

**December 2020 House of Delegates
New Business Items
December 4-5, 2020**

NEW BUSINESS ITEM #1

ADVOCATE TO FOLLOW UP ON ACT 13 OF 2020

PSEA shall advocate for follow up legislation to Act 13 of 2020, specifically mandating that support staff and certificated members receive no more and no less pay, benefits, and retirement credit than they were to receive had the pandemic not continued into the 2020-2021 school year.

Moved by: Deneen Dry
Central Bucks ESP

Seconded by: Wendy Sheeder
IU 28 ARIN ESP

Cost Implications: This could cost up to \$25,000 in targeted social and digital media advertising. It will require staff time.

NEW BUSINESS ITEM #2

ADVOCATE FOR SUPPORT AND STAFFING OF HEALTH OFFICES

Using existing resources, PSEA shall advocate for additional supports for and staffing of school health offices by members of bargaining units.

Moved by: Deneen Dry
Central Bucks ESP

Seconded by: Cheryl Mattern
Central York EA

Cost Implications: This could cost up to \$25,000 in targeted social and digital media advertising. It will require staff time.

NEW BUSINESS ITEM #3

ADVOCATE TO OMIT “WHERE FEASIBLE”

The executive officers of PSEA send a letter to Governor Wolf, Secretary Levine, and Acting Secretary Ortega urging their offices to omit the words “where feasible” in documents regarding COVID-19 mitigation measures, including, but not limited to, physical distancing, face coverings, sanitation protocols, etc. in schools. This letter shall also urge that six feet of physical distancing become a mandate, and not a recommendation, to keep students and members safe in our buildings.

Moved by: David Diehl
Council Rock EA

Seconded by: Michael Cherinka
Dallas EA

Cost Implications: This will require staff time.

NEW BUSINESS ITEM #4

ADVOCATE FOR PANDEMIC-RELATED MANDATES AND CREATE PR CAMPAIGN

PSEA lobby for pandemic-related mandates that protect the lives, health, and safety and welfare of all educators, and create a public communications campaign to acknowledge educators’ contributions, efforts and sacrifices during the pandemic.

Moved by: Maureen Grace
Mount Pleasant Area EA

Seconded by: Vanessa Valerio
Mount Pleasant Area EA

Cost Implications: This could cost up to \$250,000 in targeted social and digital media advertising. It will require staff time.

NEW BUSINESS ITEM #5

ADVOCATE FOR HOTLINE TO REPORT PANDEMIC VIOLATIONS

The officers of PSEA send a letter to Governor Wolf, Secretary Levine, and Acting Secretary Ortega requesting their offices create a hotline for public school staff to report violations of the attestation form. This letter shall also encourage PDE to conduct safety audits via site visits in a manner similar to those conducted for adherence to standardized testing policies and procedures.

Moved by: Beth Teitelman
Bucks County IU 22 EA

Seconded by: Mary Jane Laquer
Bucks County IU 22 EA

Cost Implications: This will require staff time.

NEW BUSINESS ITEM #6

CREATE PRESS RELEASE TO HIGHLIGHT PANDEMIC VIOLATIONS

PSEA will create a digital customizable press release to highlight school entities which have been proven to be in violation of their attestation form, and, due to these violations, are jeopardizing the health and safety of students, support staff, and educators. This document shall be made available to local presidents to use at their discretion in consultation with their UniServ.

Moved by: Beth Teitelman
Bucks County IU 22 EA

Seconded by: Mary Jane Laquer
Bucks County IU 22 EA

Cost Implications: This will require staff time.

NEW BUSINESS ITEM #7

ELICIT FEEDBACK FROM MEMBERS TO INFORM ADVOCACY

PSEA provide opportunities for all members to elicit feedback and input in order to collect data to inform future advocacy efforts in regard to workplace health and safety, student and staff mental health concerns, and job retention as a result of the pandemic.

