

MEET THE FLORIDA PTA TEAM



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FLORIDA PTA AT A GLANCE

- Oldest and largest child advocacy organization in Florida.
- Successfully advocated for universal kindergarten, school lunches, bicycle helmets, elementary school recess, homeless student support, Baker Act notification rights, equitable learning environments, and juvenile justice reform.
- Registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit association.
- Non-partisan and non-sectarian.
- Prides itself on being a powerful voice for all children.

CONTACT INFORMATION
Phone: 407.855.7604
Email: legislation@floridapta.org



FLORIDA PTA 2024 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

everychild. onevoice
cadaniño. unavoz

MEANINGFUL ACADEMIC ASSESSEMENTS



WE SUPPORT

- Administration of regular, valid, and reliable assessments aligned with federal requirements and rigorous academic standards that inform student learning without reducing instructional time
- Subject matter testing in native language for ELL students
- Periodic review of the number, nature, and means of delivery of academic assessments to ensure their adherence to best instructional practices and sensitivity to student well-being
- State funding for assessments of college readiness only for those tests that are widely accepted nationwide

SCHOOL CHOICE ACCOUNTABILITY

WE SUPPORT

- Identical accountability and transparency requirements for all educational providers receiving state Pre-K – 12 dollars
- Publication on the DOE website of each state-supported school’s accreditation status, student performance record, and fiscal soundness
- Periodic holistic revaluation of Florida’s accountability system to determine its validity, reliability, and avoidance of bias
- Use of multiple criteria beyond standardized tests to measure student progress and school effectiveness
- Consideration of decoupling teacher and principal evaluations from student assessment results

EVERY CHILD READY TO LEARN

WE SUPPORT

- Local, quality, affordable parenting and family support services
- Medically-recommended screening and prophylactic treatment, including immunizations
- Fully-funded, high-quality, full-day early childhood and preschool programs
- Universal parental notification regarding availability of testing for learning disorders



SCHOOL SITE SAFETY



WE SUPPORT

- Funding to keep schools free of germs, pollutants, mold, vermin, and lead
- Non-intrusive school hardening measures that preserve staff and student privacy
- Funding to guarantee adequate numbers of security staff specially trained to work with children and youth
- Nationally-recommended ratios of school counselors, school psychologists, and social workers
- Maintaining schools as gun-free zones, where possession of firearms is limited to professional law enforcement personnel
- Provision of and ready access to life-saving devices and medications
- Universal staff training and parent-approved student training in life-saving techniques
- Safe and nurturing school environments where all children and families are welcomed and free from violence, coercion, harassment, intimidation, and bullying, regardless of their religion, race, ethnicity, immigration status, disability status, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression

HOME AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

WE SUPPORT

- Enactment of common-sense firearms legislation, including safe storage requirements, which prioritize public safety
- Community-based initiatives and public-private partnerships to prevent domestic and neighborhood violence and to address substance abuse and mental health crises through education, increases in resources and personnel, and evidence-based practices
- Restoration of statewide collection and dissemination to stakeholders of data pertinent to children’s health, safety, and well-being
- Accessible healthcare, especially life-saving healthcare, for all children and youth, regardless of immigration status, economic capacity, or gender identity and expression

SCHOOL FUNDING

WE SUPPORT

- Allocation of PreK–12 operational funding consistent with state constitutional requirements to make adequate provision for a uniform, efficient, safe, secure, and high-quality, system of free public schools
- Allocation of capital outlay funding based on each district or charter school site’s demonstrated need, as detailed in a formal 5-year facilities plan
- Publication on the DOE website, as well as on individual school websites, of the amount of federal, state, and local operational and capital funding received and expended by each school receiving state PreK–12 funding, as well as certification of compliance with annual audit requirements



Targeted funding designed to bring teacher salaries up to the national average, at all levels of teaching experience

PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE CHILDREN

WE SUPPORT

- Heightened monitoring of the safety and well-being of children in foster and out-of-home care, especially those victimized by human trafficking
- Consideration of allocation increases for extended family care, foster care, and homeless youth
- Continued attention to the needs of students with disabilities aging out of the K-12 system
- Development and implementation of individual mentoring plans for students in need of support to avoid interaction with the criminal justice system
- Recognition of LGBTQIA+ students, staff, and families as a protected class.
- Guaranteed access for every child to a rich, challenging, unbiased, and culturally broad curriculum and associated resources that reflect a wide diversity of identities, histories, experiences, and concepts, and that are designed to foster critical thinking and free expression, devoid of censorship
- Legislation to reduce poverty and improve financial inclusion

