FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Washington State Parent Teacher Association Sets Two-Year Legislative Platform

Tacoma, WA (November 1, 2024): The Washington State Parent Teacher Association (WSPTA) held its 46th annual Legislative Assembly this weekend, October 26-27, at Seattle Pacific University. Delegates met to consider seven new issues, three new resolutions, and amendments to one current resolution in support of the association's vision of *making every child's potential a reality*. Issues establish the advocacy priorities for the upcoming legislative biennium. They are replaced every two years. Resolutions guide WSPTA's advocacy work from the local to the state level. They may be amended, updated, or retired and are usually broader in scope than issues.

WSPTA's priority issues, resolutions, and legislative principles support the delivery of the association's mission:

- PTA is a powerful voice for children,
- PTA is a relevant resource for families, schools, and communities, and
- PTA is a strong advocate for the well-being and education of every child.

As a whole child advocacy association, the priority issues represent the health, well-being, and education needs of the children of Washington state.

WSPTA's Top 5 priorities established for the 2025 and 2026 legislative sessions:

- 1. Closing the Funding Gaps
- 2. Addressing the Student Mental Health Crisis
- 3. Addressing Funding, Inclusion, and Supports in Special Education
- 4. Preventing and Reducing Gun Violence and Suicide
- 5. Expanding School Construction Funding Options

WSPTA Also Supported Issues (listed alphabetically):

- Increasing Educational Equity by Closing the Digital Divide
- Mitigating the Adverse Impacts of Climate Change

WSPTA New Resolutions Adopted

- Equitable Access to School Library Information and Technology Programs
- Inclusive and Historically Accurate Standards, Curricula, and Practices

• Ensuring Graduation with a Meaningful High School Diploma

WSPTA Updated Resolution

• 18.6 Uninterrupted Operation of Schools

For more information, please visit the Advocacy page on the WSPTA website.

About Washington State PTA: Washington State PTA was founded in 1905 by Abby Williams Hill of Tacoma, an artist who saw the need for an organization to support Washington's children. Thanks to her leadership and vision—and current members who have carried her vision forward—Washington State PTA has been a leading voice for children in Washington for more than 119 years. To learn more about the Washington State PTA, please visit www.wastatepta.org.

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