

## Proposed Legislative Principles, Issues, and Resolutions

During the annual Washington State PTA (WSPTA) Legislative Assembly, delegates decide the public policy positions that guide state and local advocacy work for WSPTA and its associated local PTAs and councils.

The legislative assembly will take place on October 26-27, 2019. Delegates will vote on one new legislative principle and one amended legislative principle, one new legislative issue and one amended legislative issue, four new resolutions and 15 amendments to existing resolutions. Only the parts in shaded boxes are open for amendment and debate. Changes are shown as a ~~strikethrough~~ for deletions and as **underlined bold font** for additions. Legislative issues will be added to the supported list in alphabetical order, the Top 5 issues for the 2019 and 2020 legislative sessions will not change.

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### LEGISLATIVE PRINCIPLE UPDATE

*For information purposes. Action taken by the WSPTA board of directors. No action required by delegates.*

The legislative principle categories fall under the purview of the WSPTA Board of Directors. Based on a recommendation from the WSPTA Advocacy Committee, the board of directors adopted the following update to the legislative principle below:

**Category:** ~~Parent and Family Involvement~~ **Family and Community Engagement**

The WSPTA shall identify and initiate education and action on public policy that increases ~~parent and family involvement~~ **family and community engagement** based on the PTA's National Standards for Family-School Partnerships by advocating for and promoting ~~parent involvement~~ **family and community engagement** provisions in state legislation affecting children and youth. This also includes advocating for:

- Pre- and in-service training opportunities on ~~Parent/Family Involvement~~ **family and community engagement** for school personnel
- Employee release time for ~~parent/family involvement~~ **family and community engagement**
- Outreach to all communities, to increase awareness of the importance of ~~parent/family involvement~~ **family and community engagement** at every level of public policy

#### Rationale Statement from the WSPTA Board of Directors

The adopted change to this legislative principle category aligns with current PTA language of "Family and Community Engagement". The remaining changes are conforming edits so that standardized language is used throughout this legislative principle category. This standardizes the term "family" versus "parent" to be more inclusive of the wide variety of family types.

## LEGISLATIVE PRINCIPLES FOR CONSIDERATION

There is one new proposed legislative principle and one amended legislative principle for consideration. **Only the language in the shaded box can be amended.**

### Proposed New Legislative Principle #1 (Member Submitted)

*WSPTA Board of Directors' recommendation: Adopt*

**Category:** Family and Community Engagement

The WSPTA shall identify and initiate education and action on public policy that family and community engagement based on the PTA's National Standards for Family-School Partnerships by advocating for and promoting family and community engagement provisions in state legislation affecting children and youth. This also includes advocating for:

- Pre- and in-service training opportunities on family and community engagement for school personnel
- Employee release time for family and community engagement
- Outreach to all communities, to increase awareness of the importance of family and community engagement at every level of public policy
- **Creating a safe and welcoming school culture where all families and communities are offered a meaningful opportunity to participate**

#### Persuasive Statement from the Submitter

A school building is the hub of its community. Whether for a neighborhood celebration, shelter in an emergency, or a school activity, all events and happenings should include shared decision making and community voice.

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### Proposed Amendment Legislative Principle #2A (Member Submitted)

*WSPTA Board of Directors' recommendation: Amend (as presented in 2B) and then Adopt*

**Category:** Family and Community Engagement

The WSPTA shall identify and initiate education and action on public policy that family and community engagement based on the PTA's National Standards for Family-School Partnerships by advocating for and promoting family and community engagement provisions in state legislation affecting children and youth. This also includes advocating for:

- Pre- and in-service training opportunities on family and community engagement for school personnel
- Employee release time for family and community engagement
- Outreach to all communities, to increase awareness of the importance of family and community engagement at every level of public policy **including site-based decisions**

#### Rationale Statement from the Submitter

The current principle should be updated to empower stakeholders to be a part of the school community, engendering further interest in the school by parents, neighbors, staff, and teachers. A consistent state-wide transparent system and process is needed for site-based decision making and volunteer management.

## Proposed Amendment Legislative Principle #2B (WSPTA Board of Directors' Amended Version)

**Category:** Family and Community Engagement

The WSPTA shall identify and initiate education and action on public policy that family and community engagement based on the PTA's National Standards for Family-School Partnerships by advocating for and promoting family and community engagement provisions in state legislation affecting children and youth. This also includes advocating for:

- Pre- and in-service training opportunities on family and community engagement for school personnel
- Employee release time for family and community engagement
- Outreach to all communities to increase awareness of the importance of family and community engagement **engage parents and families** at every level of public policy **including site-based decisions**

### Rationale Statement from the WSPTA Board of Directors Regarding Amendment

Since the submitter's persuasive statement addressed transparent and consistent volunteer management, site-based can be interpreted as extremely narrow. Striking that allows each community to determine how shared decision making looks locally. "Engage parents and families" is active as opposed to "increase awareness".

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## LEGISLATIVE ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

There is one new proposed legislative issue and one amended legislative issue for consideration. **Only the title and description statements (in the shaded boxes) can be amended.**

### Proposed New Legislative Issue #1 (Member Submitted)

**WSPTA Board of Directors' recommendation: Adopt**

#### Equitable Identification of Highly Capable Students

The Washington State PTA shall support legislation or policies that achieve equitable representation of all demographic groups in highly capable programs, regardless of zip code, especially low-income students, students with disabilities ("twice exceptional"), English Language Learners, and highly mobile students by screening:

- All student by 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, and again by 6<sup>th</sup> grade; and
- At students' school of attendance, during the regular school day.

### Persuasive Statement from the Submitters

There is a large and disproportional under-representation of low-income students, students with disabilities ("twice exceptional"), English Language Learners, students from migrant families, highly mobile students, and students of color in highly capable programs statewide. This is because many districts use outdated, biased identification practices that favor parents who can successfully navigate the complex Highly Capable Program identification process.

Better universal identification practices exist and are being recommended by OSPI, but many districts are still not using them. Districts are still allowed to require a referral from a parent or educator, to test students after school or on weekends, and to hold tests in an unfamiliar location across town.

A major step forward to include more diversity in highly capable programs would be universal screening for all students in early and late elementary school, which is being done successfully in some Washington state school districts and has very strong research supporting this approach.

SB 5354 was introduced last session and featured universal screening as well as professional development. The bill experienced strong bipartisan support, getting unanimous support in the Senate Education Committee, the Senate Ways & Means Committee, the House Education Committee (HB 1641 companion), and passed the Senate floor unanimously. Funding was provided in the Senate operating budget, but because the bill did not pass out of the House, the funding lapsed. We hope to finish the job next session.

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## Proposed Amendment Legislative Issue #2 (Member Submitted)

*WSPTA Board of Directors' recommendation: Adopt*

### Prevent Gun Violence

The Washington State PTA shall support legislation or policies that reduce dangerous access to firearms by:

- **Supporting implementation of I-1639**
- ~~Prohibiting sales of semi-automatic assault rifles to < 21 and creating a 10-day waiting period;~~
- ~~Raising standards for semi-automatic assault rifle purchase to that for handguns;~~
- ~~Incentivizing safe storage of all firearms;~~
- ~~Ensuring continued eligibility for ownership of semi-automatic assault rifles;~~
- **Ensuring continued eligibility and safety training for firearms ownership, using the best available background check;**
- Permitting and encouraging destruction of crime guns by the Washington State Patrol and other agencies;
- ~~Affirming the National PTA position statements on gun safety and violence prevention and the position statement on firearms;~~
- Prohibiting the arming of school staff **except trained school resource officers (SROs);**
- **Extending the law regarding possessing dangerous weapons on school facilities to childcare, daycare, and early learning settings;**
- **Prohibiting the sale and use of high-capacity magazines;**
- **Notifying relevant school district authorities of Extreme Risk Protection Orders pertaining to a minor.**

### Persuasive Statement from the Submitters

The death and injury from gun violence in our country is heartbreaking: in 2018, firearms caused 14,760 deaths and 28,227 injuries in the United States, of which 3,514 were children.

Improperly stored firearms kill eight children in the U.S. every day. Research shows that weapons used in school shootings typically come from the shooter's home or that of a relative or friend. Adolescents

with access to guns are more than twice as likely to die by suicide as those without access. High capacity weapons are used in the deadliest mass shootings and result in most of the deaths.

Student groups like March for Our Lives are asking for concrete action. The Washington State Legislature responded by passing 10 bills in 2019, with several more to be considered again in 2020. For example, state law restricting weapon possession in elementary and secondary schools should be extended to protect our preschools. Landmark legislation in 2019, allowing extreme risk protection orders for minors, needs to be corrected so that schools are notified when minors are issued an ERPO. Many schools want trained school resource officers (SROs); all firearm owners should be trained. High-capacity magazines should be restricted as requested by our state attorney general. The Washington State Patrol should be granted their request to destroy crime weapons. Finally, Washington should use the best available background check methodology to ensure that guns are kept from those who should not have them.

This amended issue will let the Washington State PTA advocate for these anticipated bills in support of our children’s safety and lives.

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## RESOLUTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

There are four new resolutions and 15 amended resolutions for consideration. **Only the title and resolved clauses (in the shaded boxes) can be amended.** If a resolved clause of a resolution is amended, the resolutions committee shall edit the *whereas* clause(s) as necessary. The *whereas* clause(s) are not open for amendment however, the resolutions committee has provided the *whereas* clauses as they would be amended to provide the delegates with additional information to inform their vote.

For each resolution the board has provided a recommendation for the delegates to consider. Some resolutions have been given an “amend and then adopt” recommendation. For those instances, the board’s recommended amendment is included for consideration.