Moved by: Jill Forster
Colonial EA

Seconded by: Donelle Brotz
Colonial EA

Cost Implications: If an all-member survey is required, this could cost up to between \$30,000 and \$50,000 annually to conduct the survey. It will require staff time.

NEW BUSINESS ITEM #8

INVESTIGATE COLLECTING INFORMATION ABOUT INSTRUCTIONAL DELIVERY

PSEA investigate the most appropriate way to collect statewide information about school district instructional delivery models as a result of the pandemic, how to update that information on a regular basis, and how to best share that information on a regional or statewide basis and with local presidents.

Moved by: Lynn Vitali
Pennsbury EA

Seconded by: Colleen Brodbeck
Pennsbury EA

Cost Implications: This will require staff time.

NEW BUSINESS ITEM #9

INVESTIGATE RAMIFICATIONS OF AMENDING LAW GOVERNING DISTRICT POLICY

PSEA shall investigate the ramifications of amending state law governing school district policy making procedures as follows:

1. Require school districts in the Commonwealth to create a policy committee that includes representatives of the respective stakeholder employee groups, selected by association members of their respective bargaining units, to serve two-year terms.
2. Require all proposed educational policy be communicated to this Policy Committee BEFORE public communication.
3. Require all proposed educational policy to be subject to advice, amendment and consent of this Policy Committee no later than July 1 for implementation in the subsequent school year, except under emergency conditions.
4. Require compensated professional development, related to the new educational policy, for all affected employees prior to the opening of school.
5. Require a reasonable limit to the number of new policy implementations per school year.

Moved by: David Klein
Central Bucks EA

Seconded by: Katherine Semisch
Central Bucks EA

Cost Implications: This will require staff time.

NEW BUSINESS ITEM #10

REQUEST UPDATED GUIDELINES RELATED TO COVID

The officers of PSEA shall request updated guidelines from PDE regarding school procedures following the identification of COVID cases. PSEA shall request that the updated guidelines reflect clear metrics used to determine the necessity to move to fully virtual instruction. PSEA shall also advocate for prioritization of community spread in determining the need for remote learning; thereby acknowledging the limitations in using positive tests results when many exposed individuals, even those who are symptomatic, are forgoing testing in favor of quarantine. PSEA will also request the updated guidelines become binding policy, rather than recommendation, for all public schools.

Moved by: Dawn Curran
Central Bucks EA

Seconded by: David Klein
Central Bucks EA

Cost Implications: This will require staff time.

NEW BUSINESS ITEM #11

ADVOCATE FOR CLARIFICATION ON WORKING REMOTELY

The officers shall advocate for public clarification from Governor Wolf regarding the expectation that public-school employees should be working remotely if there is substantial community spread and their students are receiving fully virtual instruction. This will be done via a letter to individual districts.

Moved by: Katherine Semisch
Central Bucks EA

Seconded by: David Klein
Central Bucks EA

Cost Implications: This could cost up to \$5,000 in targeted social and digital media advertising. It will require staff time.

NEW BUSINESS ITEM #12

ADVOCATE FOR HAZARD PAY

Using existing resources, PSEA shall advocate for hazard pay for those employees whose job responsibilities put them at higher risk for COVID transmission based on the necessity for physical proximity to students.

Moved by: Dawn Curran
Central Bucks EA

Seconded by: David Klein
Central Bucks EA

Cost Implications: This could cost up to \$25,000 in targeted social and digital media advertising. It will require staff time.

NEW BUSINESS ITEM #13

INVESTIGATE RAMIFICATIONS OF AMENDING SCHOOL CODE RELATED TO ACT 93 EMPLOYEES

PSEA will investigate the ramifications of an amendment to School Code wherein all Act 93 employees, in order to maintain certification, must, for a period of time equal to one half of one school year, teach at least one course in their discipline and level of educational certification, or perform a duty equal to the professional obligations of their subordinates, no less than once every two years.

Moved by: David Klein
Central Bucks EA

Seconded by: Katherine Semisch
Central Bucks EA

Cost Implications: This will require staff time.