Oklahoma PTA
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Position Statement for Oklahoma PTA

Shared Responsibility in Educational School Decision making (alias "Parent Empowerment Act")

Whereas, Oklahoma Statutes currently provide opportunities for parents to overhaul an underperforming school:

Oklahoma PTA opposes current legislation of the "Parent Empowerment Act." Although we support legislation that empowers parents to be engaged in their child's education and is reflective of community interest, prioritizes student achievement, and builds systemic and sustainable family-school partnerships; we oppose any measure that would divert public funds from public schools, turn public schools into private corporations, or disjoin parents, teachers and/or communities with one another.

Oklahoma PTA supports the concept of shared responsibility in the development of school policies and in curriculum decisions. PTA urges all school boards to cooperate with parents, teachers, students, principals, administrators, businesses, civic and community leaders, and the general public in this process.

Oklahoma PTA recognizes the importance of parent involvement in the decision-making process in the development and implementation of school policies, including administrative appointments within the school site and/or school district in the event of necessary restructuring for the betterment of the educational atmosphere for all children.

Oklahoma PTA supports providing ongoing support to build the capacity of school leadership and personnel to meaningful partners with parents, families, and the community using research-based family engagement strategies and programming to positively impact student achievement. All decision-makers should be informed and trained regarding process, responsibilities, and issues in the areas of open parent communication, school policy, and socio-economic factors within the community.

Position statements as approved by the Advocacy Committee and Oklahoma PTA Board on January 19, 2013 and amended on February 19, 2013