Also, provisos are provided when the action of the delegates might create another action to occur. For example, the adoption of an amendment to a resolution may allow another resolution to be retired because those goals have been incorporated into the amended resolution. All provisos are clearly marked throughout this guide.

### Proposed New Resolution #1A (Member Submitted)

***WSPTA Board of Directors’ recommendation: Amend (as presented in 1B) and then Adopt***

#### **Gun Violence Prevention and Safety – Students and School Staff**

**Whereas**, one of the purposes of Washington State PTA is to advocate for laws that further the education, physical and mental health, welfare, and safety of children and youth; and

**Whereas**, firearms are the second leading cause of death for American children and teens nationally, with nearly 1,600 children and teens dying by gun homicide every year; and over 950 children and teens dying of suicide by gun every year; and the rate of firearm suicide is up by 61 percent in the past 10 years; and

**Whereas**, children exposed to gun violence, crime and abuse are more likely to abuse drugs and alcohol; suffer from depression, anxiety and posttraumatic stress disorder; fail or have difficulties in school and engage in criminal activity; and

**Whereas**, due to its tremendous impact on the health and wellbeing of our youth, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control has declared gun violence a public health problem which must be dealt with using many multidisciplinary strategies and approaches; and

**Whereas**, recent research strongly supports that safe storage of firearms reduces the risk of suicide, domestic violence homicide, and unintentional injury; and

**Whereas**, the lethality, and severity of injury to the wounded, in street crime shootings, domestic violence involved shootings, terrorist and hate based shootings, and mass shootings, including school massacres, is greatly increased by the shooters' use of military style, assault-type semi-automatic weapons, including both pistols and rifles.

**Therefore, be it**

**Resolved**, that Washington State PTA encourages its local PTAs, councils, and members to support and advocate for legislation and policies that aim to prevent gun violence and reduce youth suicide; and be it further

**Resolved**, that Washington State PTA advocates for legislation and policies that reduce dangerous gun access, including:

- enforce all existing gun violence prevention laws
- restrict civilian ownership of, or ban and buy back military style, assault-type weapons, including all semi-automatic pistols and rifles, and high capacity magazines holding more than 10 rounds
- restrict dangerous access to all firearms, especially by children and by people with a history of violence including, but not limited to, domestic abusers, violent criminals, people with histories showing a pattern of threatening behavior and/or engaging in violence and hate speech
- require the best available background checks on all firearm sales
- mandate safety training for firearms ownership
- hold legally accountable those corporations, businesses, and individuals who facilitate dangerous access to firearms
- oppose the defensive arming of teachers and school staff, other than properly trained and uniformed school resource officers (SROs)
- rescind state preemption with respect to gun violence prevention laws, and restore the ability of counties, municipalities, school districts, and other local government units to enact gun violence prevention legislation and policies that are stricter than state law.

### **Persuasive Statement from the Submitters**

Gun violence against children and teachers happens in Washington, resulting in loss of life, devastating injury, and systematic social and emotional stress on communities and individuals directly and indirectly impacted. Gun violence has been declared a public health crisis by the American Medical Association and as an epidemic by the American Public Health Association. Gun safety legislation works, and Washington State PTA has an obligation to support it with the full weight of its vision to make every child's potential a reality. In 2013, almost 1 in 5 (18%) youth deaths involved firearms. In 2015, 39

children died from gun violence, including accidents, suicides, and intentional killing. In 2017, 31 children age 10-17 and 116 youths age 18-24 died from gun violence in Washington state.

Preventing access to guns by youth and by people with histories of violence is part of the solution. By interrupting access, we can save lives. More than 28 other states have dangerous access prevention laws, and evidence shows they:

- substantially reduce non-fatal gun injuries among both children and adults
- reduce all firearm self-injuries and deaths among children
- are significantly associated with reductions in firearm related homicides
- lower firearm-related pediatric mortality rates lead to fewer firearm suicides.

## **Proposed New Resolution #1B (WSPTA Board of Directors' Amended Version)**

### **Gun Violence Prevention and Safety – Students and School Staff**

**Whereas**, one of the purposes of Washington State PTA is to advocate for laws that further the education, physical and mental health, welfare, and safety of children and youth; and

**Whereas**, firearms are the second leading cause of death for American children and teens nationally, with nearly 1,600 children and teens dying by gun homicide every year; and over 950 children and teens dying of suicide by gun every year; and the rate of firearm suicide is up by 61 percent in the past 10 years; and

**Whereas**, children exposed to gun violence, crime and abuse are more likely to abuse drugs and alcohol; suffer from depression, anxiety and posttraumatic stress disorder; fail or have difficulties in school and engage in criminal activity; and

**Whereas**, due to its tremendous impact on the health and wellbeing of our youth, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control has declared gun violence a public health problem which must be dealt with using many multidisciplinary strategies and approaches; and

**Whereas**, recent research strongly supports that safe storage of firearms reduces the risk of suicide, domestic violence homicide, and unintentional injury; and

**Whereas**, the lethality, and severity of injury to the wounded, ~~in street crime shootings, domestic violence involved shootings, terrorist and hate based shootings, and mass shootings, including school massacres,~~ is greatly increased by the shooters' use of ~~military style, assault-type~~ **assault** weapons, including both pistols and

**Therefore, be it**

**Resolved**, that Washington State PTA encourages its local PTAs, councils, and members, **as well as its fellow state PTAs**, to support and advocate for legislation and policies that aim to prevent gun violence and reduce youth suicide; and be it further

**Resolved**, that Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils will advocate for and provide **education about programs that educate families and communities to help ensure children and youth are safe in their social interactions outside the home by assessing gun safety and storage; and be it further**

**Resolved**, that Washington State PTA advocates for legislation and policies that reduce dangerous gun access, including:

- enforce all existing gun violence prevention laws
- restrict civilian ownership of, ~~or ban and buy back military style,~~ **semi-automatic** assault-type weapons, ~~including all semi-automatic pistols and rifles,~~ and **non-sporting ammunition, including** high capacity magazines holding more than 10 rounds
- restrict dangerous access to all firearms, especially by children and by people with a history of violence including, but not limited to, domestic abusers, violent criminals, **and/or** people with histories showing a pattern of threatening behavior ~~and/or engaging in violence and hate speech~~
- require the best available background checks on all firearm sales
- mandate safety training for firearms ownership
- hold legally accountable those corporations, businesses, and individuals who facilitate dangerous access to firearms
- oppose the defensive arming of teachers and school staff, other than properly trained and uniformed school resource officers (SROs).
- ~~rescind state preemption with respect to gun violence prevention laws, and restore the ability of counties, municipalities, school districts, and other local government units to enact gun violence prevention legislation and policies that are stricter than state law.~~

### **Rationale Statement from WSPTA Board of Directors Regarding Amendment**

- Expands our advocacy by encouraging other state PTAs to follow the lead of National PTA and Washington State PTA and advocate for gun violence prevention laws and policies
- Advocates for programs, such as the National PTA supported “Asking Saves Kids (ASK)” program, that educate families and communities to help ensure children and youth are safe in their social interactions outside the home by assessing gun safety and storage, which aligns with the PTA mission and purpose.
- Amended language maintains consistency with the most current National PTA member-adopted resolution [Sale, Resale, and Destruction of Firearms](#).
- Removes unnecessary language that is open to interpretation.
- This bullet was not supported by any whereas clauses.

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## **Proposed New Resolution #2 (WSPTA Resolutions Committee)**

***WSPTA Board of Directors’ recommendation: Adopt***

### **Vital Impact of Membership on PTA’s Sustainability**

**Whereas**, Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils rely on advocacy at all levels to further the PTA mission, vision, and purposes; and

**Whereas**, decision-makers at the school building, school district, city, county, state, and national levels provide time and preference to the priorities of their largest constituent bodies; and

**Whereas**, the larger the PTA membership, the louder and more influential the collective PTA voice to effectively advocate at all levels (school building, school district, city, county, state, and national).

Therefore, be it

**Resolved**, that Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils will raise awareness of the importance of membership at all levels of PTA (local PTA, council, region, and state); and be it further

**Resolved**, that Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils will actively participate in year-round membership recruitment that includes all potential PTA members (families, students, staff, community members, and anyone who supports the mission of PTA) in order to amplify our collective voice; and be it further

**Resolved**, that Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils will provide and recommend participation in and use of membership training, materials and resources for all leaders at every level of PTA; and be it further

**Resolved**, that Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils will prioritize membership as the most critical component of our association's sustainability.

### **Persuasive Statement from WSPTA Resolutions Committee**

PTA has a long and rich history bettering the lives of children through improvements in education, health and safety, and family and community engagement. Since its founding in 1897, PTA has established groundbreaking programs and called for important legislation, such as the creation of kindergarten classes, child labor laws, hot lunch programs, the juvenile justice system, arts in education, school safety, and much more. Advocacy is the foundation for these accomplishments.

The ability to advocate for change is dependent on capturing the attention of decision makers who listen to and act upon the concerns of their biggest constituents. The larger the entity, the more influence it has. Therefore, the larger the PTA membership, the louder its collective voice to effectively advocate for change.

PTA is most effective at accomplishing its mission when it functions as a grassroots membership association. PTA is not a fundraising organization nor is it an extension of a school's budget and resources. PTA gives voice to its membership's concerns and priorities.

PTA is sustained through the annual enrollment of its members. As PTA leaders at all levels have unintentionally shifted away from year-round membership recruitment as the first priority, this association has reached a critical point. If PTA is to thrive into the future, leaders at all levels must understand the importance of membership, prioritize membership recruitment, and have access to membership training and resources. By returning our focus to membership, this association will be effective in its advocacy work and sustained for years to come.

