

ATTENTION DEFICIT DISORDERS IN CHILDREN

- WHEREAS, The fifth Object of PTA is to develop between educators and the general public such united efforts as will secure for all children and youth the highest advantages in physical, mental, social, and spiritual education; and
- WHEREAS, Attention Deficit Disorders, also called Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorders (ADD/ADHD), is recognized as one of the leading problems of school-age children today with estimates ranging between 3% to 14%; and
- WHEREAS, Current medical research indicates that ADD/ADHD is a dysfunction of the central nervous system that affects children from birth onward; and
- WHEREAS, When unidentified and untreated, ADD/ADHD children are at much greater risk for academic underachievement, school failure and dropout, low self-esteem, social and family problems; and
- WHEREAS, The National Association of School Psychologists believes that effective intervention should be tailored to the unique learning strengths and needs of every student and that such interventions for students with ADD/ADHD may include instructional and behavior modification, education of school staff and families, and medication when indicated for reinforcement of such interventions; and
- WHEREAS, Without specific intervention, students who have ADD/ADHD may be a disruptive influence in the classroom affecting not only their success but the success of other students in the classroom; now, therefore, be it
- Resolved, That Utah PTA and its constituent bodies educate parents, school personnel and communities on symptoms and behaviors of ADD/ADHD through literature and workshops and to stress the importance of early diagnosis and treatment; and be it further
- Resolved, That Utah PTA and its constituent bodies support effective interventions tailored to the unique learning strengths and needs of every child and that, when available, school psychologists should have a vital role in developing and monitoring effective interventions with students with Add/ADHD; and be it further
- Resolved, That Utah PTA and its constituent bodies support legislation for funding to assist in training of parents, teachers and other school personnel in identification and treatment methods of ADD/ADHD and to support funding for further research into the cause and treatment of ADD/ADHD.