

### **TRAINED ADULT PROFESSIONALS**

- WHEREAS, Trained adult professionals such as school counselors, school psychologists, and school social workers should serve as role-models for our youth, coordinate available resources, and become actively involved in the prevention, intervention and post-intervention processes by assisting those who are experiencing difficulty and helping students and their families to develop necessary skills; and
- WHEREAS, Professionals are currently over-burdened with clerical tasks and budget cuts have made ratios extremely high; and
- WHEREAS, Research suggests that trained adult professionals need time to focus on the needs and interests of students; and
- WHEREAS, In some instances, counselors are unavailable when needed by students; and
- WHEREAS, Today's youth are facing critical social problems; and
- WHEREAS, Most parents and/or guardians are unable to deal effectively with these problems; now, therefore, be it
- Resolved, That Utah PTA actively seek increased funding for additional trained adult professionals (psychologists, counselors and social workers) to assist and educate families and youth through the public school system; and be it further
- Resolved, That Utah PTA seek additional funding to obtain clerical help to alleviate over-burdened professionals to allow more time to effectively counsel with youth and parents; and be it further
- Resolved, That Utah PTA seek funding to effectively train these professionals in prevention education dealing with eating disorders, teenage suicide, drug abuse, Satanism, child abuse, low self esteem, teenage pregnancy, and gang activities; and be it further
- Resolved, That Utah PTA seek funding to effectively train teachers to recognize danger signals and to make appropriate referrals of children who are at risk with any of the foregoing problems.