

President's Message

Your vote is another way of looking out for kids

by Celia Jaffe



You and I share a devoted interest in the welfare of children. I know this because you are connected with PTA and are reading this article. When you look

at your ballot on November 6 (or before that, if you vote by mail), I hope you think about children then, just as much as you do when you are considering your PTA's programs, calendar, and budget.

I am suggesting that your devotion to children does not just pertain to PTA or schools. It can also be expressed when you examine candidates for the school board, state senate and assembly, congress, and every other candidate or issue on the ballot. Ask yourself how your vote will positively or negatively affect the lives of children, their education, and their health, safety, and well-being. These questions should be at least as high a priority as the many other topics raised in political campaigns.

The candidates elected to public office and the ballot measures adopted have profound effects on the lives of children. Since its founding, PTA has fought for public policies that benefit and protect our country's children. Imagine our society without child labor laws or universal free kindergarten, which were two of PTA's early causes.

This fall, there are two statewide measures on which PTA has taken a "support" position: Prop 38--*Our Children, Our Future*, to support education; and Prop 35, to stop human trafficking. As PTA leaders, you are requested – and expected – to convey information about these PTA positions to members so that our organization's child advocacy function works as it should.

On candidate elections, PTA never takes sides – not even in nonpartisan races. Directing members to neutral candidate information websites, such as the Orange County Registrar of Voters (www.ocvote.com) or the League of Women Voters (www.smartvoter.org), helps PTA members to be informed citizens. Encouraging members to register and to vote is also an appropriate and useful PTA function.

Spending time volunteering for children, organizing PTA programs to bring families and schools closer together, and raising funds for worthwhile supplements to the educational program are all ways that PTA members work to benefit children. Becoming informed and carefully considering your voting decisions on the November ballot is another way. Your vote matters. It has lasting consequences.



everychild.one voice.



*Artículos en español—
paginas 10 y 11*

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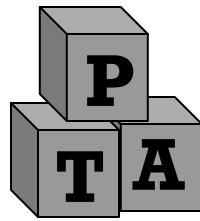
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Parliamentarian's key duties

Basics

You have been appointed Parliamentarian... NOW WHAT?

Acting as a consultant to the president, you have the important job of assisting with parliamentary procedure. This helps your PTA to complete business in a limited time while allowing all members the chance to participate in the decision-making process.

You do not need to be an expert on rules, and can refer to your association's bylaws, the *California State PTA Toolkit*, and *Robert's Rules of Order* to gather information.

To make the most of your meetings, you should assist the presiding officer by keeping track of the order of those wishing to speak, as well as motions, amendments, and voting. This position is purely advisory, as the chair alone has the power to rule on questions of order or to answer parliamentary inquiries.

You should also ensure that your unit bylaws are current, and that each member of the executive board has a current copy of the unit's bylaws and standing rules. The bylaws define the primary characteristics of the association and how it will function. The standing rules provide details and policies for administering the business of the association. Bylaws should be reviewed every year and updated every three years, or as changes are warranted.

Thank you for accepting this very important role with your school PTA's executive board. Remember to call upon your council parliamentarian with any questions you may have. Please feel free to contact me if needed at parliamentarian@fourthdistrictpta.org.

– *Bev Berryman, Fourth District PTA Parliamentarian*



Like Us on Facebook

Get up-to-the-minute information about happenings in PTA.

Log in and go to our Facebook page--
Fourth District PTA.

Tips for a successful membership campaign



By Lisa Boler
Fourth District PTA Vice President, Membership

Membership campaigns at your schools should be well under way. Here are some suggestions to ensure a successful campaign, and recommendations to avoid some strategic mistakes:

- Invite your teachers and staff to join. Teachers are the “T” in PTA. The “S” in PTSA stands for students, so invite students to join, too.
- Have PTA information and membership forms available at all meetings and school events.
- Thank everyone who joins your PTA. Send a short note of appreciation along with the membership card.
- Remind last year's members that their membership needs to be renewed each school year.
- Talk about the value of joining the PTA. People join because they appreciate what PTA does, and joining makes them feel a part of the school community.
- Tell your members about what your PTA is doing and how it makes a difference in the lives of those they care about: their children, teachers, and staff at the school. Share the many ways PTA is working for children and families at the local, state, and national levels.
- Make sure your membership campaign is ongoing. Your newsletter should have a year-round welcome to join PTA. Welcome packets with membership forms should be in the office for new students.
- Use all forms of communication. Newsletters, flyers, websites, and email are great, but it's also important to talk to people individually.

Membership cards

Membership cards should be given to each **individual** member. The cards should include your unit's 8-digit National PTA ID number (which can be found in your unit bylaws). You may hand-write the cards or print them on your laser printer. A template for cards printed on a computer printer was sent to all council presidents and is available at www.capta.org/sections/basics/whatsnew.cfm?WhatsNewID=2216. The glossy surface smears easily if an inkjet printer is used. An alternate idea is to print onto clear labels and stick them onto the cards.

Why is a membership card important?

- The card shows that dues have been paid.
- It entitles the member to make motions and vote at PTA meetings.
- The "username" and "password" will be given to each member when the card is activated. They are needed to access the "Members Only" portion of the National PTA website and to receive discounts from PTA business partners.
- Convention attendees must show a membership card when registering to attend convention.

