



Utah PTA Special Needs Specialist: Karen Conder
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Utah PTA Office
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Utah PTA's mission is to make every child's potential a reality by engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children. Utah PTA advocates for all children, and this includes children with disabilities. Utah PTA can help your child and your family.

Where to find more info?

Utah PTA website – www.utahpta.org

Find the following information and more under the "Commissions" tab, then under "Special Needs Specialist":

- Special Needs Representatives' Training handout (resources list included)
- PowerPoint "Everyone is Welcome: Making Your PTA More Inclusive for Those with Special Needs"
- Resolutions on High Expectations for Students with Disabilities
- Reflections arts program – Information on Special Artist division

Local Special Needs Representatives on local PTA Boards

Does your local school have a Special Needs Representative on their PTA Board? A Special Needs Rep can help plan accessible, inclusive activities at the school and help students and families be more connected, informed, and included in the school community.

Information on local Special Needs Representatives - <https://www.utahpta.org/special-needs-representatives-information>

Utah PTA Facebook groups

There are several Utah PTA Facebook groups where leaders and members share ideas and ask questions. These groups also share information about events of interest and provide updates during the Utah Legislative Session on Utah PTA's advocacy efforts.

Utah PTA

Utah PTA Advocacy

Utah PTA Excellent Elementary

Utah PTA Super Secondary

Reflections – Special Artist Division

Reflections is a National PTA program that encourages students to use their talents to create works of art in categories such as Visual Arts, Literature, Music, Photography, etc. Student winners from the local level can move up through council, region and state programs to the national level. The Special Artist Division is an option for students with disabilities who may need accommodations to participate fully in the program.



Special Artist Information - <https://www.utahpta.org/files/docs/2020%20Reflections%20Special%20Artist%20Rules.pdf>

Resolutions - HIGH EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

PTA Resolutions are official documents outlining the association's opinion, will, or intent to address problems, situations, or concerns that affect children and youth and require action to seek resolution on the issue.

Since 2013 with the creation of a **Special Needs Committee**, Utah PTA has had a particular focus on children with disabilities and their families. In 2017 Utah PTA passed a resolution on **High Expectations for Students with Disabilities**. In 2018 Utah PTA presented the resolution at the National PTA Convention, where National PTA also adopted it. In 2019 Utah PTA worked with the legislature to pass a Utah Legislative resolution on **Encouraging High Expectations for Students with Disabilities**. National PTA also has a resolution called **Inclusive Schools Build Stronger Communities**. These resolutions are public documents and can be shared with others. They can be found on the Utah PTA website.

Utah PTA Resolution: High Expectations for Students with Disabilities

<http://www.utahpta.org/files/docs/UT%20High%20Expectations%20%20Updated%20Feb%202018.pdf>

National PTA Resolution: High Expectations for Students with Disabilities

<https://www.pta.org/docs/default-source/files/advocacy/2018-approved-convention-resolutions/high-expectations-forstudents-with-disabilities-r.pdf>

Utah Legislative Resolution HCR14: Concurrent Resolution Encouraging High Expectations for Students with Disabilities <https://le.utah.gov/~2019/bills/static/HCR014.html>

National PTA Resolution: Inclusive Schools Build Stronger Communities

<https://www.pta.org/docs/default-source/files/advocacy/2014-approved-convention-resolutions/inclusive-schools-build-stronger-communities-r.pdf>