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## **Proposed New Resolution #3 (WSPTA Resolutions Committee)**

***WSPTA Board of Directors' recommendation: Adopt***

### **Equitable Education Opportunities to Close Gaps Across the Achievement Spectrum**

**Whereas**, the term opportunity gap (the inputs) refers to the ways in which the education system continues to provide disparate outcomes for students when their educational experience intersects with race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, English language proficiency, community wealth, familial

situations, or other variables, and the term achievement gap (the outcomes) refers to any significant and persistent disparity in academic performance or educational attainment between different groups of students; and

**Whereas**, Washington state has opportunity and achievement gaps evident in kindergarten readiness, high school graduation rates, and state assessment scores across all subjects and grades, especially related to race, income and special need. These gaps impact a large percentage of students based on the statewide student enrollment as of the 2017-18 school year which consists of 30% students of color, 46% students of low-income families, 11.7% English Language Learners (ELL), 7.5% highly mobile students (homeless, foster, migrant, and military), and 14.6% special education students; and

**Whereas**, PTA advocates that every child must be provided with a well-rounded, high-quality education, which will ensure that all children have the opportunity to reach their full potential and become productive members of society and that access to a free public education is the most effective method of securing this opportunity and should not be denied to any child; and

**Whereas**, PTA is committed to removing systemic inequities, institutionalized racism, and disparate educational opportunities faced by students of color, students with socioeconomic disadvantages, and students with special needs; and

**Whereas**, every absence is a learning opportunity lost and can have long-term impacts on student success in school. Recent state data shows disproportionate rates of student discipline and exclusion related to race, income and special need; and

**Whereas**, students benefit from high-quality learning opportunities in which their cultures and experiences are valued and reflected in their learning, families who are engaged in their educational experiences, and quality expanded learning opportunities to complement the school day to help build lifelong skills and achieve academic goals; and

**Whereas**, when social emotional learning (SEL) and trauma-informed care and healing centered engagement are used in public schools, students do better academically and emotionally, and school climate improves; and

**Whereas**, the Washington State Constitution states that it is the “Paramount duty to make ample provision for the education of all children without distinction or preference on account of race, color, caste or sex” and further directs the legislature to “provide for a general and uniform system of public schools.”

**Therefore, be it**

**Resolved**, that Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils believe great educational outcomes are possible for all students, including, but not limited to:

- students of color
- students of diverse cultural or linguistic backgrounds
- students of lower-income status
- students of high mobility (e.g. homeless, foster care, migrant, incarcerated, and military families)
- and students with special needs; and be it further

**Resolved**, that Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils shall spread the awareness of and support equitable access to high quality:

- health care
- preschool and early learning
- K-12 schools
- post-secondary and higher education
- effective and diverse educators that represent the students and communities they serve
- and expanded learning opportunities; and be it further

**Resolved**, that Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils shall support research-based instructional supports and best practices shown to close gaps, including, but not limited to:

- multi-tiered systems of support (MTSS)
- positive behavioral interventions and supports (PBIS)
- professional development on unconscious bias, cultural competence, social emotional learning, and school to prison pipeline impacts of disparities in discipline for educators and administrators, including academic and disciplinary intervention staff
- culturally relevant and responsive curriculum, instruction, policies, attendance policies and school calendars
- meaningful language access and dual language programming
- social emotional learning (SEL) instruction
- trauma-informed care and healing centered engagement
- deficit-based dropout prevention and intervention systems and practices and alternative pathways
- metrics based on adult accountability rather than student achievement
- and authentic family and community engagement; and be it further

**Resolved**, that Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils shall advocate for allocation of funding for education and other services that close opportunity and achievement gaps for Washington’s most vulnerable students so that they may all reach their highest potential.

### **Persuasive Statement from WSPTA Resolutions Committee**

WSPTA’s vision is that every child’s potential become a reality, but students of color, students of diverse cultural or linguistic backgrounds, students of lower-income status, students of high mobility, and students with special needs have faced systemic inequities, institutionalized racism, and disparate educational opportunities. When educational opportunity gaps exist, achievement gaps form.

Achievement gaps have been and continue to be pervasive in Washington’s K12 education system. Left unaddressed, these opportunity gaps have led to unacceptable gaps in outcomes for these students.

Every child must be provided with a well-rounded, high-quality education, which will ensure that all children have the opportunity to reach their full potential.

According to the 2018 Educational Opportunity Gap Oversight and Accountability Committee (EOGOAC) Annual Report, “The public education system is failing our students. These systemic failures are not failures on the part of our students, families, and educators. It is the responsibility of educators and administrators to push back on systemic failures, instead of reinforcing them. Positive systemic change that diminishes educational opportunity gaps requires a complete shift in the system.”

WSPTA must work toward this shift in the system by advocating for the allocation of funding for and the equitable access to the programs, research-based supports and best practices that have been shown to close gaps.

### **PROVISO TO PROPOSED NEW RESOLUTION #3**

*If delegates at legislative assembly adopt this new resolution, the following resolutions would be retired: 18.29 Equitable Educational Opportunities, 18.4 Excellence in Education, and 19.3 Support for Children with Economic Disadvantages*

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## **Proposed New Resolution #4 (WSPTA Resolutions Committee)**

***WSPTA Board of Directors' recommendation: Adopt***

### **Mission-Focused Fundraising**

**Whereas**, the mission of Washington State PTA is to be (1) a powerful voice for children, (2) a relevant resource for families, schools and communities, and (3) a strong advocate for the well-being and education of all children; and

**Whereas**, as a child advocacy association, there are many challenges facing today's children and youth that need PTA's focus and advocacy; and

**Whereas**, the National PTA Standards for Family-School Partnerships are a tool for empowering people to work together with an end goal of building family-school partnerships and student success, and they focus on advocacy and family and community engagement; and

**Whereas**, Washington State PTA advises affiliated local PTAs to use their resources to best serve and enhance the educational experience of every child through the funding of programs, events and activities that support the PTA mission and their local PTA goals, as those that are heavily focused on fundraising are frequently exclusionary; and

**Whereas**, it is an adopted position of Washington State PTA that local PTAs should help eliminate and not contribute to the problem of inequities within a school district by engaging in excessive fundraising; and

**Whereas**, the Washington State Constitution states that it is the "paramount duty to make ample provision for the education of all children without distinction or preference on account of race, color, caste or sex" and further directs the legislature to "provide for a general and uniform system of public schools"; and

**Whereas**, over twenty years of Washington State PTA legislative priorities have focused on holding the state accountable for the funding of basic education.

**Therefore, be it**

***Resolved***, that Washington State PTA will educate its local PTAs and councils about fundraising best practices; and be it further

**Resolved**, that Washington State PTA encourages its local PTAs to evaluate their current fundraising practices and budgets to focus on the mission of PTA, and for councils to advocate for reasonable and equitable fundraising policies for all parent organizations in their school districts; and be it

**Resolved**, that Washington State PTA strongly advises its local PTAs and councils not to fund certificated and classified staff, school operations, and programs that are included in the definition of basic education; and be it further

**Resolved**, that Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils continue to advocate to the state legislature to amply fund education per our state constitution.

### **Persuasive Statement from WSPTA Resolutions Committee**

Founded in 1905, Washington State PTA is the state’s oldest and largest child advocacy association. Abby Williams Hill saw the need for an organization to support Washington’s children. Thanks to Abby’s leadership and vision, and that of thousands of parents and teachers who have carried her vision forward, Washington State PTA has been a leading voice for children in the state ever since. Our crucial mission is for PTA to be a powerful voice for children; a relevant resource for families, schools and communities; and a strong advocate for the well-being and education of all children.

Locals PTAs and councils can best use their resources to serve and enhance the educational experience of every child through the funding of programs, events and activities that support the PTA mission and their local PTA goals. PTAs should help eliminate and not contribute to the problem of inequities within a school district by avoiding excessive fundraising and not paying for parts of basic education that should be amply funded by the state per our constitution. By focusing on advocacy and authentic family and community engagement, PTA makes a difference for all student success, but also helps to eliminate opportunity gaps for some of our most vulnerable student groups

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## **Proposed Amendment of Current Resolution #5 (WSPTA Resolutions Committee)**

### ***WSPTA Board of Directors’ recommendation: Adopt***

#### **1.8 Substance Abuse Use Disorder Education and Its Prevention [Resolution passed 1990]**

**Whereas**, the first and third objects of the National PTA and Washington State PTA are to “promote the welfare of children and youth in home, school, community and place of worship” and “to secure adequate laws for the care and protection of children and youth”; and

**Whereas**, the concept of health as physical, mental, emotional, and social well being is vital to the welfare of the individual citizen, the community, and the nation; and

**Whereas**, every child should have an education that develops safe living habits and attitudes, and should have an environment free from avoidable physical hazards; and

**Whereas**, substance abuse is a problem cutting across all segments of society, impacting all aspects of the educational and family environment in society; and

**Whereas**, the Washington State PTA recognizes that substance abuse use disorders will continue to be a significant threat to the well-being of families, children and youth, and that the use of multiple

substances during adolescence increases the likelihood of substance use disorder and health risks in adulthood; and-

Whereas, children and youth in homes with substance use disorders are commonly involved with child welfare and foster care systems, creating long-term challenges; and

Whereas, Healthy Youth Survey data continues to show that substance use can start in middle school and that up to 20% of high school seniors regularly use more than one substance (alcohol, marijuana, tobacco products, prescription or non-prescription drugs); and

Whereas, many teens believe prescription drugs are safe because they are prescribed by a doctor, yet 66% of individuals over the age of 12 who misuse prescription opioids get them from family or friends; and

Whereas, evidence-based substance use disorder education programs based in schools and communities have been successful at decreasing substance use in youth; and

Whereas, an American Psychological Association study on zero-tolerance school discipline policies concluded that zero-tolerance policies did not deter future substance use, but did have negative effects on child development, decreased student education outcomes and increased racial disparities and referrals into the juvenile justice system; and

Whereas, Washington State PTA supports alternatives to expulsion and suspension, including restorative justice and other programs that focus on prevention, treatment and rehabilitation.

