



SUPPORT FOR ADEQUATE SCHOOL FUNDING AND THE TEACHING PROFESSION

Colorado PTA supports our state's educators' advocacy to provide more funding for public education. We urge everyone to join the efforts to increase school funding by signing a petition to get Initiative 93 on the ballot.

PTA believes that all children must be provided with a well-rounded, high-quality education that will ensure they have the opportunity to reach their full potential and become productive members of society. Access to a free public education is the most effective method of securing this opportunity. **We strongly believe that the public education system must be strengthened by adequate funding.** During the years of the recession, education funding endured deep cuts. PTA believes that Colorado is overdue to make up for these cuts, now that our economy has revived.

In addition, PTA recognizes that educational opportunities for students in public schools are dependent on the quality of instructional programs and personnel. We believe that educators should be accorded high public esteem, reflecting the value that the community places on public education. **We have resolved to be involved in activities that strengthen respect and support for the teaching profession.** We believe that funding is necessary to establish salaries commensurate with the skills and dedication necessary for effective teaching. We know that one reason for the educator shortage in the state is the inability to recruit and retain quality teachers with compensation adequate not only for small rural districts to compete with larger urban and suburban districts, but also for ALL districts to compete with neighboring states. Also, educators' paychecks have not returned to pre-recession levels.

Initiative 93 will help us restore the funding that our students and educators deserve.