



everychild.onevoice.[®]

Texas PTA State Office
408 West 11th Street / Austin, Texas 78701
1-800-TALK-PTA / www.txpta.org

Questionnaire for Governor and Lt. Governor Candidates

1. Please describe your top three priorities for improving public education in Texas.
2. Given recent public statements by policymakers about controlling property value increases, please describe your plan for reforming the current system of school funding to ensure that it is adequate and equitable for all students, regardless of where they live.
3. Would you support a statewide property tax to generate adequate funding for public schools?
4. What percentage of public school funding do you believe should be provided by the state?
5. Do you support funding for full-day pre-kindergarten for all at-risk children?
6. How will you ensure that students in need of special education services will be identified and will receive the support they need?
7. What is your position on using public dollars to fund private school programs and services that are not accountable to the state, through education savings accounts, tax credit scholarships, or by providing funds to the student through a voucher that may be used for educational purposes?
8. Given the rising rate of childhood obesity and increasing rates of Type 2 diabetes will you support more minutes of physical and health education for all students?
9. In your opinion, how important is parent engagement to student success? Please explain your position.
10. Describe your philosophy regarding school accountability systems. What is their value? Do you see any limitations?
11. Texas is one of a few states that treats 17 year olds as adults in the criminal justice system. Do you support raising the age of adulthood for non-violent criminal offenses from 17 to 18 years of age? Please explain your position.
12. With almost 500,000 members statewide, Texas PTA is a powerful voice for children and youth. If you are elected governor, what role can Texas PTA expect to play in the development of your policies related to children and youth – policies impacting children’s health, safety, and education?