Therefore, be it

**Resolved**, that the Washington State PTA ~~initiate/support~~ legislation **and policies** to increase funding for **evidence-based education and abuse-prevention programs for students, families, caregivers and community members regarding the methods, symptoms, effects and dangers of K-12 drug** (prescription, non-prescription, look-alike, and illegal), alcohol, and tobacco **/vaping, marijuana/edibles, and drug abuse, including “off-label” use of prescription and non-prescription drugs** education programs; **and for school staff/counselor training for early identification, intervention, and follow-up care for students**; stronger state and local enforcement of current laws; establish stronger, consistent penalties and deterrents for violators; and promote public awareness programs; and be it further

**Resolved**, that Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils work for increased awareness of **existing regulations and laws that protect children and youth from these hazards to their health and well-being, including prohibitions on advertising, marketing or knowingly providing to minors any information that would be harmful, or selling materials to minors that are illegal, including, but not limited to alcohol, tobacco and vaping products, drugs and other substances; and be it further**

**Resolved**, that the Washington State PTA ~~support~~ **advocates for** programs and projects that offer positive alternative activities to drug use and abuse for children and youth; **for collaborative and holistic services that support families, children, and youth; for school districts to review their policies and procedures around disciplinary consequences of alcohol and substance use by students; and for expansion of alternatives to suspension, expulsion or incarceration, including alternative discipline and restorative justice programs, for students with substance use disorders**; and be it further

**Resolved**, that the Washington State PTA continues to work in cooperative relationships with **state and local government agencies**, other child welfare organizations, education support organizations, **professional medical and advocacy organizations** and the general public to **promote** further substance and drug use disorder abuse prevention and education, **outreach, prevention and treatment; and to expand programs that reduce access of children and youth to prescription drugs, such as safe storage and take-back programs, and restrictions on internet pharmacy sales of opiates and other addictive prescription drugs.**

### **Rationale Statement from WSPTA Resolutions Committee**

The intent of this resolution remains the same. The proposed title change addresses the importance of education and updates terminology from “substance abuse” to the broader and currently accepted “substance use disorder” which is defined as when a person's use of alcohol or other substance(s) leads to health issues or problems at work, school, or home. The proposed changes update data and statistics; align this resolution with National PTA resolutions and position statements on use and use disorders involving alcohol and other substances, including prescription and non-prescription drugs; and revise one resolved clause to better align with current National and Washington State PTA positions on alternative discipline and restorative justice programs.

### **PROVISO TO PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF CURRENT RESOLUTION #5**

*If delegates at legislative assembly adopt the proposed amendments to this resolution, resolution 1.7 TV Programming and Advertising Promoting Alcohol Use would be retired because the goals of that resolution are incorporated into this amendment*

## **Proposed Amendment of Current Resolution #6 (WSPTA Resolutions Committee)** **WSPTA Board of Directors' recommendation: Adopt**

1.10 Adolescent Marijuana Use Prevention [*Resolution passed 2014; amended 2014*]

**Whereas, in Washington state, the Healthy Youth Survey results for 2018 found that state-wide, high school students who used marijuana were more likely to get lower grades (Cs, Ds, or Fs) compared to those who do not use; and**

**Whereas, since legalization in 2012, marijuana use among U.S. high school seniors has doubled as the perception of harm of marijuana use among high school students in Washington has decreased significantly** has halved since the drive to legalize marijuana began; and

**Whereas, marijuana use rates among youth 12 to 17 are higher in states with medical marijuana laws (8.6%) than in states without such laws (6.9%); and**

**Whereas, the psychoactive chemical, tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), responsible for marijuana's psychological effects, has been linked with depression, anxiety, schizophrenia, psychosis and the incidence of suicidal thoughts in adolescents. The nearly five-fold increase in marijuana THC levels since 1995 means that daily use today can have stronger effects on a developing teen brain than it did 10-20 years ago; and**

**Whereas, in 2018** about one in five 10<sup>th</sup> graders **and one in four 12<sup>th</sup> graders** in Washington state used marijuana in the past month. ~~Youth who used marijuana were more likely to have lifetime asthma than youth who did not;~~ and

**Whereas, according to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, up to thirty percent of those who use marijuana may have some degree of marijuana use disorder, and youth who begin using marijuana are four to seven times more likely to develop a marijuana use disorder than adults** ~~one in six children who use marijuana become addicted;~~ and

**Whereas,** marijuana dependence accounted for **62% more than half** of the youth admissions to Washington state treatment programs; and

**Whereas, use of marijuana has a variety of adverse health effects: youth who use marijuana are more likely to have lifetime asthma than youth who do not; and the psychoactive chemical, tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), responsible for marijuana’s psychological effects, has been linked with depression, anxiety, schizophrenia, psychosis and the incidence of suicidal thoughts in adolescents. The nearly five-fold increase in marijuana THC levels since 1995 means that daily use today can have stronger effects on a developing teen brain than it did 10-20 years ago; and**

~~**Whereas,** in Washington State, the Healthy Youth Survey results for 2012 found that, statewide, high school students who used marijuana were more likely to get lower grades in school (Cs, Ds, or Fs) compared to those who don’t use; and~~

**Whereas,** unintentional marijuana ingestions by young children has emerged after modification of state’s drug enforcement laws for marijuana possession. Marijuana should be treated like any other medication, keeping it stored out of reach of children.

**Therefore, be it**

**Resolved,** the Washington State PTA and its **local PTAs and councils** constituents shall support legislation **and policies** that protects children **and youth** from being exploited by advertising and marketing campaigns and commercial industries that sell addictive drugs and stimulants, **including marijuana products;** and be it further

**Resolved,** the Washington State PTA and its **local PTAs and councils** constituents shall support legislation that regulates the proper **growing,** packaging, handling, and labeling **and sale** of marijuana products, **especially near schools;** and be it further

**Resolved,** that Washington State PTA encourages ~~councils and its~~ **local PTAs and councils** to sponsor presentations and workshops aimed at the prevention, intervention and control of marijuana **product** use by youth; **and be it further-**

**Resolved,** that Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils **advocate for school staff training for early identification, intervention, and follow-up care for students; for school districts to review their policies and procedures around disciplinary consequences of marijuana use by students; and for expansion of alternatives to suspension, expulsion or incarceration, including alternative discipline and restorative justice programs, for students with substance use disorders.**

## Rationale Statement from WSPTA Resolutions Committee

The intent of the resolution remains the same. The proposed changes add current data since marijuana was legalized and align the resolved clauses with National PTA positions and WSPTA positions regarding discipline and restorative justice.

## **Proposed Amendment of Current Resolution #7A (WSPTA Resolutions Committee)** **WSPTA Board of Directors' recommendation: Amend then Adopt**

### 2.1 Safe Travel **Routes and Parking Lots** [Resolution passed 1980]

**Whereas, we at Washington State PTA advocates for believes that all children and youth to should have the opportunity to travel safely to and from school and in and out of the school parking lot; and**

**Whereas, Washington has the third fastest growing traffic volumes of any state in the nation, growing at a rate of 3.4% annually across all roads; and the pattern of development in urban areas has led to increased arterial traffic near schools, thereby endangering the children traveling to and from school.**

**Whereas, Safe Routes to School (SRTS) is an approach that promotes walking and bicycling to school through infrastructure improvements, enforcement, tools, safety education; 10%–14% of car trips during morning rush hour are for school travel. SRTS initiatives improve safety by removing cars from the road and also increase levels of physical activity for students.**

Therefore, be it

**Resolved, that Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils advocate to ensure all children and youth have safe routes to and from school, accommodating all modes of travel such as walking, biking, scooting, driving, busing, etc., that include, but are not limited to:**

- **safe, visible, and adequately lit sidewalks, crosswalks, and walking paths in compliance with all ADA requirements**
- **street signage, signals, paint striping, safety devices, and traffic enforcement as needed**
- **parking lot designs, plans and procedures to safely accommodate buses, cars, and pedestrians; and be it further**

**Resolved, that Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils advocate for existing school facilities to regularly review their current routes to and from school and their parking lot designs, plans, and procedures and improve safety and remove potential dangers as needed; and that new and remodeled school facilities be designed and built with these safety concerns in mind; and be it further**

**Resolved, that the Washington State PTA urge and its local PTAs, and councils, and service areas to work actively with their local government involved in the urban planning of platting, planning, zoning and housing and business developments; and the location locating of schools to help which will ensure safe routes to and from school areas; and be it further**

**Resolved, that Washington State PTA encourages its local PTAs and councils to research and pursue Safe Routes to School and Healthy Lifestyle grants in collaboration with their school districts and community agencies.**

**Resolved**, that the Washington State PTA urge its local PTAs, councils and regions to work toward corrections of all present dangerous travel conditions.

### **Rationale Statement from WSPTA Resolutions Committee**

The intent of this resolution remains the same. The proposed change to the title helps to clarify the subject of the resolution. The proposed changes give broader guidance to local PTAs and councils to help ensure student safety to and from school, as well as in the school parking lot. Addition of Safe Routes to School components strengthen the language, aligning more fully with WSPTA’s whole child platform.

