Helping all children reach their fullest potential!

The long-term success of our nation depends on quality federal investments in our education system; however, the United States currently invests only about 2 percent of the regular federal budget on education. National 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 full potential.

From a lack of student support and mental health services to crumbling school infrastructure, there have been far too many children left with insufficient resources, which is why National PTA and its members advocate to ensure schools have the proper resources needed to help children learn, grow and succeed.

In Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24), we are calling upon Congress to support the following investments in education:

### Family Engagement

- **$25 million for the Statewide Family Engagement Centers grant program** to enable more states to be served by this program in order to strengthen family-school partnerships.
- **$45 million for the Parent Training and Information Centers grant program** to foster meaningful engagement of parents and families of children with disabilities.
- **Funding to launch a permanent Office of Family & Community Engagement** under the U.S. Department of Education.

### School Safety and Gun Violence Prevention

- **Continued funding for the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control** at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to maintain current youth violence prevention activities and increased funding to expand the reach of its community violence prevention work, childhood trauma initiatives and suicide prevention program.
- **Increased funding for the Children Exposed to Violence Initiative and the Community Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative (CVIPI) at Department of Justice.**
- **$100 billion in direct grants & $30 billion in bonds** to rebuild outdated and crumbling schools and strengthen K-12 school infrastructure to protect the health and safety of every child.

### Welcoming, Inclusive and Supportive Schools

- **$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 academically succeed.
- **$16.2 billion for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Part B**, putting IDEA on a path to full funding and support our nation's students with disabilities.
- **$260 million for the U.S. Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights (OCR)** to ensure equal access to education programs and activities for all children and youth and strengthen protections against discrimination in the school setting.
- **$310 million for the Office on Smoking and Health** at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to address youth vaping and e-cigarette use.
- **Investments to allow for new competitions for the School-Based Mental Health Services Grant Program and Mental Health Service Professional Demonstration Grant Program.**
Digital Safety and Well-Being

- $2 billion for the Student Support & Academic Enrichment grant program under Title IV-A of ESSA to provide all students access to a well-rounded education and encourage the effective use of technology.
- $1 billion for the Emergency Connectivity Fund and increased funding for the Affordable Connectivity Program to support schools and families purchasing mobile learning technology and broadband service.

PTA also supports increasing the funding allocated to the House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies in FY24 to a level that ensures robust and sustained investments in programs that impact health and well-being, child development, educational and skills attainment and productivity across the nation.

PTA opposes any public money being diverted to funding any private school voucher programs, including the District of Columbia private school voucher program. Public dollars must remain invested in public schools for the benefit of all students and the future of our nation.

PTA opposes any policy riders blocking implementation of stronger nutrition standards in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs. We strongly support the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)'s proposed rule to strengthen nutrition standards consistent with the 2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans and we urge you to preserve and build on the progress schools and the food industry have made to meet science-based nutrition standards established under the 2010 Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act.

Questions?
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