

2025 NYSSBA Proposed Resolutions Worksheet

Amendments/Resolutions

- Key: **S:** Support Bylaw Amendment or Resolution * Supported by NYSSBA DEI Committee
SA: Support Resolution if Amended
O: Oppose Bylaw Amendment or Resolution * Opposed by NYSSBA DEI Committee
ND: No Decision
^ Comments provided below from WPSBA discussion

	WPSBA Meeting Consensus	Local Board Vote	NYSSBA Meeting Vote
Proposed Resolutions Recommended for Adoption			
1. Sunsetting Resolution: NYSSBA oppose to expand mayoral control to school districts beyond New York City. <i>(NYSSBA Board of Directors)</i> *	S		
2. Sunsetting Resolution: NYSSBA support legislation at the state and/or federal level that would allow and enhance the sharing of services amongst school districts and other municipalities. <i>(NYSSBA Board of Directors)</i>	S		
3. Sunsetting Resolution: NYSSBA support proposals aimed at addressing the costs and administrative burdens of legal actions related to special education placements and services. <i>(NYSSBA Board of Directors)</i>	S		
4. Sunsetting Resolution: NYSSBA support incorporating prekindergarten funding into the school aid formulas used for K-12 education. <i>(Peru School Board)</i>	S		
5. Sunsetting Resolution: NYSSBA produce, and widely recommend the adoption of a board policy, or language to be added to the existing policy related to child abuse, stating that the adopting district will encourage and facilitate all school personnel, including those who are mandated reporters and those who are not, to participate, once every three years, in a course or workshop that presents information related to signs of child abuse and the responsibilities of reporting it.. <i>(Peru School Board)</i> *	S^		
6. Sunsetting Resolution: NYSSBA opposes proposals to raise the number of charter schools authorized in the state. <i>(Peru and Albany School Boards)</i>	S		
7. Sunsetting Resolution: NYSSBA shall advocate for an overhaul of the current, inadequate testing system to more accurately measure achievement in skills, knowledge and abilities, by: a. Working collaboratively with the NYS Ed Dept, superintendents, administrators and teachers to create tests that are developmentally appropriate of reasonable length and frequency, and which avoid the unintended consequences of narrowing the curriculum, teaching to the test, reducing love of learning and undermining school climate; b. Insisting that educators throughout the State be included in all aspects of the creation of standardized tests; and c. Demanding that district personnel be permitted to examine test results, answer keys, and students' responses so that educators can better assess what each child is learning in relation to what is being taught & so that such tests can truly inform instruction. <i>(Albany School Board)</i>	S		
8. NYSSBA shall advocate for the number of lockdown drills to be reduced from four to two each year. <i>(Binghamton School Board)</i>	ND^		

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9. NYSSBA support legislation which would allow creation of a regional high school when determined by local BOE to be educationally or fiscally appropriate. <i>(Roxbury School Board)*</i>	S		
10. In light of the recent “Extreme Heat Condition Days” unfunded mandate, that NYSSBA supports the state providing school districts and BOCES with necessary funding to allow for air conditioning and appropriate electrical needs in all public school buildings. <i>(Port Washington and Peru School Boards) *</i>	S		
11. NYSSBA support the state to safely incorporate AI into curriculum and district operations. <i>(NYSSBA Board of Directors) *</i>	ND^		
12. NYSSBA oppose proposals that would provide tuition tax credits or educational vouchers that benefit private or parochial schools. <i>(NYSSBA Board of Directors) *</i>	S		
13. NYSSBA shall advocate to the New York State Education Department, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and federal legislators for: 1. The reinstatement of whole milk as an allowable option in school breakfast and lunch programs, in addition to existing low-fat offerings; 2. The recognition of updated nutritional science supporting the safety and benefits of whole milk in the diets of children and adolescents. <i>(Sullivan West, Carle Place, Cold Spring Harbor, Hicksville, Locust Valley, Massapequa, Mohonasen, Oyster Bay-East Norwich, and Plainedge School Boards)</i>	O^		
14. NYSSBA shall advocate for Amendments to NYS Education Department regulations to allow a set amount of daily recess time—up to 30 minutes per day—to count toward required instructional hours for elementary students. <i>(Sullivan West, Carle Place, Cold Spring Harbor, Hicksville, Locust Valley, Massapequa, Mohonasen, Patchogue-Medford, and Plainedge School Boards)</i>	O^		
15. NYSSBA shall advocate for the following policy changes: Substantial increases in state reimbursement rates for out-of-district special education placements to reflect true and current costs, including transportation and related services by way of Reform of the Excess Cost Aid formula to ensure more equitable and timely distribution of funding, particularly to districts facing a high proportion of costly mandated placements relative to total enrollment. <i>(Sullivan West, Carle Place, Cold Spring Harbor, Hicksville, Locust Valley, Massapequa, Mohonasen, Oyster Bay-East Norwich, and Plainedge School Boards) *</i>	ND^		
16. NYSSBA seek and promote legislation to reform current legal notice publication requirements. <i>(Orchard Park School Board)</i>	ND^		
17. NYSSBA supports limiting a district’s potential annual hold harmless phase out to no more than 2% of their district budget, even if doing so extends that district’s overall phaseout period. <i>(Onteora School Board) *</i>	O^		
18. NYSSBA advocates for a budget threshold to protect rural districts with low enrollment and large geographical footprints in the Foundation Aid Formula. <i>(Onteora School Board) *</i>	O^		
19. NYSSBA supports legislation allowing school districts to receive compensation from the New York Liquidation Bureau for liability insurance claims arising out of claims brought under the Child Victims Act in cases where the insurance company holding the policy became insolvent and its estate was executed by the Liquidation Bureau. <i>(Cold Spring Harbor, Bay Shore, Herricks, Middle Country, and Port Jefferson School Boards)</i>	S^		
20. NYSSBA supports an amendment to New York State law that would authorize public school districts to establish and fund Health Insurance Reserve Funds through Board-approved resolutions. <i>(Baldwinsville School Board)</i>	S		
21. NYSSBA urge the NYS Legislature to amend General Municipal Law Section 6-j to explicitly include BOCES among the entities authorized to establish and maintain workers' compensation reserve funds. <i>(Nassau BOCES Board)</i>	S		

