



IDAHO PTA LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

2012

Education Funding

Idaho PTA will pursue the full funding needed to provide a quality public education system for the children of Idaho and implement mandated programs and policies.

Idaho PTA will strive for equitable funding for all of Idaho's public education choices. Idaho PTA will not support cuts in the educational funding that will jeopardize the student's safety or quality of classroom instruction. Idaho PTA will pursue an equitable funding formula related to the actual costs of the educational choices of traditional public schools, public charter schools, and public virtual charter schools that are based on the expense to deliver each educational choice.

Idaho PTA opposes any attempts to divert public funding to private or sectarian schools. Idaho PTA believes this would promote division without diversity and create separation within the community. Idaho PTA supports providing school choice within the public education system while maintaining accountability.

Parent Involvement and Responsibility

Idaho PTA recognizes parents as a child's first and most influential teachers. Idaho PTA recognizes the research that demonstrates that when parents are involved in their child's education, students achieve more regardless of socioeconomic status, ethnic/racial background, or parents' level of education.

Idaho PTA seeks: 1. the protection of the rights of parental involvement in site-based decision making 2. the assurance that schools communicate with and involve parents in meaningful ways.

Idaho Endowment Lands

Idaho PTA encourages Idaho state officials to take all necessary steps to manage the School Trust Lands and the School Endowment Funds in accordance with trust duties and principles, including undivided loyalty to the beneficiaries and a duty to make Trust property productive in long term as well as short term ways.

Promoting Childhood Nutrition, Health, and Safety

PTA in its purposes and programs promotes safety for children and youth. Idaho PTA recognizes the hazards to Idaho's children and youth walking to and from school as well as other dangers and risks on Idaho roadways which may risk their safety. Idaho PTA will work with school districts, communities, law enforcement, policy makers, and others to increase awareness and seek positive solutions.

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