### **Proposed Amendment of Current Resolution #7B (WSPTA Board of Directors’ Amended Version)**

#### **WSPTA Board of Directors recommends the following amendment:**

The WSPTA Board of Directors recommends amending the fourth resolved clause by inserting the word “related” and striking out the words “Safe Routes to School and Healthy Lifestyles”:

**Resolved, that Washington State PTA encourages its local PTAs and councils to research and pursue related Safe Routes to School and Healthy Lifestyle grants in collaboration with their school districts and community agencies.**

#### **Rationale Statement from WSPTA Board of Directors Regarding Amendment**

Removes the reference to specific grants

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### **Proposed Amendment of Current Resolution #8 (WSPTA Resolutions Committee)** ***WSPTA Board of Directors’ recommendation: Adopt***

2.2 Child Identification Programs [*Resolution passed 1984*]

**Whereas, one of the purposes** the first objects of the National PTA and the Washington State PTA **is** state: “To promote the welfare of children and youth in home, school, community and place of worship”; and

**Whereas, many children are never reported missing; there is no reliable way to determine the total number of children who are actually missing in the U.S.; and**

**Whereas, when a child is reported missing to law enforcement, federal law requires that child be entered into the FBI’s National Crime Information Center (NCIC). The NCIC’s Missing Person File contained 85,459 active missing person records as of 2018, with juveniles under the age of 18 accounting for 29,758 (34.8%) of the records and 38,561 (45.1%) of the records when juveniles are defined as under 21 years of age; and**

**Whereas, the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) assisted law enforcement with more than 25,000 cases of missing children in 2018 with 92% being endangered runaways, 4% family abductions, 3% critically missing young adults ages 18-20, less than 1% nonfamily abductions, and 1% lost, injured or otherwise missing children. Of the runaways reported to NCMEC in 2018, one in seven were likely victims of child sex trafficking; and**

~~Whereas, the increasing number of missing children is an unfortunate but real problem in our society; and~~

~~Whereas, vital current information will may be helpful to school administrations and law enforcement agencies in finding/identifying a missing child; and~~

~~Whereas, families parents may have incomplete or outdated records of their child’s vital statistics and other necessary identifying information.~~

~~Therefore, be it~~

~~**Resolved, that Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils will partner with programs and/or provide information to families encouraging healthy conversations about trusted adults and personal safety awareness for children; and be it further**~~

~~**Resolved, that the Washington State PTA encourage and its local PTAs and councils work with school administrations and law enforcement to promote child identification programs to which include, but are not be limited to:**~~

- ~~• up-to-date child information sheets including a written description with measurements and identifying markers~~
- ~~• current photos~~
- ~~• medically important information~~
- ~~• optional and culturally sensitive fingerprinting and/or DNA storage information programs~~
- ~~• and other pertinent information.~~

### **Rationale Statement from WSPTA Resolutions Committee**

The intent of this resolution remains the same. The proposed changes add updated statistics to better define the problem of missing children, add information about healthy conversations about trusted adults and personal safety awareness for children, and add updated child identification program content.

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## **Proposed Amendment of Current Resolution #9 (WSPTA Resolutions Committee)**

***WSPTA Board of Directors’ recommendation: Adopt***

2.9 Emergency Preparedness [*Resolution passed 1992; amended 2009*]

~~Whereas, two one of the ~~objects~~ purposes of the Washington State PTA are “to promote the welfare of children and youth in home, school, community and place of worship”, and “to secure adequate laws for the care and protection of children and youth”, and is to advocate for laws that further the education, physical and mental health, welfare, and safety of children and youth; and~~

~~Whereas, numerous public school districts throughout Washington state lack adequate preparation for emergency conditions known to arise including natural disasters, such as earthquakes, volcanic activity, flooding, wild land fire, avalanche, drought, landslide, tsunami, severe storm, and man-made disasters, such as civil disturbances, dam failures, hazardous materials, pipelines, radiological releases, terrorism, transportation incidents, and urban fires exposing children and youth to grave hazard; and~~

Whereas, numerous public school districts throughout Washington State lack adequate infrastructure and preparation for emergency conditions that can result from natural disasters (e.g., earthquake, volcanic activity, lahar, flooding, wild fire, avalanche, drought, landslide, tsunami, and severe weather); human-made disasters (e.g., civil disturbance, terrorism, active shooter, bomb threat); and unintended disasters (e.g., dam failure, release of hazardous material, pipeline failure, and urban fires) any of which may expose children and youth to grave hazard; and

~~Whereas, emergency conditions may affect children and youth at home, school, community and place of worship; and~~

Whereas, many existing school structures, having been built before development of the statewide building code (established in 1975), are especially at risk to seismic effects which, in the event of an earthquake, may render buildings structurally unsafe and too dangerous to occupy or result in collapse; and

Whereas, school buildings are public assets and may be required to support communities after disasters as temporary mass shelter facilities or resource centers during times of crisis; and

~~Whereas, large segments of the public remain uninformed about coping with emergency conditions; and~~

~~Whereas, large scale, region-wide disasters can overwhelm traditional First Responders (Police, Fire, Aid) and delay aid to our schools, and~~

Whereas, first responder resources may be overwhelmed in a large-scale emergency, delaying aid to schools and school personnel may be called on to provide emergency assistance to students until traditional first responders arrive, or students are reunited with their families; and

Whereas, schools need to have on-hand essential emergency supplies and equipment; and

Whereas, being prepared will reduce fear, anxiety and losses during disasters; and

Whereas, preparedness drills and emergency response exercises help reinforce skills and knowledge needed during an actual emergency and can also enhance response effectiveness when schools work in collaboration with emergency response agencies including fire, police and trained community volunteers.

Therefore, be it

**Resolved**, that the Washington State PTA and its<sup>1</sup> **local PTAs and councils** constituent organizations urge the legislature to strengthen laws, education and funding to fully implement comprehensive **safe school and emergency preparedness plans and a means for verifying compliance with minimum standards at all public schools**; and be it further

**Resolved**, that Washington State PTA shall promote and encourage cooperation and collaboration between all public schools, OSPI, regional school safety centers, and emergency management authorities in the development, implementation and regular updating of comprehensive safe school and emergency preparedness plans, which shall include provisions for emergency supplies and equipment, age-appropriate drills, and hands-on training for staff in accordance with best practices

and guidelines from leading governmental and non-governmental organizations and healthcare providers; and be it further

**Resolved**, that Washington State PTA shall support legislation and funding for school building seismic hazard mitigation. This includes structural (i.e. buildings) and non-structural (i.e. falling objects) considerations for all public schools to reduce injuries/fatalities during earthquakes and to help ensure that buildings can serve as safe shelter areas after an event; and be it further

~~**Resolved**, that legislation should provide specific minimum standards for comprehensive emergency preparedness plans, and means for verifying compliance with minimum standards at all public schools; and be it further~~

~~**Resolved**, that the Washington State PTA shall encourage local PTAs and councils to promote public awareness about comprehensive safe school plans and emergency preparedness.; and be it further~~

~~**Resolved**, that the Washington State PTA shall promote and encourage cooperation between all public schools and emergency management authorities in the development and implementation of comprehensive emergency preparedness plans, which shall include provisions for hands-on training for staff, as well as emergency supplies and equipment; and be it further~~

~~**Resolved**, that the Washington State PTA shall initiate/support legislation requiring hands-on training for all public school staff in the Incident Response Jobs as described by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA); and be it further~~

~~**Resolved**, that the Washington State PTA shall initiate and support legislation requiring all schools to have the basic emergency supplies and equipment recommended for schools by the American Red Cross; and be it further~~

~~**Resolved**, that the Washington State PTA and its constituent organizations urge the legislators to strengthen laws, education and funding.~~

### **Rationale Statement from WSPTA Resolutions Committee**

The intent of the resolution remains the same. The proposed changes to the resolution (1) align to current WSPTA purposes, (2) update to include more natural and human-made disasters, (3) combine existing resolved clauses, and (4) align with recently passed comprehensive school safety legislation and the school seismic safety pilot study results.

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## **Proposed Amendment of Current Resolution #10 (WSPTA Resolutions Committee)**

### ***WSPTA Board of Directors' recommendation: Adopt***

#### **2.13 Youth Suicide Prevention [Resolution passed 2005; amended 2013]**

**Whereas**, the first object of the PTA is “to promote the welfare of children and youth in home, school, community and place of worship”; and

**Whereas**, teenage suicide claims the lives of approximately 4600 young people each year; and

**Whereas**, as of 2012 suicide continues to rank third as the leading cause of death for young people between the ages of 10 and 24 nationally; and

~~Whereas, it is commonly recognized that today's youth experience stress and pressures that lead to inappropriate problem-solving alternatives; and~~

Whereas, an increasing number of Washington youth report feeling sad, hopeless, or anxious, or having suicidal thoughts; and

Whereas, suicide is the second leading cause of death for people aged 15-19 nationally, with American Indian and Alaskan Natives at the highest risks for suicide. In addition, LGBTQ+ are at an increased risk for suicide, with the transgender suicide rate the highest of that population; and

Whereas, adolescents with access to firearms are 2.6 times as likely to die by suicide as adolescents without access to firearms, and

Whereas, the detection of the warning signals of suicide and the reduction and restriction of suicide means can ~~make~~ mean the difference between life and death.

