

# Beginning Advocacy

## Take Action for Every Child

*Mindy Taylor, VP Advocacy*

*Teresa Potter, Legislative Chair*

Advocacy in all its forms seeks to ensure that those who are most vulnerable in society are able to:

- 1) Have their voice heard on issues that are important to them.
- 2) Defend and safeguard their rights.
- 3) Have their views and wishes genuinely considered when decisions are being made about their lives.

PTA: Oldest & Largest  
Volunteer Child Advocacy  
Organization in the Country



# All Children Should Have These Rights:

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The right to learn in clean, safe, well-maintained school facilities with ample classrooms space, up-to-date technology and adequate school supplies.

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The right to be taught by caring, committed and qualified teachers and support professionals.

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The right to attend local public schools that have the flexibility to meet their unique needs.

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The right to safe transportation to and from school.

This  
Requires  
Our  
Legislators  
to:

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Fully fund school construction to maintain and modernize existing schools, build new schools and expand classroom capacity.

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Fully fund safety, mental health, recess and any other state mandates.

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Fully fund competitive, professional base pay and benefits to attract and keep high-quality K-12 school faculty and staff.

# Why Is Now Particularly Important?

## State of Florida: Education Dollars

Two-Decade Push for “Pro-Choice” K12 Funding = Charters & Private Vouchers

	2007-2008 Budget	2007-2008 Inflation- Adjusted Dollars	2017-2018 Budget	2018-19 Budget	National Average
<b>Per Student Funding</b>	\$7,126	\$8,150	\$7,296	\$7,408	~\$11,000
<b>School Security Funding</b>	75 million	112 million*	64.5 million	64.5 million (Recurring) 100 million SROs (Recurring) 98.5 million Grants (Non-Recurring & allocated to whichever schools get their grants approved) \$67 million Guardian (NR)	
<b>Charter School Funding</b>			50 million	120 million	
<b>Private School Vouchers: Tax Credit Scholarship**</b>	73.5 million		698.8 million	873.5 million	Varies widely: OK 3.4 million GA 58 million
<b>Private School Vouchers: Hope Scholarship</b>				\$40 million	

This  
Requires  
our  
School  
Board &  
District  
Administration  
to:

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Fund and implement programs that offer all students the curriculum and support they need to learn the Florida Standards.

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Invest in new schools, school maintenance, technology, safety, health and wellness including mental health and recess, and any other services that support student learning.

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Support pay and benefits to attract and keep high-quality K-12 school faculty and staff.

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Visibly advocate for State Funding to support our public school needs and against the use of public school funding for schools that do not serve all students equally.

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Support alternative funding sources if State Funding is not sufficient.

What  
Can  
We  
Do  
at the  
State &  
National  
Level?

4/28/2018

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VOTE!!

50% of public school students in Hillsborough County do not have an active voter in their Household

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Become informed about the issues that can affect our children at local, state and federal levels and Vote Accordingly.

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Make sure that everyone of Voting Age in your PTA knows what you know: Parents, Teachers, Students

How  
to  
Stay  
Informed?

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Sign up for Take Action Alerts:  
National PTA

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Florida PTA

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Alliance for Public Schools



# National PTA Takes Action Alerts – PTA.ORG



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## Take Action

- [Write Your Officials](#)
- [Find Officials](#)
- [Sign Up for Alerts](#)
- [Register to Vote](#)

## Federal Legislation

- [Federal Public Policy Agenda](#)
- [Key Legislation](#)

## TAKE ACTION

## Federal Legislation

## PTA's Positions

## Legislative Conference

## Stop Cuts to Classrooms

- [Every Student Succeeds Act \(ESSA\)](#)
- [Letters to Policymakers](#)

## PTA's Positions

- [Position Statements](#)
- [Resolutions](#)
- [Private School Vouchers and School Choice](#)
- [Standards and Assessments](#)

## Legislative Conference

## Advocacy Resources

- [Election Guides](#)
- [Advocacy Toolkit](#)
- [Legislation Committee](#)
- [Resolutions Committee](#)

## 2018 Advocacy Awards

Like 11 Share Tweet



# Florida PTA Takes Action Alerts – FloridaPTA.ORG



ABOUT US

PTA LEADERS

PROGRAMS  
+ EVENTS

FOCUS AREAS

RESOURCES

JOIN  
+ CONNECT

## Voter Voice – Legislative



## Voter Voice – Legislative Alerts

\*Sign up for Florida PTA's Take Action Network to learn more about legislative issues affecting families, schools, and communities and to stay informed on the latest updates from Tallahassee.

**\*By registering for Florida PTA's Take Action Network, you will be joining over 300,000 child advocates in Florida that support and speak up for children, (REGISTRATION MUST BE UPDATED YEARLY. - If you have signed up previously, please do so again today!)**

[CLICK HERE TO JOIN](#)



[CLICK HERE](#) for Your Elected Officials



**FOCUS AREAS**

**ADVOCACY** +

**TAKE ACTION SIGN UP (VOTERS VOICE)**

**LEGISLATION**

**RESOLUTIONS**

**GUIDE FOR THE PTA ADVOCATE**

**CONSTITUTION REVISION COMMISSION** X

How  
to  
Stay  
Informed?

