

Town Hall Question Suggestions with MOPTA Positions

Question 1:

Please introduce yourself. Please let our members know what schools are in the legislative district you represent and what House committee or committees you currently serve.

(Invite each representative/senator to respond by name. Use a rotation to allow for the next person to answer the next question first, and so on.)

Introduction to Question 2:

PTA has long advocated to ensure children have access to adequately funded public schools that improve their overall well-being and allow students to reach their full potential. From a lack of student support and mental health services to crumbling school infrastructure, there have been far too many children left with insufficient resources.

PTA advocates to ensure schools have the proper resources needed to help children learn, grow and succeed.

When Missouri encountered difficult economic times due to the Great Recession, we saw line item decreases to student service such as transportation and Parents As Teachers. Since that time, little attention has been given by the legislature as a whole to increase these line items and, as such, students, parents and public education as a whole have suffered.

Question 2:

Given the current revenue deficit in Missouri how would you like to see the budget balanced while still protecting Missouri public schools?

Introduction to Question 3:

PTA advocates to guarantee public funds are not diverted to any private school choice proposal and/or voucher system, including tax credit scholarship programs.

Question 3:

Do you support the use of tax dollars or tax credits programs to provide money to provide scholarships to pay for tuition at private schools? Why or Why not?

Introduction to Question 4:

PTA Advocates to ensure all public-school choice and public charter school programs are accountable to the public, open to all students, comply with federal health and safety and discrimination laws, including students with special needs.

Question 4:

Do you support legislation that would allow the opening of charter schools which are not supervised or governed by the locally elected board of education in the (insert district) school district? Why or Why not?

Introduction to Question 5:

PTA recognizes that there must be a balance between the physical security of our schools and the physiological safety of our students, which is why we are dedicated to ensuring our schools have both the necessary physical security measures and the necessary student support services to keep our students safe. We advocate to require all decisions related to physical security measures to be locally determined, collaborative and incorporate input from students, parents, families, educators, school leaders and the community.

Question 5:

What are your priorities for fostering a safe and positive school environment?