

# THE UTAH PTA 2023-24

## LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES



*The Utah PTA Legislative Priorities are based upon the actions called for by the Utah PTA and National PTA resolutions and position statements. Rather than providing an exhaustive list of the areas in which the Utah PTA is involved, the priorities are indicative of issues on which PTA expects to target its efforts and activity. All PTA statewide public policy work is consistent with the Utah PTA's priorities, resolutions, and position statements.*

**EDUCATION:** Support an adequately-funded, public school system by funding an 8% WPU increase over and above growth and inflation; implement policies to increase proficiency levels by improving attendance, reducing class sizes, and supporting teachers; increase academic excellence for all Utah students; and prioritize local control to LEAs and individual schools.

**HEALTH:** Support legislative action that focuses on the diverse mental health needs of Utah's students and families, with a focus on promoting protective factors. This includes increasing public knowledge and understanding of mental health concerns throughout the state, access to resources, as well as providing funding for proactive prevention, timely interventions, and community-based initiatives utilizing evidence-based methods.

**SAFETY:** Support funding to strengthen school safety measures. This includes the improvement of school infrastructure to ensure safety and security, implementation of comprehensive safety training, adoption of evidence-based strategies for community violence intervention and means reduction, as well as the education of families and communities on school safety protocols, children's online security, and the assessment of digital threats posed to schools across Utah.

**FAMILY ENGAGEMENT:** Support policies which will increase constructive family engagement with schools and the community and promote local positive parental involvement across the State of Utah.

**INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT:** Support programs and policies that promote constructive civic engagement and citizenship, positive character development, and strengthen individual students.