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22. NYSSBA shall support legislative or regulatory changes to add financial literacy into the statewide K-12 curriculum, with additional state funding to support implementation of this new curricular expectation. <i>(Albany School Board) *</i>	O^		
23. NYSSBA supports legislation on the state level that allows school districts to choose to authorize School Medical Directors (SMDs) and their clinical designees to evaluate, diagnose, temporarily treat, and prescribe medications for students on campus in accordance with New York State law. <i>(Tompkins-Seneca-Tioga BOCES Board and the Candor, Dryden, Groton, Newfield, and Trumansburg School Boards) *</i>	O^		

COMMENTS:

- #5. Debated the necessity of this resolution given the expansion of mandated reporters in the last 5 years.
- #8. Debate over the importance of drills for safety preparedness vs. the time required and the anxiety and stress for students (also noted that current NYS law requires 8 evacuation drills and 4 lockdown drills).
- #9. Discussed how to ensure that the community (perhaps beyond only board trustees) determines the need.
- #11. Debate over the need for guidance and data privacy guardrails for AI vs. fears that legislation can be very inflexible and hard to change as AI continues to evolve. A more targeted resolution calling for guidance from NYSED on use of AI in the classroom and in district operations was more positively received.
- #13. Perspective is that NYSSBA should not be spending time on whole milk, and this is not really the purview of local board members.
- #14. NYS is already doing a statewide survey on recess. Calendar days are currently more of an issue.
- #15. Although we agree with the need for additional funding for expensive special education placements, we believe it should be part of the reworking of the Foundation Aid formula, available to all districts and include funding for FAPE to age 22.
- #16. While we understand the difficulty of finding local papers nowadays, older community members (non-parents) are more likely to see school information in newspapers, and school districts could be open to accusations of “hiding” information if it is difficult to find on their website.
- #17. We believe that NYSSBA should be pushing to keep “save harmless” rather than offering alternatives.
- #18. We believe that NYSSBA should be pushing to keep “save harmless” for all districts.
- #19. Although supportive of any source of funds for CVA settlements, we would like to see a solution available to more school districts.
- #22. Despite a consensus over the need for financial literacy, we oppose asking legislators to create a curriculum mandate. As the Board of Regents are already planning on requiring financial literacy as part of the graduation measures process, the learning standard will be required.
- #23. Concern expressed that school will now be pushed into taking on the job of ensuring health care for children. Discussion included concerns over what medications should be prescribed in a school environment, what kind of follow-up would be needed, what availability of mental health resources would be needed and the potential liability on districts.

