

## PTA Mission

*Making every child's potential a reality by engaging, empowering, and being an advocate for all children and families.*



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## 2012 Ohio PTA Legislative Priorities and Position Statements

### **Purposes of PTA**

- To promote the welfare of children and youth in home, school, community and place of worship.
- To raise the standards of home life.
- To secure adequate laws for the care and protection of children and youth.
- To bring into closer relation the home and the school, that parents and teachers may cooperate intelligently in the education of children and youth.
- To develop between educators and the general public such united efforts as will secure for all children and youth the highest advantages in physical, mental, social and spiritual education.

## 2012 Ohio PTA Legislative Priorities

Ohio PTA promotes legislation designed to protect all children and youth; legislation designed to meet the education, health, and welfare needs of children and youth, and legislation designed to assist in preparing children and youth to intelligently assume the ever increasing responsibilities of citizenship.

### Ohio PTA 2012 #1 Main Focus Area

#### SUPPORT ADEQUATE EDUCATION FOR ALL CHILDREN

##### Position Statements:

- Ohio PTA Board of Directors supports the concept of challenging our students to be successful through completing a rigorous curriculum.
- Ohio's school districts need to have the resources to provide such a curriculum through qualified teachers in the areas of math and science, adequate classroom physical space and supplies which do not exist.
- Access for remediation and developmental education will be universal throughout the state, not just at two year community colleges which are located in select areas of our state.
- Our PTAs through its units and councils will advocate to our decision makers to provide our school districts the resources to prepare our students for the challenges ahead to meet these expectations.

##### Education Funding:

- Funding to support an infrastructure for state support for family engagement.
- The financial responsibility for administering any background check should not negatively impact the volunteer organization or the volunteer activity.
- Support school funding reform.

##### Other Legislative Focus Areas

- Support increased physical activities during the school day for K-12 students.
- Support regulations on labeling and marketing energy drinks (stimulants) to any child 18 years of age or under.
- Support strong relations that will include Art education in the core requirements for a high quality comprehensive public education.
- Support only charter schools that are governed by local school boards, open to all students, do not divert moneys from public schools, comply with federal and state laws governing public schools and do not charge tuition or fees not charged by public schools.
- Oppose the use of public funds for non-public schools, vouchers and tax credits.
- Support privacy of student recruiters (in regards to military recruiters).
- Ohio PTA Board of Directors supports and promotes the Licensure Code of Professional Conduct for Ohio Educators.

##### Health and Safety Issues

- Support emphasis on the importance of nutrition education and encourage the implementation of a comprehensive nutrition program in Ohio schools.
- Support an increased cigarette tax and taxing of other tobacco products.
- Oppose the use of corporal punishment and promote effective research-supported disciplinary measures.
- Stand on firearms safety awareness.
- Stand on beverage choices in school vending machines.