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Remind – text @hccpta to 80101

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Join the FB Group & Turn on Notifications  
for: HCC PTA Advocacy Group

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Twitter @hccpta

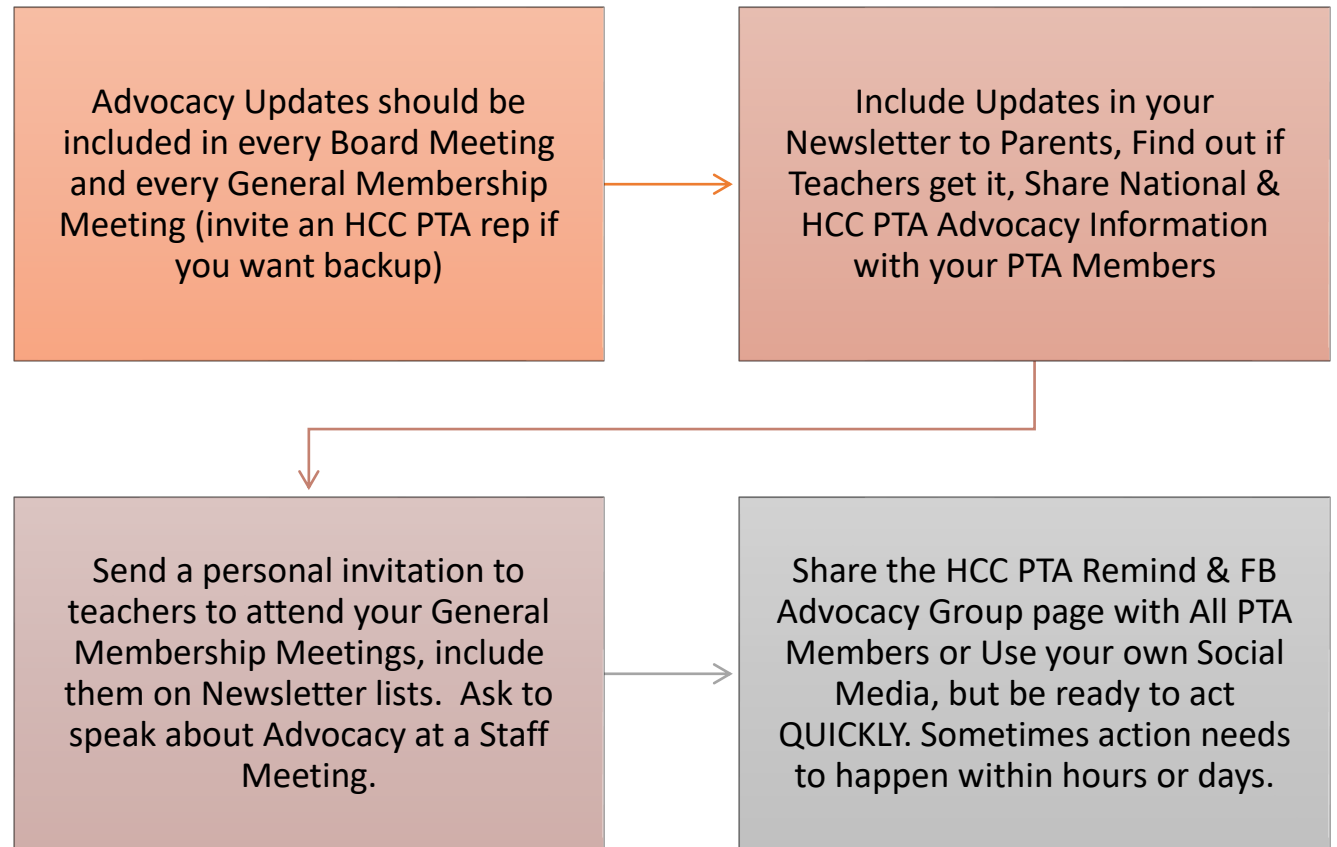
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Alliance for Public Schools -  
<http://all4schools.org>

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League of Women Voters, Hillsborough -  
<https://hclwv.org/>

# How to Share Information in Your PTA/PTSA



Each of us  
CAN Make a  
Difference.  
Together.

Contact  
Your Legislator  
and/or  
School Board  
Member when  
you get  
Take Action  
Alerts

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Send an Email

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Make a Phone Call

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Meet with them in Person at their  
local office

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Talk with their aides

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Let them know what's important to  
you

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# *Remember...*

- Nobody has all of the information.
- Just start by making the first phone call, sending that first email or scheduling a meeting.
- And most importantly, remember that each time we do something we are helping ALL CHILDREN.