

2009-2010 PTA Advocacy Issues



PTA has advocated for issues regarding the education and well-being of children since 1897. Every parent should be aware of current legislative issues that affect your children. Link to more information by clicking on any underlined items on this page.

Support Local Control of the School Calendar –*posted 5/14/2010*

Would you like to have input into when your child goes back to school?

Sign the online petition at <http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/txschoolstartdate/>

The petition says “*I support local control of the school calendar*” and is sponsored by the Plano ISD Council of PTAs.

District School Board Election Results –*posted 5/10/2010*

Results of the May 8th elections:

Place 1: Tammy Richards

Place 2: Carrolyn Moebius

Place 3: Nancy Humphrey

More information about the Board of Trustees and the application process is available at <http://www.pisd.edu/about.us/board.of.trustees/board.election.shtml>.

District Board of Trustee Meetings –*posted 1/25/2010*

Agendas, meeting minutes and videos of public meetings of the Plano ISD Board of Trustees are available for review on the Plano ISD website at

<http://www.pisd.edu/about.us/board.of.trustees/meetings.minutes.shtml>

New Laws Regarding Teen Drivers and Booster Seats –*posted 9/14/2009*

Parents need to be aware of recent new laws that go into effect September 1 regarding driving and child passenger safety!

New Laws

HB 339 prohibits teens under 18 from texting or talking on a cell phone while driving.

HB 537 requires that everyone in the car, regardless of age and regardless of where they are sitting, needs to wear a seatbelt.

HB 61 requires that all children younger than 8 years and less than four feet nine inches tall be in a child safety seat system.

Booster Seats

Car crashes remain the number one killer of children ages 2-14 in the United States. The Safekids Buckle Up Campaign recommends the following safety tips:

- Use a booster seat correctly in a back seat every time your child rides in a car.
- Use a booster seat until your child weighs between 80 and 100 pounds, and is about 4 feet, 9 inches tall. For most children, that will be between ages 8 and 12.
- Tell all drivers who transport your child that booster seat use is a must when your child is in their vehicle.

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- Booster seats are not installed the same way car seats are. They sit on the vehicle seat and are used to properly position the adult safety belt for an older child. Always use a lap and shoulder belt with a booster seat.
- Never place the shoulder belt under the child's arm or behind the child's back.
- Be sure all occupants wear safety belts correctly every time. Children learn from adult role models.

Texas Legislative Priorities –posted 9/14/2009

Texas PTA supports legislation that improves health, well-being and educational opportunities for every child. Their comprehensive legislative webpage has information on many such issues. Visit <http://www.txpta.org/legislative/>.

Questions may be directed to legislative@centennialpta.net.