Therefore, be it

**Resolved**, that Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils advocate to ensure staffing levels in schools are funded to meet student need and to support student learning and well-being; and encourage the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction to emphasize the importance of knowing the warning signs of suicide among youth with our Washington state educators education service districts, school and district administrators, educators and staff, students, families and caregivers; and be it further

**Resolved**, that Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils support culturally and linguistically appropriate programs, projects and training for youth suicide prevention, including awareness of the warning signs of suicide and of risk factors like anxiety, depression, stress and destructive behaviors; and be it further

~~**Resolved**, that National PTA through its states, districts/regions, councils and local PTAs, support programs and projects that educate and inform teachers and support staff, parents, students and the general public about youth suicide prevention—including awareness of the warning signs of suicide among youth—and that provide support services for survivors of a suicide attempt and for families who have lost someone to suicide; and be it further~~

**Resolved**, that National Washington State PTA and its constituent bodies local PTAs and councils advocate for the creation of funding for suicide prevention and intervention programs, including support services for survivors of suicide attempt and for families that have lost someone to suicide; and be it further support creation and funding for suicide prevention and intervention programs, including 24-hour suicide hot lines.

**Resolved**, that Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils support youth prevention research, programs, and policies that include the reduction of access to the methods for attempting and completing suicide, including firearms and prescription and non-prescription medication.

### **Rationale Statement from WSPTA Resolutions Committee**

The intent of the resolution remains the same. The proposed changes update the resolution with timely statistics and relevant resolved clauses that will continue to support youth suicide prevention.

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## Proposed Amendment of Current Resolution #11 (WSPTA Resolutions Committee)

**WSPTA Board of Directors' recommendation: Adopt**

2.14 Child Abuse Prevention **Supports** : Educational and Support Resources for Parents [Resolution passed 2007; amended 2013]

**Whereas, RCW 26.44.020 defines** child abuse/ **or neglect as sexual abuse, sexual exploitation or injury of a child by any person under circumstances which cause harm to the child's health, welfare, or safety** is a serious problem for many children and their families in Washington State; it is a problem that impacts every member of our community either directly or indirectly; and

**Whereas,** Washington State PTA is concerned about the health, safety and welfare of all children; **and**

**Whereas, child abuse crosses all boundaries of economics, race, ethnic heritage, religious faith or geographic location; and**

**Whereas, child abuse is associated with lower school achievement, juvenile delinquency, substance use disorders and mental health problems.**

Therefore, be it

**Resolved,** that Washington State PTA will assist local PTAs, councils and regions statewide in creating, acquiring and implementing parenting education programs that **emphasize the vital role of community, early intervention services, and caregiver education to help keep children safe from abuse, both physical and emotional** provide families with information, resources and skills needed to cope with the ever-changing demands on children and their families; and be it further

**Resolved,** that Washington State PTA will partner **and provide voice, advocacy and resources to legislators, OSPI, the Department of Children, Youth and Families, Indian Child Welfare, Kinship Care services, local agencies, school districts, schools, local PTAs and councils** with local agencies and the legislature to advocate for the necessary services and **resources with** the required funding and resources needed to support and educate families **and communities** on the issues of child abuse/neglect and work life balance.

### **Rationale Statement from WSPTA Resolutions Committee**

The intent of this resolution remains the same. The proposed changes to the title help clarify the intent of the resolution. The proposed changes update language, making it more consistent with other more recent resolutions; give more detail to the gravity of the problem statewide; and diversify solutions across child and caregiver resource organizations.

## Proposed Amendment of Current Resolution #12 (WSPTA Resolutions Committee) WSPTA Board of Directors' recommendation: Adopt

4.12 Parent and Community Involvement **Family and Community Engagement** in Education [Resolution passed 1994; amended 2005]

**Whereas**, National PTA and Washington State PTA are among the largest organizations dedicated to advocating for all children and working to secure the highest advantages in education for all children and youth; and

**Whereas**, it is recognized that **families** parents are the first and primary teachers of their children; and

**Whereas, findings from the Global Family Research Project report show that when families and teachers join together to support children's learning and development, children are more likely to succeed in school, graduate and stay on their path to college or a career; and**

**Whereas, research consistently demonstrates the benefits of family-school-community partnerships via increased communication among families, teachers and school leaders, more community support for the school, and higher morale.**

**Whereas**, it is known that students whose parents/guardians are involved in their educational experiences demonstrate higher academic achievement levels; and

**Whereas**, within the community as a whole, parents/guardians remain in the numerical minority and must enlist others in the drive toward better educational experiences for all children; and

**Whereas**, the United States must move toward higher achievement by all students in order to remain competitive in the world market.

Therefore, be it

**Resolved**, Washington State PTA **and its local PTAs and councils** shall encourage **family and community engagement** parental involvement, an essential part of the PTA mission, by promoting an environment in which **families** parents are valued as the primary influence in their children's lives and essential partners in their children's education and development; and be it further

**Resolved**, that Washington State PTA encourage the business community to form partnerships with schools and support employees in their quest to become involved in schools; and be it further

**Resolved**, that the Washington State PTA **and its local PTAs and councils** work with educational leaders to develop partnerships between educators, **families and communities** while promoting the National Standards for Family-School Partnerships: ~~and parents/guardians and encourage open, honest dialogue to help parents/guardians feel connected with their child's school.~~

- **Welcoming All Families into the School Community**
- **Communicating Effectively**
- **Supporting Student Success**
- **Speaking Up for Every Child**
- **Sharing Power**
- **Collaborating with Community**

## Rationale Statement from WSPTA Resolutions Committee

The intent of the resolution remains the same. The proposed title change aligns the resolution with current PTA language of “Family and Community Engagement”. The proposed changes update the resolution with current information, standardize on the term family versus parent (to be more inclusive of the wide variety of family types), and by stressing the National Standards for Family-School Partnerships.

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## **Proposed Amendment of Current Resolution #13A (WSPTA Resolutions Committee)**

### ***WSPTA Board of Directors’ recommendation: Amend then Adopt***

#### **5.3 Arts in Education in Public Schools and Washington State [Resolution passed 2005; amended 2012]**

~~Whereas, one of the purposes of PTA is to promote the collaboration and engagement of families and educators in the education of children and youth; and~~

~~Whereas, National PTA believes that the arts are central to learning and that infusing the arts into elementary, and secondary, **and continuing** education curricula is key to the development of students (Arts in Education position statement); and~~

~~Whereas, the arts (**dance, media arts, music, theatre, visual and tactile arts**) are a mandated **recognized as a core academic** subject in Washington state, **and under the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), and are also considered part of a well-rounded education under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)**; and~~

~~Whereas, the arts are found in schools today in varying stages of acceptance and differing programs of instruction; and~~

~~**Whereas, students succeed academically in schools (better grades and score higher on standardized tests and the SAT) with arts integration. At-risk students see the same benefits, helping to close the opportunity gap. Low income students who receive an arts education are twice as likely to attend college as those who receive no arts education; and**~~

~~**Whereas, data support that the populations who could benefit the most from the arts are seeing a decline in availability. Low socioeconomic status students have lower participation rates due to the lack of equitable access to quality arts instruction; and**~~

~~Whereas, parents and educators are concerned about the nourishment of their student’s creativity, imagination and cultural heritage; and~~

~~**Whereas, students succeed in social emotional learning with an arts education. The arts are critically needed for students to safely find their own voice through gender and cultural identity; and**~~

~~Whereas, students need the arts as part of a complete education to develop their creative talents and discover their artistic, creative, and aesthetic judgment; and~~

~~**Whereas, arts in education helps our society succeed. Studies show that students who are exposed to an arts education exhibit greater understanding of cultures other than their own and engage more in civic opportunities around them; and**~~

**Whereas**, arts learning can be used to develop student’s self-esteem and self-image, understand human civilization, broaden their understanding of work ethics, visual and aural images, and human value; and

**Whereas**, arts education teaches creative problem-solving and cultural knowledge, and offers multiple pathways to understanding for different types of learners; and

**Whereas, arts education helps students of all abilities succeed. Arts education provides students with disabilities increase academic, social and functional skill development and knowledge, which can play a crucial role in their overall success. All students of diverse abilities can be successful through the arts; and**

**Whereas, creativity is one of the top five applied skills sought by business leaders, an arts education fosters creativity and can help students become more employable adults, no matter their career choice; and**

**Whereas**, a complete education should respond to the needs of all types of intelligence in students to help them become responsible and productive citizens; and

**Whereas**, arts education increases connections and engagement between educators, students and the connected community that surrounds them.

**Whereas, arts education needs ample funding to be successful. Washington state is 46<sup>th</sup> in the nation in state arts funding. Washington is a local-control state, which means districts and schools make their own choices about arts education, with little consistency across the state; and**

**Whereas, arts education needs accountability to be successful. Arts education is not currently tracked on the OSPI State Report Card and is not currently offered in every school in the state.**

Therefore, be it

**Resolved**, that Washington State PTA, local PTAs, and councils continue to be strong advocates for improved arts education programs, encouraging school districts, educators and other interested sources to integrate the arts in their school curriculums, programs and activities, as essential elements of a child’s basic education; and be it further

**Resolved**, that Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils advocate for:

- **ample state funding for arts education**
- **equitable access for all students to receive a quality and diverse arts education**
- **integration of the arts in school curricula as a core subject of basic education**
- **collection of statistically viable data related to arts education; and be it further**

**Resolved**, that Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils encourage their school districts to:

- **apply for all-available arts grants (such as the Federal Title IV, Part A funding grant)**
- **provide professional development for educators about arts integration**
- **hire certified teachers in the arts**
- **have clear and measurable arts education goals and educational standards**
- **collect statistically viable data related to arts education for their school district; and be it further**

**Resolved**, that Washington State PTA will continue developing public awareness of the need for arts education and equitable access to arts learning in our public schools and formally recognize May as Arts Education Month in Washington, calling upon the community to celebrate the arts and promote the importance of arts education for every student in Washington state at every school.

