolutions on the same topic.

RESCISSION - 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. (NYS PTA) support the passage of legislation that would enable the Department of Transportation (DOT) to expend funds for the installation and maintenance of traffic lights at schools which are located on state owned roads.

Statement: This resolution should be rescinded. The content of the resolution is duplicated in the resolution entitled "Traffic signal installation at school crossings." The two resolutions have been combined for clarity and to prevent duplicate resolutions on the same topic.

NEW RESOLUTIONS

New Resolution #1

SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS

Whereas the mental health and well-being of students are foundational to their academic success, attendance, and lifelong resilience, and rates of anxiety, depression, and trauma symptoms among youth have significantly increased, and school social workers play a vital role in addressing students' social, emotional, and behavioral needs, connecting families with community resources, and supporting safe, inclusive school climates; and the recommended ratio of one school social worker for every 250 students (1:250) is unmet, and

Whereas understaffing in school social work positions leads to unmanageable caseloads, delayed interventions, and insufficient capacity to address crises, particularly in high-need, under-resourced, and marginalized communities, and schools with more adequate staffing of school social workers and mental health professionals experience improved academic achievement, reduced dropout rates, lower disciplinary actions, and better student engagement. Therefore, be it

Resolved that the New York State Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (NYS PTA) encourages the New York State Education Department to develop a statewide plan for school-based mental health staffing, integrating school social workers, counselors, and psychologists to ensure equitable access across districts, and be it further

Resolved that the NYS PTA urges the State Education Department and the Board of Regents to establish a maximum number of students per school social worker in all public schools, and that this ratio does not exceed 250 to 1, and be it further

Resolved that NYS PTA urges increased, continuing, adequate, and sustainable state and federal funding, and when offered, non-competitive grant funding for certified school social work positions as part of multidisciplinary mental health teams and comprehensive mental health services in all public schools, and be it further

Resolved that the NYS PTA and its local units, councils, and regions urge their Boards of Education and superintendents to prioritize inclusion of school social work positions in district budgets and strategic plans and to collaborate with community partners to strengthen school-based mental health networks.

If further information on a new resolution is necessary, please email pta.office@nyspta.org.

2026 PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS - Checklist

RETENTIONS	**YES**	**NO**
1. PAPER RECYCLING AND RECYCLED PAPER USE	____	____

UPDATES	**YES**	**NO**
1. FAIR HOUSING	____	____
2. FINES AND/OR SERVICES FOR VANDALISM	____	____
3. ABSENTEE NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES	____	____
4. PARTICIPATION IN DECISION-MAKING	____	____
5. REDUCING AND PHASING OUT THE USE OF POLYVINYL CHLORIDE (PVC) PLASTIC IN NEW YORK SCHOOLS	____	____
6. AIR QUALITY STANDARDS IN INDOOR ICE ARENAS	____	____
7. EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF STATE AID	____	____
8. AWARENESS OF MEDICATION MANAGEMENT IN SCHOOLS	____	____
9. TV AND INTERNET CONTROL DEVICES	____	____
10. BAN OF STANDARDIZED TESTING OF YOUNG CHILDREN	____	____
11. FUNDRAISING POSITION	____	____

RESCISSIONS	**YES**	**NO**
1. MARIJUANA	____	____
2. UNDERAGE ACCESS RESULTING FROM THE DIRECT SHIPPING OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES	____	____
3. MIGRANT CHILDREN	____	____
4. HEALTHY CHOICES	____	____
5. ELIMINATION OF TRANS FATS FROM SCHOOL FOODS	____	____
6. MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE INSURANCE PARITY	____	____
7. INGREDIENT LABELING	____	____
8. SAFEGUARDING EXPLOITED AND MISSING CHILDREN	____	____
9. TEACHING OUR CHILDREN PERSONAL SAFETY	____	____
10. FINGERPRINTING CHILDREN	____	____

COMBINED UPDATE AND RESCISSION	**YES**	**NO**
1. UPDATE - IDENTIFYING UNSAFE SCHOOL CROSSINGS ON STATE OWNED ROADS	____	____
2. RESCISSION - TRAFFIC LIGHT INSTALLATION AT SCHOOLS WHICH ARE LOCATED ON STATE OWNED ROADS	____	____

NEW RESOLUTIONS	**YES**	**NO**
1. SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS	____	____