

June 29, 2022

**National PTA Calls on Congress to Support Federal Investments  
in Key Programs that Serve Our Nation's Children & Families**

Dear Member of Congress:

On behalf of National PTA and our millions of members nationwide, we would like to submit the following federal funding requests for Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23). As the oldest and largest child advocacy association in America, we know that federal investments are critical to ensuring the educational success, health, and well-being of all children in our country.

In particular, we strongly urge you to provide in the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations bills for FY23 at least:

- \$1 billion for **school-based mental health supports and services**, including School Based Mental Health Services Professionals & School Based Mental Health Services programs<sup>i</sup>
- Robust funding for the **Project AWARE grant program**, including \$25 million for **Section 7134** grants to provide mental health education and training to students and school personnel and prevent youth suicide and violence<sup>ii</sup>
- \$8.3 million for the **Interagency Task Force on Trauma-Informed Care** through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
- \$20 million for the **Statewide Family Engagement Centers grant program**<sup>iii</sup> and \$45 million for the **Parent Information Centers program** to foster meaningful parent and family engagement in their children's education<sup>iv</sup>
- \$16.2 billion for the **Individuals with Disabilities Education Act** Part B, putting IDEA on a glidepath to full funding and support our nation's students with disabilities<sup>v</sup>
- \$36.5 billion for **Title I of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)** to provide all students, especially those living in low-income households with the support needed to succeed
- \$3 billion for the **Supporting Effective Instruction State Grants program**, Title II, Part A of ESSA to invest in retaining and recruiting teachers, principals, and other school leaders, as well as improving their practice<sup>vi</sup>
- \$2 billion for the **Student Support and Academic Enrichment grant program** under Title IV-A of ESSA to provide all students with access to a well-rounded education<sup>vii</sup>
- \$30 million to support a federally funded five-year grant program to launch, implement, and evaluate new or existing Foster Youth Education programs<sup>viii</sup>

Additionally, we request that no public money be diverted to funding any private school voucher programs, including the District of Columbia private school voucher program.

Unfortunately, private school choice systems have detrimental effects on our public school systems, and public dollars must remain invested in public schools for the benefit of all students and the future of our nation.

PTA has long advocated to ensure children have access to adequately funded public schools that improve their overall well-being and allow students to reach their fullest potential. Through meaningful investments which support states, districts and schools, the federal government plays a critical role in ensuring a high quality public education for every student. We strongly urge you to champion federal investments that serve our nation's children and families, consistent with the recommendations described above. We also look forward to working with Congress to make additional investments in programs that support children and families, including investments in school infrastructure, child nutrition, juvenile justice, safety, child care, and early learning.

Thank you for your consideration, and please feel free to contact our Director of Government Affairs, Kate Clabaugh, at [kclabaugh@pta.org](mailto:kclabaugh@pta.org) if you have any questions. We look forward to working with you to make every child's potential a reality.

Sincerely,



Anna King  
President  
National PTA



Nathan R. Monell, CAE  
Executive Director  
National PTA

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<sup>i</sup> For more information on this request, see [https://www.pta.org/docs/default-source/files/advocacy/2022/appropriations-for-fiscal-year-2023/april-28-2022---national-pta-joins-letter-calling-for-funding-to-address-the-severe-shortages-of-school-based-mental-health-professionals-\(e-g-school-psychologists-school-counselors-and-school-social-workers\).pdf](https://www.pta.org/docs/default-source/files/advocacy/2022/appropriations-for-fiscal-year-2023/april-28-2022---national-pta-joins-letter-calling-for-funding-to-address-the-severe-shortages-of-school-based-mental-health-professionals-(e-g-school-psychologists-school-counselors-and-school-social-workers).pdf) and

<https://www.pta.org/docs/default-source/files/advocacy/2021-letters-to-policymakers/april-21-2022---national-pta-joins-letter-calling-for-funding-to-support-mental-health-professionals-and-trauma-informed-practices-in-our-nation-s-schools.pdf>

<sup>ii</sup> For more information on this request, see <https://www.pta.org/docs/default-source/files/advocacy/2022/appropriations-for-fiscal-year-2023/april-25-2022---national-pta-joins-letter-urging-congress-to-invest-in-programs-that-prevent-and-address-childhood-trauma.pdf>

<sup>iii</sup> For more information on this request, see [www.pta.org/docs/default-source/files/advocacy/2021-letters-to-policymakers/sfec-letter-fy23.pdf](http://www.pta.org/docs/default-source/files/advocacy/2021-letters-to-policymakers/sfec-letter-fy23.pdf)

<sup>iv</sup> For more information on this request, see <https://www.pta.org/docs/default-source/files/advocacy/2022/appropriations-for-fiscal-year-2023/april-25-2022---national-pta-joins-letter-urging-congress-to-adopt-the-highest-proposed-levels-for-the-federal-investment-in-programs-that-support-infants-toddlers-children-and-youth-with-disabilities-and-their-families.pdf>

<sup>v</sup> For more information on this request, see [www.pta.org/docs/default-source/files/advocacy/2022/appropriations-for-fiscal-year-2023/april-25-2022---national-pta-joins-letter-urging-congress-to-provide-the-maximum-increase-possible-in-funding-for-idea.pdf](http://www.pta.org/docs/default-source/files/advocacy/2022/appropriations-for-fiscal-year-2023/april-25-2022---national-pta-joins-letter-urging-congress-to-provide-the-maximum-increase-possible-in-funding-for-idea.pdf)

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<sup>vi</sup> For more information on this request, see <https://www.pta.org/docs/default-source/files/advocacy/2021-letters-to-policy-makers/fy23-title-ii-a-ed-organization-sign-on-letter.pdf>

<sup>vii</sup> For more information on this request, see <https://www.pta.org/docs/default-source/files/advocacy/2022/appropriations-for-fiscal-year-2023/april-26-2022---national-pta-joins-nearly-100-national-state-and-local-organizations-in-letter-urging-congress-to-fund-title-iv-part-a-of-the-every-student-succeeds-act.pdf>

<sup>viii</sup> For more information on this request, see [https://www.pta.org/docs/default-source/files/advocacy/2021-letters-to-policy-makers/fye-program-letter-of-support\\_house\\_senate--april-22-2022.pdf](https://www.pta.org/docs/default-source/files/advocacy/2021-letters-to-policy-makers/fye-program-letter-of-support_house_senate--april-22-2022.pdf)