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Proposed Resolutions/Bylaws NOT Recommended for Adoption			
24. NYSSBA support legislation that would expand the application of reorganization aid to not only include full merger of school districts, but to also include significant regionalization of educational programs by several schools in a region. (<i>Otsego Northern Catskills BOCES Board</i>) *	0		
25. NYSSBA will advocate for a “Share Our Wealth” proposal, which would increase New York’s top income tax rates for those earning over \$5 million and over \$25 million to 10.5% and 12.85% respectively, and with the increased revenue generated by this proposal to be invested in public education (Pre-k – 16). (<i>Plattsburgh School Board</i>)	0		
26. NYSSBA shall advocate for legislation that restores the religious exemption to vaccine mandates for school attendance, ensuring that: 1. Families with sincerely held religious beliefs are not excluded from public, private, or parochial education systems; 2. Students are not denied access to vital educational services, including special education, as a result of exercising their religious rights; 3. State policy reflects a balance between public health and individual constitutional freedoms, in alignment with national norms observed by the majority of U.S. states. (<i>Sullivan West, Carle Place, Cold Spring Harbor, Hicksville, Locust Valley, Massapequa, Mohonasen, Oyster Bay-East Norwich, and Plainedge School Boards</i>)	0		
27. NYSSBA supports the development and implementation of financial aid that provides supplemental state funding to rural districts for the purpose of equalizing teacher salaries and improving recruitment and retention. (<i>Newark School Board</i>) *	0		
28. NYSSBA should OPPOSE any policies or regulatory changes to curriculum or standards that does not promote academic excellence, high expectations, and merit-based opportunities for all students. (<i>Massapequa, Carle Place, Cold Spring Harbor, Hicksville, Locust Valley, Mohonasen, Oyster Bay-East Norwich, Plainedge, and Sullivan West School Boards</i>)*	0		
29. NYSSBA shall advocate for school districts to be granted home rule authority to strengthen local control and decision-making by elected BOEs. (<i>Massapequa, Cold Spring Harbor, Hicksville, Mohonasen, Oyster Bay-East Norwich, Plainedge, & Sullivan West School Boards</i>) *	0		
30. NYSSBA shall advocate for school board members to be recognized for their service via a locally authorized property tax exemption. (<i>Hewlett-Woodmere School Boards</i>)	0		
31. NYSSBA supports legislation to eliminate Regents Exam Testing at the high school level in favor of State Final Exams that comply with ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act) regulations in 10-11th grade for ELA (1 exam), Math (1 exam), and Science (1 exam). (<i>Hewlett-Woodmere School Board</i>)	0		
32. NYSSBA shall advocate for the REMOVAL of all GMOs (genetically modified organisms), BIOENGINEERED FOOD INGREDIENTS, HEAVY METALS (including but not limited to: Cadmium, arsenic and lead) and DANGEROUS CHEMICALS (including but not limited to: glyphosate) from all student served meals to protect children's health. (<i>Hicksville, East Rockaway, Mohonasen, Oyster Bay- East Norwich, and Plainedge School Boards</i>) *	0		
33. NYSSBA calls upon the NY SED to advocate for the creation and/or expansion through Title 1 or similar comparable state funding streams specifically for special education students to attend out-of-district summer camps including costs for programs and transportation. NYSSBA should ensure that such programs are inclusive of diverse educational models and providers, including those offering social-emotional learning, life skills, vocational training, and recreational therapy in supportive environments. (<i>Hicksville, Carle Place, Cold Spring Harbor, Locust Valley, Massapequa, Mohonasen, Oyster Bay-East Norwich, and Plainedge School Boards</i>)	0		
34. NYSSBA advocates for the mandatory implementation of daily recess for all students in schools that serve exclusively elementary grade levels, in addition to scheduled physical education classes. (<i>Patchogue-Medford School Board</i>)	0		

	WPSBA Meeting Consensus	Local Board Vote	NYSSBA Meeting Vote
Proposed Resolutions/Bylaws NOT Recommended for Adoption			
35. PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENT 1: Article 6, Board Of Directors, shall be amended to include the following: The Board of Directors, or its designee, shall provide a summary report by email to all members at least once every two weeks. This report shall detail any lobbying or advocacy activities undertaken by NYSSBA in support of official positions previously adopted by the membership, including updates on legislative efforts, meetings with officials, public statements, or other relevant actions since the previous report. This report shall also include suggestions for "grassroots" advocacy by membership to assist NYSSBA in its advancement of adopted positions. <i>(Sullivan West, Hicksville, Massapequa, Oyster Bay-East Norwich, and Plainedge School Boards)</i>	0		
36. PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENT 2: Proposed resolutions or bylaw amendments must reach the Association office before the close of business on a date set annually by the board. Such due date shall not be later than August 1 or the Monday following August 1 if this date falls on a Saturday or a Sunday immediately preceding the annual meeting. Each resolution shall consist of a single "resolved" clause without "whereas" clauses, and shall address only one subject. A brief rationale statement may be included with each resolution or proposed Bylaw amendment. All proposed resolutions submitted by member school boards are to be brought to a full vote of the membership at the annual meeting, without review or recommendation by any committee or other third party. A resolution adopted at an annual meeting shall remain in effect and shall be part of NYSSBA's active program for five years, unless sooner rescinded, reaffirmed, implemented or enacted. <i>(Massapequa, Cold Spring Harbor, Hicksville, Locust Valley, Mobonasen, Plainedge, and Sullivan West School Boards) *</i>	0		
37. PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENT 3: Article 6, Board of Directors, shall be amended to include the following: The Board of Directors, or its designee, shall provide a summary report by email to all members at least every quarter of the year, or at minimum four times per year. In addition to this standard quarterly cadence, The Board of Directors will distribute individual news announcements on a case by case basis in which members should be made aware of changes in status, and other timely successes, challenges or updates related to current / specific lobbying and advocacy activities on adopted positions. In efforts to deepen transparency, educate and inform, this report shall detail any lobbying or advocacy activities undertaken by NYSSBA in support of official positions previously adopted by the membership, including updates on legislative efforts, meetings with officials, public statements, or other relevant actions since the previous report. This report shall also include suggestions for "grassroots" advocacy by membership to assist NYSSBA in its advancement of adopted positions. <i>(Locust Valley School Board)</i>	0		