

**National PTA Gun Violence Task Force
Recommendations for 2017-19
Wednesday, April 26, 2017**



Contributors -

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Courtesy: L. Bay (ex-officio), W. Bauman, D. Tidwell

Charge

At the November 2016 board meeting the Legislation Committee moved to create a task force on the topic of gun violence in America. Specifically, the Legislation Committee recommended that the task force be convened to:

- review existing position and resolution statements pertaining to the epidemic of gun violence in America
- reach out to state leadership for feedback on the issues around gun violence, and to collect state level advocacy work pertinent to gun violence abatement, education and research
- collaborate with National PTA committees for feedback on current committee work pertinent to gun violence abatement, education and research
- identify areas in which new statements can be promulgated in support of our mission of realizing every child's potential
- identify areas in which existing statements can be amended in support of our mission of realizing every child's potential
- provide a summation and recommendation to the Board on the issue of gun violence in America at the June 2017 pre-convention meeting
- establish a continuity binder should the next board decide to re-convene a similar task force in the 2017-19 term

The board voted unanimously to adopt this motion. The following is the Task Force's recommendations on the issue of Gun Violence.

Concepts to be considered for New Resolutions/Position Statements

The Task Force identified several concepts to be included in existing Resolutions/Position Statements, or which should constitute the drafting of a new Resolution/Position Statement:

- Gun ownership (proper usage, training and storage)
- Gun sales (brick and mortar vs. online, gun shows, personal sales, background checks)
- Resource Officers and gun/weapon use
- High capacity magazines
- Assault rifles
- Open carry/concealed carry
- Mental health adjudication and gun ownership
- Funding for research – PS done; R in process

Position Statements/Resolutions

The Task Force identified several policy documents which require updating with contemporary terminology, legislation and/or statistics:

- Ban on the Manufacture and Sale of Saturday Night Special Junk Guns (R)
- Sale, Resale and Destruction of Firearms (R) – in process
- Gun Safety and Violence Prevention (PS) - done

Additional Collateral

The Task Force identified additional materials that could be created as resources for membership in the fight against gun violence:

- Best practice parenting (Grandparenting) piece on the subject of gun ownership
 - Proper storage & handling
 - New parent tips
 - Babysitter tips (responsibility of gun owner to disclose to babysitter)
- Hub (toolkit) on website where gun violence prevention materials could be accessed
- Whitepaper on current statistics and legislation for distribution to state leaders, and modified whitepaper to stakeholders
- Collaboration with medical, first responder and public health associations
- Advocacy piece on engaging in ballot measure initiatives on the topic of guns
- Reaffirmation of importance of gun-free schools

Transition

The Task Force has compiled a continuity binder to be delivered to President-elect Accomando should he choose to convene a subsequent Task Force in the 2017-19 cycle. This binder includes:

- All research completed
- Plan of Work
- Minutes
- Final Recommendation to the Board