

**I. RESOLUTION ON SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING (SEL)**

1 WHEREAS: the Legislative Platform of the Illinois PTA, Item 6-a seeks to improve  
2 the quality of education, and Item 7-a provides for adequate legislative and/or  
3 financial support for the protection, health, and welfare of children and youth;

4 WHEREAS: Social and emotional problems experienced by children and  
5 adolescents, such as depression, anxiety, substance abuse, suicidal thoughts, juvenile  
6 delinquency, dropping out of school, engaging in multiple risky behaviors and the  
7 juvenile arrest rate for violent crime have grown considerably over the past decade;

8 WHEREAS: Social and emotional development is an essential foundation of  
9 cognitive development and related to academic achievement;

10 WHEREAS: Social & Emotional Learning (SEL) defined as the process of acquiring  
11 the skills to recognize and manage emotions, develop caring and concern for others,  
12 establish positive relationships, make responsible decisions, and handle challenging  
13 situations has effectively been proven by research to increase student achievement in  
14 academics (11%);

15 WHEREAS: the school setting is recognized as one of the most influential  
16 socializing contexts for any child outside the family to help him/her to acquire social  
17 and emotional skills; and

18 WHEREAS: Legislators, educators, youth-serving practitioners, and school support  
19 personnel recognize the importance of developing students' skills necessary to be  
20 successful in the workplace, make ethical decisions, and be contributing members of  
21 society.

22 RESOLVED: that Illinois PTA actively distribute information on and promote the  
23 inclusion of Social & Emotional Learning (SEL) content, skills, evaluation and  
24 assessment standards within school curricula as has been developed by the Illinois  
25 State Board of Education (ISBE);

26 RESOLVED: that Illinois PTA encourage and support the education of students,  
27 parents, teachers, administrators and legislators in SEL working in a collaborative  
28 manner with other organizations of similar interest; and

29 RESOLVED: that Illinois PTA seek and support increasing the efforts of the Illinois  
30 State Board of Education to educate local school districts in the importance and  
31 requirements to implement SEL standards.

Submitted by Neuqua Valley High School PTSA

