

WHAT WILL YOU BUILD?

PTA: BUILDING A BETTER WORLD, BRICK BY BRICK



WHAT IS THE MISSION OF THE NATIONAL PTA?

PTA is a strong advocate for public education, a relevant resource for parents and a powerful voice for children. The children are PTA's focus, and we speak for every child.

OUR MISSION IS THREEFOLD:

- To support and speak on behalf of children in the schools, in the community and before governmental bodies and organizations that make decisions affecting children;
- To assist parents in developing the skills that they need to raise and protect their children; and
- To encourage parent and public involvement in the public schools of the nation.

For more information on the National PTA, including the current PTA legislative priorities, programs, resources, grant opportunities, and leadership, please visit <http://PTA.org>.

Click [HERE](#) for a brief history of PTA's strong legacy of child advocacy!

EDUCATION

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

JUSTICE

EDUCATION

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HEALTH & SAFETY

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EDUCATION

ADVOCACY

HEALTH & SAFETY

JUVENILE

FAMILY

THE EUROPEAN PTA IS:

- The largest volunteer organization working exclusively for American children and youth in Europe.
- Part of the National PTA and its membership of over 4 million.
- An advocacy group before the DoDEA leaders and the Federal Government, working to influence policy makers who deal with education and health issues.
- A network of volunteers who also serve on committees of other organizations that deal with children's issues.
- A source of information on topics affecting children.

The European PTA began in 1958 as the European Congress of American Parents Teachers and Students (ECAPTS) and is a State-Level branch of the [National Parent Teacher Association](#). In 2015, we celebrate our 57th year as a voice for children in the European military community and beyond.

EPTA provides leadership support to our local PTA units; works in cooperation with DoDEA and DoDDS-Europe at all levels; and advocates on behalf of all children. The work of the European PTA is instrumental to enhancing the quality of life for our military children overseas.

European PTA is an official private organization. It is not affiliated with the U.S. Department of Defense or any of its components, and it has no government status.

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THE EUROPEAN PTA ENCOURAGES:

PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT

A primary objective of PTA is to encourage greater involvement of parents with their children in their schools. Studies have shown that a school district would have to spend over \$1000 per child to get the same effect as having a parent, grandparent, or other caring adult involved in that child's education, and it is our goal to ensure that our students are set up for success! PTAs help parents by:

- Providing training and supplemental materials on parenting skills.
- Helping to build family-school partnerships as embodied in the [National Standards for Family-School Partnerships](#).
- Conducting and participating in local and national conferences on child-related issues.
- Continuing to be the largest and most effective association advocating for the education, health, safety and well-being of all children and youth.

LEGISLATIVE INVOLVEMENT

The National PTA is a strong, proactive advocate for children's issues and has influenced major legislation. The current four key PTA policy areas from the 2014 [National PTA Public Policy Agenda](#) are:

- **EDUCATION**
- **CHILD HEALTH AND NUTRITION**
- **SCHOOL SAFETY**
- **JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION**

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THE EPTA SUPPORTS LOCAL PTAs THROUGH:

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

- Training officers and members through workshops at the annual European PTA Convention and Leadership Training, as well as via many online training resources from National PTA.
- Distributing manuals and pamphlets for use by Local Units.

COMMUNICATION

- Informing local units about events and child-related issues through email bulletins, social media outlets, our website, and our newsletter.
- Providing and/or publishing up-to-date materials on issues related to children, family and school.
- Sponsoring programs such as the Scripps National Spelling Bee and the PTA Reflections Program that recognize student talents.

THE EPTA STATE OFFICE

- Provides help that is readily available by email or telephone.
- Facilitates the flow of information between the local unit, the European PTA, and the National PTA.

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OUR PURPOSE IS:

- To promote the welfare of children and youth in home, school, community, and place of worship.
- To raise the standards of home life.
- To secure adequate laws for the care and protection of children and youth.
- To bring into closer reason the home and the school that parents and teachers may cooperate intelligently in the education of children and youth.
- To develop between educators and the general public such united efforts as will secure for all children and youth the highest advantages in physical, mental, social and spiritual education.

We are working together to build a better future for all children, one brick at a time. We will do this by advocating for education, child health and nutrition, school safety, family engagement, and juvenile justice with one strong voice for every child.

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