



PTSA WASHINGTON

January Update

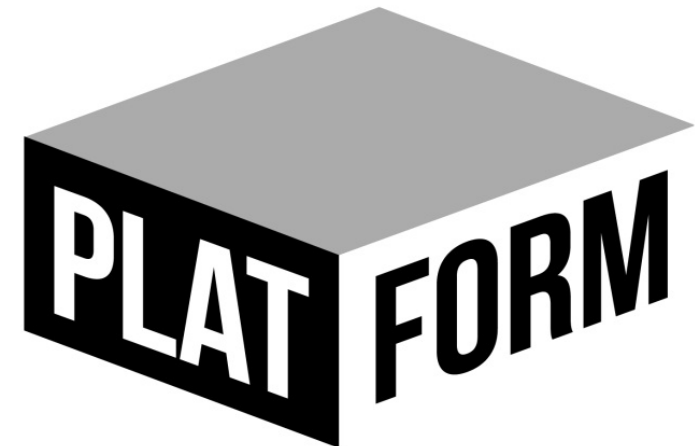
ADVOCACY

Did you know that legislators hear more about the number of chickens allowed in backyards than about K-12 schools? Every year, members decide on our legislative priorities, and WSPTA wants to make it **easier for our members to connect** with decision-makers to let them know that we care about the success of each and every one of the 1.1 million K-12 students in Washington.



LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

The Washington State PTA legislative platform is a two-year platform to mirror the Washington state legislative cycle. On the even-numbered years, the new platform is voted on by members at the legislative assembly in the fall. The top five issues become our short-term platform and consist of our priority issues when advocating throughout the year. Other issues are placed on an “also supported” list. During the odd-numbered years, members vote to amend current issues or to add new, emerging issues to the also supported list.



TOP 5 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR 2017

1. Social Emotional Learning
2. Amply Fund Basic Education
3. Closing the Opportunity Gap
4. Standards for Paraeducators
5. Breakfast After the Bell

2018 WSPTA SUPPORTED ISSUES

Addressing the
Teacher Shortage

Best Practices for
School Meal Policies

Career Connected
Learning, CTE & Stem

Dual Credit Equality
& Support

Engaging Families in
Student Success

Equity for Highly
Capable

Improving Educational
Outcomes for Foster
Children

Post-
Secondary/Higher
Education Access and
Affordability

Preventing and
Mitigating the
Impacts of Gender-
based Violence

Removing Barriers to
Implementing ECEAP
(Early Childhood
Education and
Assistance Program)

Restorative Justice
and School Safety

School Construction
and Class Size
Reduction



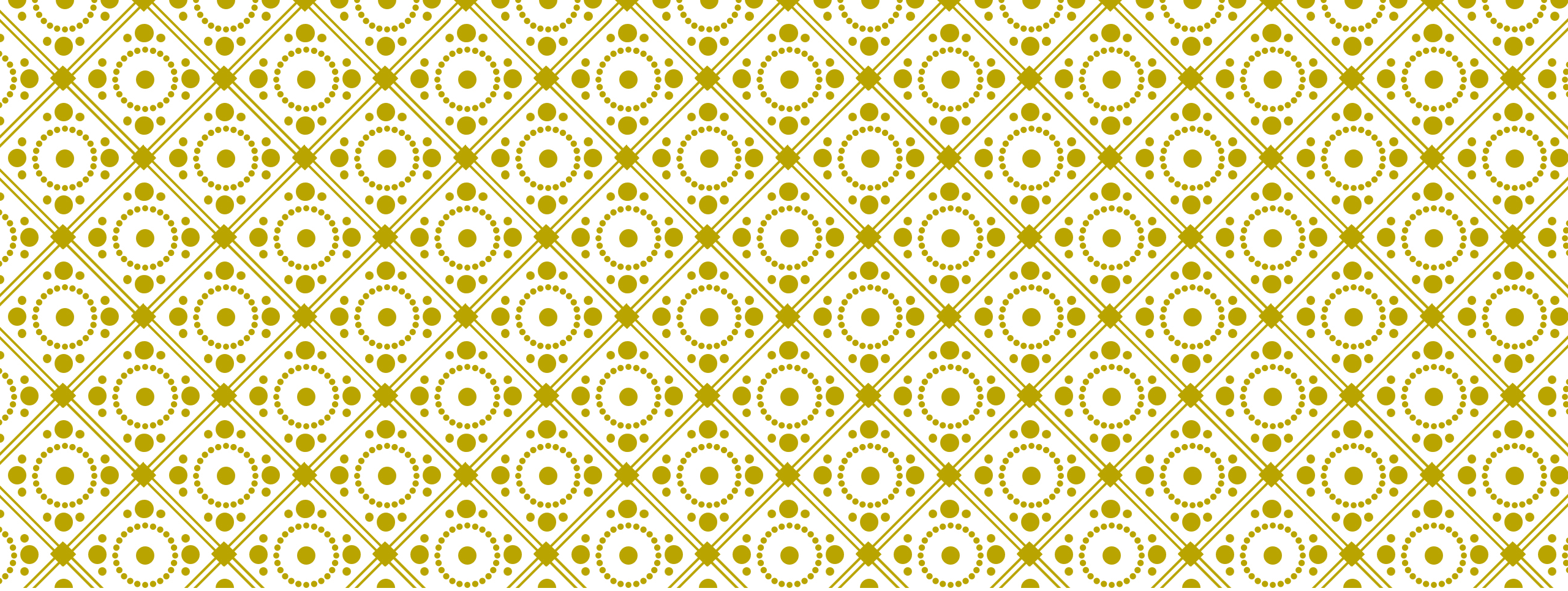
FOCUS DAY AND ADVOCACY WEEK

Focus Day will be held in Olympia on **January 29, 2018**. Advocacy Week, for calls and emails to legislators, will be the week of January 29 through February 5, 2018. This is an opportunity to connect with legislators to advocate on WSPTA priorities.

THE ROLE OF PTSA?

- ✓ PTSA is the largest child advocacy group in the United States.
- ✓ Your membership enables advocacy with our state Legislature and guarantees our school district is represented in decisions that effect our students.





THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF PTSA!