Spooky season is here, but advocacy doesn't have to be scary!

Gear up for election season!

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Podcast Alert!

*Notes from the Backpack: A PTA Podcast* is available to stream now on: Apple Podcasts, Google Play, Stitcher, Spotify and TuneIn. Just search for "Notes from the Backpack" on your favorite podcast app for 30-minute episodes on topics like, "The Truth About School Discipline in America." Learn more.

NEWS FROM THE HILL

Trouble with FY2020 Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations

The Senate Labor-HHS-Education bill, which funds education programs, has been delayed due to policy disagreements among Senators. In order to avoid a potential government shutdown, Congress and the President have agreed to a continuing resolution which extends federal funding through Nov. 21. This temporary agreement buys Congress more time to work out spending disagreements. PTA remains committed to ensuring Congress provides equitable and continued investments in kids.

October 3, 2019

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, Oct. 2
Join us for a webinar with Symantec as we kick off National Cyber Security Awareness Month! Register now.

Tuesday, Oct. 15
Join us on Facebook, where we’ll be announcing the recipients of our fall 2019 grants!

Tuesday, Oct. 15
Great news—we’ve extended the deadline to enroll in our School of Excellence program! Learn more.

Friday, Nov. 15
The National PTA Resolutions Committee is seeking resolutions for consideration during the 2020 Convention in Louisville, Ky. All resolutions packets must
National PTA President Participates in Gun Violence Prevention Forum

Leslie Boggs participated in a U.S. House of Representatives Gun Violence Prevention Task Force Forum recently on the “Impact of Gun Violence on Children and the Need for a Senate Vote on Universal Background Checks”. Watch Leslie’s opening statement, read her written testimony and see National PTA’s letter to Majority Leader McConnell urging him to take up universal background checks legislation.

PTA Endorses the Elementary and Secondary School Counseling Act

Introduced in the Senate by Senator Jeff Merkley (D-OR) and in the House by Representative Katherine M. Clark (D-MA-05), this bill would establish grant programs to better staff schools with mental health services providers and counselors. The recommended student-to-counselor ratio is 250 students per counselor, but the national average is 464:1 and continues to rise. PTA believes that federal policymakers should prioritize access to school and community-based mental health personnel and services.

TAKE ACTION

Demand Universal Background Checks!

National PTA President Leslie Boggs asked during her opening statement, “do our elected officials, including our President, value our nation’s children and families enough to put a law in place that protects them the best that it can, or will they continue to do nothing?” Our children deserve more than thoughts and prayers.

Tell your Senators to address gun violence through universal background checks.

Advocate Spotlight

Our members are the bedrock of PTA’s advocacy. Carla Wiese, President-Elect of Missouri PTA, has gone above and beyond on behalf of all children by taking action on 14 National PTA advocacy campaigns—making her our top advocate this year. Congratulations Carla and thank you for your advocacy!

Visit our Take Action center today!
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ADVOCACY TIP OF THE MONTH

Election Season is Heating Up

As registered 501(c)(3)s, PTAs cannot endorse candidates, but there are plenty of other ways to get involved! Before election day, consider hosting a nonpartisan forum so your members can meet your local candidates, or host a voter registration drive to make sure every voice in your community is heard! You can find step-by-step info in our Election Guides.

See you at the polls! #PTAVotes

NEW RESOURCES

National PTA and the Data Quality Campaign published a parent guide that explains student academic growth data.

The ACT published a report describing how high school students perceive the physical safety of their high schools.