### **Rationale Statement from WSPTA Resolutions Committee**

The intent of this resolution remains the same. The proposed title change is simple and clear defines the content of the resolution. The proposed changes include current benefits of arts education and update the resolved clauses with stronger actions to advocate for arts education funding, equitable access, arts integration, professional development, data collection and more.

### **Proposed Amendment of Current Resolution #13B (WSPTA Board of Directors' Amended Version)**

#### **WSPTA Board of Directors recommends the following amendment:**

The WSPTA Board of Directors recommends amending the first bullet of the second resolved clause by striking out the word "all" and by striking out the words "(such as the Federal Title IV, Part A funding grant)":

**Resolved**, that Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils encourage their school districts to:

- **apply for all available arts grants ~~(such as the Federal Title IV, Part A funding grant)~~**

#### **Rationale Statement from WSPTA Board of Directors Regarding Amendment**

Removes the reference to specific grants.

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### **Proposed Amendment of Current Resolution #14 (WSPTA Resolutions Committee) WSPTA Board of Directors' recommendation: Adopt**

11.1 Juvenile Diabetes [*Resolution passed 1974; amended 2013*]

**Whereas, diabetes is one of the most common chronic diseases of childhood in which the body does not produce insulin (type 1 diabetes) or does not produce enough insulin or properly use it (type 2 diabetes); and**

**Whereas, according to the American Diabetes Association (ADA), type 1 diabetes accounts for 5 to 10% of all cases of diabetes and is the most prevalent type of diabetes among children and adolescents; and type 2 diabetes is seeing an increase in diagnoses among children and adolescents; and**

**Whereas, according to the ADA and the Endocrine Society, the cost of insulin to patients has nearly tripled in the past fifteen years, making it difficult for many families to afford this medication and effectively manage the disease. This has put patient safety in jeopardy, as some families ration their insulin or forego other medical care; and**

**Whereas, multiple federal laws protect children with diabetes and consider it a disability, making it illegal to discriminate against students with diabetes. Federal law requires an individualized**

assessment of any child with diabetes and these required accommodations should be documented in a written individualized health plan (IHP) developed under the applicable federal law and added to a Section 504 Plan or Individualized Education Program (IEP); and

Whereas, diabetes must be managed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and effective diabetes management is crucial for (1) the immediate safety of students with diabetes, (2) for the long-term health of students with diabetes, (3) to ensure that students with diabetes are ready to learn and to participate fully in school activities, and (4) to minimize the possibility that diabetes-related emergencies will disrupt classroom activities; and

Whereas, there are many important aspects to properly managing diabetes at school, as younger and newly diagnosed students depend on school staff to monitor blood sugar and administer insulin, other students need support as they self-manage, and all students need trained school staff who can recognize and treat high and low blood glucose and administer emergency glucagon; and

Whereas, in a supportive school environment, school personnel understand the needs of students with diabetes and can respond appropriately in emergency situations, young people can manage their diabetes effectively throughout the school day and at school-sponsored activities; and

Whereas, the National Diabetes Education Program states that diabetes is one of the most common chronic diseases in school-age children, affecting 215,000 people under the age of 20 in the United States in 2010 (type 1 and type 2 diabetes); and

Whereas, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention states diabetes was the seventh leading cause of death based on U.S. death certificates in 2007; and

Whereas, the American Diabetes Association states that about 1 in every 400 children and adolescents has diabetes and thousands of children are newly diagnosed every year; and

Whereas, a growing number of children and adolescents are developing type 2 diabetes — a form of diabetes that is generally diagnosed among adults; and

Whereas, many schools do not have a full-time nurse or licensed healthcare professional available on-site to **quickly recognize and** handle **medical-diabetes** emergencies, and nursing duties are oftentimes performed by other school personnel.

**Therefore, be it**

**Resolved**, that Washington State PTA and its constituent organizations urge that all school personnel receive general training on diabetes; and be it further

**Resolved**, that Washington State PTA and its constituent organizations urge that at least two staff members per school obtain specific training on diabetes care, diabetic emergency procedures, and identification and treatment of symptoms of hyperglycemia and hypoglycemia as allowed by individual state statutes and licensures.

**Resolved**, that Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils advocate for equitable access to **affordable quality healthcare, medical supplies and medications (including insulin and all necessary monitoring supplies) for all children and youth; and be it further**

**Resolved, that Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils advocate for training for school staff, including pump training skills and the use of continuous glucose monitors (CGMs), as recommended by the American Diabetes Association:**

- **Level 1 training for all school staff members, which includes a basic overview of diabetes, typical needs of a student with diabetes, recognition of hypoglycemia and hyperglycemia, and whom to contact for help in an emergency**
- **Level 2 training for school staff members who have responsibility for students with diabetes, which includes all content from level 1 plus treatment of hypoglycemia and hyperglycemia and required accommodations for those students (IHP/504/IEP, emergency care plans, what to do in a schoolwide emergency, legal rights of students with diabetes in the school setting, etc.)**
- **Level 3 training for a small group of school staff members who will perform or assist the student with diabetes care tasks as allowed by law, such as blood glucose monitoring, insulin administration, and glucagon administration when a school nurse is not available to perform these tasks, which includes all content from level 1 and level 2 training.**

### **Rationale Statement from WSPTA Resolutions Committee**

The intent of this resolution remains the same. The proposed changes articulate concerns about equitable access to the quality healthcare, medical supplies and medication needed for students with diabetes, proper health care at school, and recommended staff training for supporting students with diabetes.

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### **Proposed Amendment of Current Resolution #15 (WSPTA Resolutions Committee)**

***WSPTA Board of Directors' recommendation: Adopt***

11.11 Indoor Air Standards [*Resolution passed 1989; amended 2013*]

**Whereas**, two of the purposes of the Washington State PTA are to “advocate for laws that further the educational, physical and mental health, welfare, and safety of children and youth;” and to “promote the collaboration and engagement of families and educators in the education of children and youth”; and

**Whereas**, improper indoor air quality/ventilation creates a buildup of toxic chemicals and gases which will result in hazardous health problems; and

**Whereas**, Washington state has not implemented specific minimum standards for indoor air quality for schools that cover both children and adults.

**Therefore, be it**

**Resolved**, that the Washington State PTA support implementation of legislation that provides specific minimum standards for indoor air quality/ventilation in all public schools **and portable structures housing students and staff**, protecting the health of children and staff; and be it further

**Resolved**, that legislation should include directives, **timelines** and funding **for remediation to** bringing non-complying schools up to minimum standards; and be it further

**Resolved**, that Washington State PTA will initiate/support legislation in Washington state mandating immediate testing by EPA approved or certified contractors to determine precise levels of indoor air contaminants in all educational facilities used by grades k-12; and be it further

**Resolved**, that parents and teachers be notified of the nature, location and dates of testing 7 days prior to testing and be advised of the results within 14 days of completion of such tests.

### **Rationale Statement from WSPTA Resolutions Committee**

The intent of this resolution remains the same. The proposed change adds portable structures to the scope of this resolution.

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## **Proposed Amendment of Current Resolution #16 (WSPTA Resolutions Committee)**

### ***WSPTA Board of Directors' recommendation: Adopt***

#### 11.22 Allergies and Asthma [*Resolution passed 2013*]

**Whereas**, allergies among youth **continue to increase every year, with more than half of the over 5.6 million youth with food allergies developing the** increased nearly 20 percent nationwide since 1997, with some 4 million children reporting a food allergy in the last 12 months, and 8.3 million reporting a respiratory allergy in the last 12 months; and

**Whereas**, one out of 25 children have a food allergy, and hospitalization of children for food allergies has also increased, **and children with food allergies are two to four times more likely to have asthma or other allergic disease;** and

**Whereas**, **children with both food allergies and asthma are at greater risk to suffer a near-fatal or fatal anaphylaxis reaction and their airways are more sensitive to allergic triggers; and**

**Whereas**, food allergies are a particular **health** concern in the school environment, with about 18 percent of children with food allergies having allergic reactions to accidental ingestion of food allergens while in school; and

**Whereas**, twenty-five percent of anaphylaxis reactions in schools occur among students without a previous food allergy diagnosis **and the FDA confirms that symptoms first presenting as mild upon ingesting food allergen, if not treated promptly, can quickly become severe and lead to anaphylaxis;** and

**Whereas**, asthma is one of the most common chronic disorders in childhood, ~~affecting one in 10 youth~~ **with more than 6.2 million children suffering an asthma attack or episode with the odds of having asthma increasing by 23% for children in low-income families;** and

~~**Whereas**, more than 4 million children suffered an asthma attack or episode in 2011, and the highest rate of life-threatening reactions occur among youth with asthma; and~~

**Whereas**, many schools do not have a full-time nurse or licensed healthcare professional available on-site to handle medical emergencies, and nursing duties are often performed by other school personnel, **and this impacts the timely development of appropriate Section 504 plans which impacts a student's ability to access school;** and

**Whereas, according to the primary manufacturer, the prices of some prescribed epinephrine auto-injectors (EpiPen) have increased 400% since invented in 2007; and**

**Whereas, Washington state now allows schools to keep their own supply of epinephrine injectors provided and maintained at the school's expense that can only be administered by the school nurse, but no physicians statewide will write a standing-order prescription for the injectors.**

Therefore, be it

**Resolved, that the Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils urge all school personnel districts across the state to develop model policies and follow an indoor air quality management plan that protects the health of the students and staff occupants, and also to develop teacher and staff receive general training on signs and symptoms of asthma and allergic reactions; and be it further**

**Resolved, that the Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils support ongoing efforts and requirements that an appropriate number of staff per school obtain specific training on allergy and asthma care, anaphylaxis emergency protocols to include the use of epinephrine delivery, and identification and treatment of symptoms of allergy, asthma and anaphylaxis as allowed by individual state statutes and licensures; and be it further**

**Resolved, that the Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils promote awareness of allergy and asthma care, anaphylaxis emergency protocols to include the use of epinephrine delivery, and identification and treatment of symptoms, of allergy, asthma and anaphylaxis in its resource library or back to school information; and development of timely Section 504 Plans; and be it further.**

**Resolved, that Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils advocate for equitable access to affordable quality healthcare, medical supplies and medications for all children and youth.**

### **Rationale Statement from WSPTA Resolutions Committee**

The intent of this resolution remains the same. The proposed changes articulate concerns about equitable access to the quality healthcare, medical supplies and medication needed for students with allergies and asthma, proper health care at school, and recommended staff training for supporting students with allergies and asthma.

