

2023 Legislative and Policy Agenda

Public schools need adequate and stable funding to help students recover from missed learning and address ongoing emotional and mental health challenges.

Minnesota PTA supports increasing the general education basic per pupil formula by 5% in each year of the biennium and indexing the general education basic per pupil formula to inflation.

Schools would be receiving \$1863 more per student today had the per pupil formula increased with inflation since 2003.

Minnesota PTA opposes legislation or policy that uses scholarships, tax credits or vouchers to subsidize private education.

Minnesota PTA supports full funding for special education to eliminate cross-subsidies.

Schools would have \$833 more per student in their general funds this year if there were no special education cross subsidy.

Minnesota PTA supports additional state funding for school districts to hire support staff to meet the health needs of our students, including counselors, social workers, psychologists, nurses, and other licensed mental health professionals.

Public schools need support to implement intentional family engagement strategies and increased resources to address the needs of and opportunities for students and families historically underserved in our schools. Minnesota PTA supports:

- Legislation and education policies that include the *National PTA National Standards for Family-School Partnerships* model to ensure that schools and families are working together to support student success.
- Expanding access to *full-service community schools* that bring social, medical, family-centered and before- and after-school services and activities to the school campus.
- Policies, programs and funding to attract, prepare and retain an increased percentage of *teachers of color and American Indian teachers* in Minnesota.
- Legislation and/or changes in local school district policies that will increase the *amount and quality of recess* in Minnesota schools.
- Policy and funding to expand the teaching and learning of *computer science* in Minnesota schools

Inclusive and safe high-quality public schools are where all students can gain the knowledge and skills to prepare them for lifelong opportunities and success.

Minnesota PTA supports a legislative resolution that recognizes the significant contributions that public schools bring to our communities and celebrates Public Schools Week 2023.

For more information, contact Cathy Nathan, Advocacy Commissioner advocacy@mnpta.org
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