

MASSACHUSETTS PTA ADVOCACY IS:

- Changing “what is” into “what should be”
- Achieving social justice is a crucial element
- Guaranteeing everyone matters and everyone is heard
- Supporting and speaking up for children
- Ensuring sound policies that promote the interests of all children
- Influencing policy promoting health, education and well being of all children
- Promoting parent engagement in their student’s education
- Informing and educating
- Turning problems into successful grassroots issue campaigns

PTA mission

To make every child’s potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for **all children**.

PTA is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit association that prides itself on being a powerful voice for all children, a relevant resource for families and communities, and a strong advocate for public education. The Massachusetts PTA is Massachusetts’s largest and oldest child advocacy organization. Membership in PTA is open to anyone who wants to be involved and make a difference for the education, health, and welfare of children and youth. We promote parent engagement in their student’s education. PTA’s effort is to make sure children are healthy, safe and well-educated. The PTA commitment to building an inclusive and welcoming environment where all families can contribute to the educational experience and overall well-being for all students is supported on the National, State, and Local levels. ***Please join us! Advocate for children!***

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Massachusetts
PTA®
everychild.one voice.®

LEGISLATIVE MISSION: **Actively advocate for Federal, State and Local legislative initiatives that will support every child in reaching their potential.**



LEGISLATIVE GOALS:

To host a Legislative event at the Massachusetts State House each Fall and sponsor a Spring event

To actively participate in the National PTA's Legislative Conference every year with a team of Advocates

To encourage, support and assist local PTA units in their Legislative efforts

To respond to issues through Position Statements as needed

To create and present Resolutions

To support and educate Student Advocates

HOW TO ADVOCATE:

- Know your goal
- Gather information and data on the issue
- Organize a group of supporters
- Understand your obstacles
- Leverage allies and partners
- Disseminate a clear, compelling message



LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY

Advocacy is the core of this organization. The PTA is the largest child advocacy organization in the United States. We function on the Federal, State and local levels through our affiliation agreements. There are some advocacy actions that we follow from the National PTA and others that we react to on a state or local level. Advocacy is a process, not an event. It is a continuous process that needs commitment and courage. Advocacy is about supporting someone or something, proposing or recommending someone or something; and it is about achieving specific outcomes. Advocacy implies identifying a cause, believing in it, mobilizing and influencing others to support it so as to change the policy or program that is negatively affecting that cause. The Massachusetts PTA has an Advocacy committee made up of volunteers that steer our legislative efforts and collaborates with community partners. Our mission is to actively support Federal, State and Local legislative initiatives that will ***support every child in reaching their potential.***

PTA began by advocating for safe school environments, student teacher ratios, healthy school lunches, Kindergarten, mandatory physical education, etc. Today we support breakfast in school initiatives, safe drinking water in schools, mandatory recess, safe school measures, adequate funding, health and wellness initiatives, social and emotional learning, family engagement, etc. We support measures that will ensure that every child's potential can become a reality. We are the voice for every child. We plead, support and recommend. The PTA advocates for certain language in our laws and demands a seat at the table. We advocate in every area: health and wellness, legislation, special education, juvenile justice, academic achievement, STEAM, social and emotional learning, mental health, etc. PTA advocates have been working hard for the advancement on issues that impact students, families and schools. We work together and build relationships to achieve a common goal.

Advocacy sets us apart from other organizations!