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## **Proposed Amendment of Current Resolution #17 (WSPTA Resolutions Committee)**

***WSPTA Board of Directors' recommendation: Adopt***

### **14.4 Digital and Internet Safety [Resolution passed 2007; amended 2013]**

**Whereas, one of the purposes of the Washington State PTA is to promote the welfare of children and youth in home, school, places of worship, and throughout the community; and**

**Whereas, another purpose is to engage the public in united efforts to secure the physical, mental, emotional, spiritual, and social well-being of all children and youth; and**

**Whereas, 95% of teens now report they have a smartphone or access to one. Between computers and mobile devices, children have more access to the internet than ever before with 45% of teens now saying they are online on a near-constant basis; and**

**Whereas, there are growing concerns about the impact of digital technologies, the internet, online gaming and social media on children’s emotional and physical well-being, particularly regarding fear, anxiety, and depression; and**

**Whereas, school districts must annually review their policy and procedures on electronic resources and internet safety, per RCW 28A.650.045, including the consideration of best practices, resources, and models for instruction in digital citizenship, internet safety, and media literacy, including methods to involve parents; and**

**Whereas**, the dangers to youth on the Internet and through wireless and other electronic communications may include access to inappropriate material, solicitation by sexual predators, sexual or racial harassment, cyber stalking, cyber bullying, and identity theft.

**Therefore, be it**

**Resolved, that Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils will work with school districts, educators, families, students, partners and the community to heighten technological awareness and skills to promote responsible, safe and ethical use of the internet, wireless and other electronic resources; and be it further**

**Resolved, that Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils will advocate for digital and internet safety model policies and restorative justice programs for students; and be it further**

**Resolved**, that the Washington State PTA will work with internet providers, lawmakers, law enforcement agencies, and communications companies in developing, implementing and enforcing resources and programs that will **ensure the safety of youth when using the internet, wireless and other electronic communication devices and** limit the accessibility to such **inappropriate** materials by minors.; and be it further

**Resolved**, that the Washington State PTA will provide assistance to local PTAs, councils and regions in developing, acquiring and implementing internet wireless and other electronic communications safety programs in an effort to educate and forewarn our families about potential and real dangers to our children.

### **Rationale Statement from WSPTA Resolutions Committee**

The intent of this resolution remains the same. The proposed title change more clearly articulates what this resolution is about. Other proposed changes update statistics and make the resolution timely and relevant.

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## **Proposed Amendment of Current Resolution #18 (WSPTA Resolutions Committee)**

***WSPTA Board of Directors’ recommendation: Adopt***

18.11 Common School Construction Funding [*Resolution passed 1991*]

**Whereas**, objects of the Washington State PTA are to “promote the welfare of children in school” and “to develop between educators and the general public such untied efforts as will secure for all children and youth the highest advantages in physical, mental, social, and spiritual education,” and

**Whereas, all Washington state children and youth need school facilities that can support the technological, scientific, cultural, social and other educational programs that will prepare them for the challenges and opportunities of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century; and**

**Whereas, children need students deserve** to learn in school facilities that are safe, up to date in all building and construction codes, with flexible and appropriate spaces and design to support, enhance and deliver the educational programs desired by the local community; and

**Whereas, the benefits for school facility investments include increased attendance, improved student performance, and reduced truancy and suspension rates; and**

**Whereas, Washington’s traditional source of revenue from the tax on the state timber sales for school construction no longer provides a stable source of funding, and the state faces a backlog of modernization, remodeling and new school construction projects; and**

**Whereas, the School Construction Assistance Program (SCAP) does not cover the cost of portables, contributes only a small part of the cost to build safe and healthy schools that support learning, and the SCAP median space allocation formula is below the national median and has not been updated since 2006; and**

**Whereas, eligibility for SCAP assistance is dependent on school districts securing local funds, usually through school construction bonds, and less than 45% of school construction bonds have obtained the required 60% supermajority since 2006; and**

**Whereas, Washington’s current capital budget does not ensure construction of classrooms to meet state policies of all-day kindergarten and smaller K-3 and Career and Technical Education class sizes, and the burden of underfunding falls harder on property-poor districts, in the form of higher property tax rates on school construction bonds.**

**Whereas, many Washington State students are unhoused, or improperly housed in unsafe, cold, crowded portables, hallways, closets and other inappropriate spaces not designed for learning; and**

**Whereas, all Washington State children need facilities that can support the technological, scientific, cultural, social and other educational programs that will prepare them for the challenges and opportunities of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.**

**Therefore, be it**

**Resolved, that the Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils will support efforts that will provide stable and timely financing for permanent school construction, to address capacity, growth, class size reduction, modernization, and safety needs; and be it further**

**Resolved, that the Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils will advocate support efforts to update the School Construction Assistance Program formulas to provide an updated construction cost allocation and fair and reliable square footage allocation formula which that recognizes modern educational needs and alternative facility usage.**

## Rationale Statement from WSPTA Resolutions Committee

The intent of the resolution remains the same. The proposed changes add current data, strengthen the resolved clauses to modernize the School Construction Assistance Program, and align the resolution to current law regarding class-size reduction.

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## **Proposed Amendment of Current Resolution #19A (WSPTA Resolutions Committee)**

*WSPTA Board of Directors' recommendation: Amend then Adopt*

**18.25 Rights and Services for Undocumented Children and Youth** Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act Immigrant Children and Families [Resolution passed 2009]

~~Whereas, Washington State and National PTA share a mission~~ **PTA's vision is that every child's potential becomes a reality** ~~to serve as strong advocates for the education and well-being of every child; and~~

**Whereas, the first version of the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act has resulted in undocumented immigrants receiving protection under Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA); the American Dream and Promise Act of 2019 allows current, former and future undocumented high-school graduates and GED recipients a three-step pathway to U.S. citizenship through college, work or the armed services; and**

**Whereas, Washington State PTA believes that every child residing in the United States – regardless of their immigration status – has the right of access to a high-quality public education, adequate food and shelter, and basic health care services.**

~~Whereas, through the DREAM Act, a bill under consideration in the U.S. Congress, high school graduates who have lived in the U.S. for at least five years, could earn permanent resident status and work toward citizenship; and~~

~~Whereas, passage of the DREAM Act would provide undocumented children the hope of living and working in the country where they were raised and educated; and~~

~~Whereas, ALL children in the U.S. deserve dreams of an exciting, respected career in their future, and without the DREAM Act, through no fault of their own, undocumented children are cut off from these dreams; and~~

~~Whereas, Washington Governor Christine Gregoire wrote in a 2006 letter to U.S. Senator Patty Murray, "I fully support the inclusion of the DREAM Act provisions that give this opportunity to children who plan to go to college or serve in the armed forces."~~

**Therefore, be it**

**Resolved, that the Washington State PTA shall actively support legislation and policies that provide immigrants who have received protection under DACA and known as the DREAM Act the ability to reach their fullest potential;** and be it further

**Resolved, that the Washington State PTA and its local PTAs and councils advocate for legislation and policies that:** shall encourage members of Congress to support this federal legislation.

- Prevent undocumented school age children from being denied a free education through coercion, illegal data collection, profiling or interference via threats of deportation
- Maintain schools as “sensitive locations” and continue to refrain immigration and ICE officers from enforcement actions against students in K-12 schools, and expand the definition to include preschools, colleges and universities, and other institutions of learning, such as vocational and trade schools.

### **Rationale Statement from WSPTA Resolutions Committee**

The proposed title change aligns the title of this resolution with a National PTA board position statement of the same name. The current resolution advocates for federal legislation that was changed; while the families and children affected by that legislation were introduced to new barriers to their education via U.S. immigration policies. The proposed changes advocate for those and future children, while keeping the support of the Dream Act intact.

### **Proposed Amendment of Current Resolution #19B (WSPTA Board of Directors’ Amended Version)**

#### **WSPTA Board of Directors recommends the following amendment:**

The WSPTA board of directors recommends amending the second bullet of the second resolved clause by striking out the word “Maintain” and inserting language “Designate the area 500 feet around” and by striking out the word “refrain” and inserting the word “limit” and by striking out the word “students” and inserting the words “children and youth”:

***Resolved***, that the Washington State PTA **and its local PTAs and councils advocate for legislation and policies that:** ~~shall encourage members of Congress to support this federal legislation.~~

- Prevent undocumented school age children from being denied a free education through coercion, illegal data collection, profiling or interference via threats of deportation
- ~~Maintain~~ Designate the area 500 feet around schools as “sensitive locations” and continue to ~~refrain~~ limit immigration and ICE officers from enforcement actions against ~~students~~ children and youth in K-12 schools, and expand the definition to include preschools, colleges and universities, and other institutions of learning, such as vocational and trade schools.

### **Rationale Statement from WSPTA Board of Directors Regarding Amendment**

Defines an area around schools to be included in the definition of “sensitive location” and clarifies this resolution pertains specifically to children and youth, and not adult students, to clearly align with WSPTA’s mission.