

Advocacy

Attending Legislative Conference



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I'm attending PTA Legislative Conference in Tallahassee January 26-28, 2020 – now what?

- We will meet either in person or conference call about a week out from legislative conference
- Hillsborough County PTA members hotel room rate
- Make appointments with your Legislators
- PTA position statements
- Invite teachers/administrators from your school

Focus for 2020 legislative session

- Mental health legislation (specifically improving Baker Act processes)
- Hands free communication while driving
- Increase teacher salaries
- Social Emotional Learning – teachers incorporate into their lessons
- Increase safe conditions for students getting to and from school

Also for 2020

- Census – we need your help to get ALL families to fill out the 2020 census.
- Census day is **April 1** and is used to determine funding for lots of benefits (\$675 billion in local funding for programs such as school lunch, food stamps, new schools, new roads, legislative districts and lots more).
- We will need PTAs to remind families to FILL OUT the CENSUS!

About our Legislature

- In the Florida Legislature there are **40 senators** (23 Rs/17Ds) and **120 House** members (73 Rs/47 Ds)
- Senators can file **unlimited numbers of bills**, House members can file **6**
- Last year **1,861 bills filed, 195 made it to the governor's desk**
- The leadership of the Senate is critical as President of the Senate (Galvano) selects all of the Committee Chairs and they determine which bills will get calendared

Hillsborough County Delegation

■ 4 Senators

- Cruz
- Lee
- Galvano
- Rouson

■ 9 House Members

- Hart
- Toledo
- J. Grant
- Valdes
- McClure
- Driskell
- Beltran
- Hattersley
- Newton

Every PTA/PTSA should have an Advocacy Chair

HCC PTA/PTSA board added diversity chairs to HCC PTA – you should too!

- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
 - LGBTQ Inclusion
- Military Inclusion

- Role play friendly and unfriendly meetings