

18.9 Participation and Oversight in Education Budgets

Resolution passed 1989; amended 2013

Whereas, the purpose of Washington State PTA is, in part, to bring into closer relation the home and school, so that parents and teachers may cooperate intelligently in the education of youth; and 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, recent research on school reform demonstrates that meaningful family engagement is an essential component in successful and sustainable school turnaround reforms; and

Whereas, PTA's National Standards for Family-School Partnerships – based on decades of research of effective practice – include Standard 5, Sharing Power: “Families and school staff are equal partners in decisions that affect children and families and together inform, influence, and create policies, practices, and programs;” and

Whereas, some schools or educational services may be authorized by a state agency or commission bypassing district regulation; and

Whereas, schools may receive funds from a variety of sources, including local excess levies and bonds, state allocations, federal title funding as well as publicly and privately funded grants.

Therefore, be it

Resolved, that Washington State PTA shall work to ensure parents and local community have a voice and vote in school-site budgets and are meaningfully engaged in budget discussions at the state and local level to ensure education funds are allocated and spent in a manner that best supports students; and be it further

Resolved, that Washington State PTA shall work to ensure elected officials are accountable for all public education spending; and be it further

Resolved, that Washington State PTA work with National PTA to ensure its position on school funding includes elected officials being accountable for public school expenditures.