



Texas PTA 2020 Legislative Resolutions

Safe Neighborhoods

- Resolved, that Texas PTA supports a statewide focus on making it safer to get to and from schools by all modes of travel;
- Resolved, that Texas PTA urges local jurisdictions to develop comprehensive safe routes to school plans;
- Resolved, that Texas PTA urges the governor and legislature to prioritize state funding for transportation, including funding dedicated to Safe Routes to School, and other safety interventions.

Crimes against Children

- Resolved that anyone convicted of sexual offenses against children should receive the maximum sentence allowed by law and encourage that the offender should be required to serve the full sentence without the option of parole.
- Resolved that anyone convicted of murdering a child should receive the maximum possible sentence allowed by law and encourage that the offender should be required to serve the sentence without the option of parole.

Parental Involvement

- Resolved that Texas PTA encourage teacher preparation programs to include courses on parental involvement.
- Resolved that Texas PTA request the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) to require proficiency in parental involvement for state teacher certification.

Sexually Oriented Businesses

- Resolved that the Texas PTA encourage and support Local PTAs/PTSAs to work with the government officials and policy makers in their communities to ensure that sexually oriented businesses or signs advertising these businesses are not located within 1,000 feet of residential areas, schools, religious facilities, libraries, recreational facilities, public parks, school activity centers or thoroughfares used regularly by school buses transporting children.

Summer Food Service

- Resolved that Texas PTA and its constituent bodies encourage school districts to participate in the Summer Food Service Program.

Cement Kilns

- Resolved that Texas PTA support state and federal regulations to require all facilities hazardous and toxic wastes and/or tires to meet the same standards regulating commercial hazardous waste incinerator facilities.
- Resolved that Texas PTA support state and federal regulations that require the labeling of all products produced or derived from facilities burning hazardous and toxic wastes and/or tires so that consumers are aware of the composition of the product.
- Resolved that Texas PTA support notification of the public prior to the issuing, renewing, and expanding of permits for these facilities.
- Resolved that Texas PTA support requiring all facilities that burn hazardous and toxic



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waste and /or tires comply with at least the same regulatory standards as those applied to commercial hazardous waste incinerator facilities (unless these facilities are within a five-mile radius of a school; where upon, the regulatory standards must be set at levels that are not considered dangerous to the health and safety of children (ages 3 years old and up).

- Resolved that this resolution is local, state, and national in scope, meets the objects of PTA, and should be forwarded to National PTA Convention Delegates.

Strong School Libraries

- Resolved that Texas PTA encourages districts to provide highly qualified certified librarians and quality school library programs at every campus.
- Resolved that Texas PTA urges the state of Texas to recognize all districts that provide highly qualified, certified librarians and quality school library programs at every campus.

Reduction in Childhood Obesity

- Resolved that Texas PTA is dedicated to the reduction and prevention of childhood obesity in Texas. Texas PTA will continue to advocate for regular physical activity in schools and support efforts to improve the nutritional value of foods and beverages served in schools throughout the state.

Violence Prevention in Schools

- Resolved that the Texas PTA, its units and councils reaffirm its commitment to the promotion and
- support of violence prevention in schools and communities.
- Resolved that the Texas PTA encourage its units and councils to promote education of parents, students, teachers and the community in recognizing signs and circumstances that may lead to potential outbursts of violence.
- Resolved that the Texas PTA support efforts to ensure that adequate counseling and other support services are available in the elementary, middle and secondary schools of Texas.
- Resolved that the Texas PTA support measures to improve the ability of school staff to respond to incidents that may occur and promote the inclusion of violence reduction programs in the elementary, middle and secondary schools.

Fine Arts in The Core Curriculum

- Resolved that Texas PTA supports fine arts in the core curriculum, both in stand-alone fine art classes and integrated into the other core curriculum.

School Recess

- Resolved that Texas PTA supports at least one period of recess for at
- least 20 minutes per period for every elementary student every day that school is in session; and be it further Resolved that Texas PTA associations supports both recess and physical education classes; and be it further
- Resolved that Texas PTA recommends that Texas school districts develop policies for school recess that include unstructured outdoor play, unstructured indoor play for inclement weather days, educating students on safe playground rules, ensuring the



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safety of playground equipment and developing an adequate adult to student ratio that should not exceed one adult to 30 students; and be it further

- Resolved that the Texas PTA opposes any child being denied from school recess as a disciplinary measure, for academic reasons, or inappropriate classroom behavior; and be it further
- Resolved that this resolution be forwarded to National PTA.

Funding

- Resolved that Texas PTA urges the governor and the state legislature to provide adequate funding for instructional materials as required by the Texas Constitution.
- Resolved that Texas PTA urges the governor and the Texas Legislature to fully fund the state's share of public education, at least 50% of the cost, and to fund enrollment growth each year.

School Choice

- Resolved that Texas PTA assume a leadership position in raising questions and exploring ideas that will help legislators, policy makers and school districts make sound judgments on issues of public and private school choice.
- Resolved that Texas PTA recommends that choice options and alternatives for public schools should ensure that a viable public school system is sustained in every community; parents have the opportunity for involvement in their children's education; a fair and equitable selection process is maintained for schools of choice; adequate and objective information is provided so that parents can make informed public and private choice decisions for all children, including those with special needs, have equal opportunity to participate in the choice plan; and appropriate and free transportation is provided for all students participating in the public and private choice plan.

Violence Prevention Education

- Resolved that Texas PTA shall promote education youth and the community about violence and shall promote providing practical skills for preventing violence.
- Resolved that Texas PTA supports training children in nonviolent conflict resolution training and youth violence prevention.
- Resolved that all faculty and staff in schools receive nonviolent conflict resolution training.

Safe Schools

- Resolved that Texas PTA commits to making all schools safe by offering support for implementing school
- policies that do not tolerate weapons, assaults, sexual harassment, or drugs.
- Resolved that Texas PTA commits to making all schools safe by supporting the removal of students involved in violent acts from the regular school program.
- Resolved that Texas PTA supports providing, to the extent possible, alternative placements for students removed from the regular school program.
- Resolved that Texas PTA commits to working collaboratively with community agencies; city, county and state governments; and the judiciary to resolve issues affecting school and community safety.



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- Resolved that Texas PTA supports providing opportunities for schools and students to prepare for these changes.
- Resolved that Texas PTA urges all families to make a special commitment to review and support the local student code of conduct, to sending students to school on a regular basis, and to working with schools regarding all aspects of student learning.

Playground Safety

- Resolved that Texas PTA urges their local units to encourage their local school boards or appropriate entities to adopt a playground maintenance checklist to insure safe play areas for our children.

Door-to-Door Fundraising Prohibition

- Resolved that all local units refrain from organizing and participating in any fundraising activities that may entice a student to go door to door.
- Resolved that Texas PTA educate the local unit PTA boards, principals, administrators and parents to the existing standards and guidelines concerning the role of children in fundraising.
- Resolved that Texas PTA inform potential exhibitors of PTA fundraising guidelines and admit only those exhibitors who adhere to those guidelines.

Parents Evaluating Administrators

- Resolved that Texas PTA will work with the Commissioner of Education to include Parental Involvement as one of the Performance Domains in administrator evaluation.
- Resolved that parental input be included in the evaluation process.

Expressing Support for Institute of Medicine Recommendations on Alcohol Advertising Placement

- Resolved that the Texas PTA supports that public health agencies monitor the placement and limitation of alcohol advertising.