(Continued on page 5)

FOURTH DISTRICT PTA CALENDAR

October

- 10 Reflections Training**
9:30 am, at Irvine Unified SD
- 18 Fourth District PTA District Board Meeting at OCDE**
9:30 am—CP Roundtable
10:30 am—General Meeting
- 18 Ready, Set...Remit!**
30 memberships due date to Fourth District PTA office

November

- 6 U.S. General Election**
Please vote!
- 8 CP Roundtable**
9:30 am, Fourth District PTA office
- 12 Fourth District PTA office closed for Veterans Day**
- 15 IRS and California tax return deadline**
- 22 Fourth District PTA office closed for Thanksgiving**
- 29 Reflections submissions due to the Fourth District PTA office by appointment**
- 30 Advocacy Roundtable**
10:30 am at Fountain Valley School District Board Room

Resources for PTA leaders:

Fourth District PTA
www.fourthdistrictpta.org
California State PTA
www.capta.org
New Toolkit is available
National PTA
www.pta.org

PTA supports Prop 38 because it invests in our children and our schools.

Why we need it: *To make education a priority*

- Without a quality education, our children and our state will not be able to compete in a global economy.
- Over 40,000 teachers have been laid off and more than \$20 billion has been cut from education in the last 3 years.
- California has the largest class sizes in America and ranks 47th in state education funding.
- We need to make education a priority in California again to create new jobs and grow our economy.

What it provides: *Money for schools – not Sacramento*

- Prop 38 raises \$10-\$11 billion in direct funding to local schools annually for 12 years, based on enrollment.
- Money can be used to reduce class sizes, for college & career readiness, and to restore a complete education that includes science, technology, the arts, P.E., mathematics, and vocational education.
- Restores money cut from early childhood education, improves quality, and expands access to preschool.
- Reduces education bond costs to trim the state deficit and protect our children and schools from further budget cuts.

What it guarantees: *Transparency and accountability*

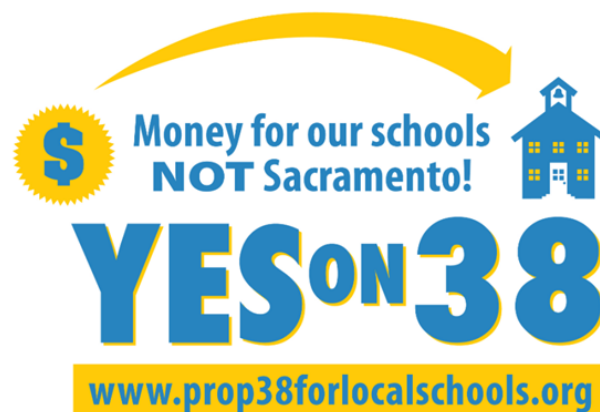
- Funds must go to – and be spent by – schools on a per-pupil basis. Funds will be audited; misallocation is a felony.
- Spending decisions will be made locally, with public input (parents, educators, and community).
- Provides accountability; school districts must set annual educational improvement goals and report results publicly.
- Money cannot go to increase staff salary or benefits; Prop 38 prohibits spending more than 1% on administration.
- The Legislature cannot divert or borrow Prop 38 money, and cannot use it to replace money schools currently receive.

How we pay for it: *Temporary tax based on ability to pay*

- A temporary, 12-year income tax provides new revenue on a sliding scale, based on income *after deductions*.
- Tax rates range from 0.04% for income under \$35,000 to 2.2% for couples earning over \$5 million.
- Couples pay nothing on the first \$15,000 of income after all deductions, and existing tax credits will offset increases for most couples with income-after-deductions of \$40,000 or less.
- Annual increased taxes would average \$54 for incomes of \$25,000 – \$50,000; calculate your own costs at ourchildrenourfuture2012.com/cost-calculator.

Local benefits: *Learn what your school will receive!*

- Use the online benefits calculator to find out how much funding your local school or district will get under Prop 38: ourchildrenourfuture2012.com/benefits-calculator



The historian's job is vitally important to PTA

By Su Craig, Fourth District PTA Historian

The historian has an important job as the manager of the volunteer hours. It is amazing to discover just how many hours of service are volunteered each and every year.

Keeping a record of volunteer hours is crucial for many reasons. It helps the California State PTA maintain its federal tax-exempt status. An organization granted nonprofit charitable status must receive one-third of its support from the general public, which can include service hours spent carrying out the purposes of the organization.

Please make sure to record those volunteer hours. Always pass around a tally sheet at each PTA executive board and association meeting. Many units have a volunteer sign-in sheet in the school office as well.



You can find a sample volunteer tally form in the *California State PTA Toolkit*, on the California PTA website (www.capta.org), and on the Fourth District PTA website (www.fourthdistrictpta.org). Some historians prefer to format their own tally sheets with the names of the officers and their positions.

Make sure to record the hours of all members who volunteer at school. Volunteers should include the time that they spend preparing for meetings, organizing events, driving, making telephone calls about PTA activities, and attending trainings and meetings.

We appreciate all that you do for the children of Orange County, so let's keep track of your dedication and commitment!

Reflections program supports special education children



Thank you to council and unit presidents for your help in obtaining

Special Education Chairmen at both the council and unit levels. The key to success for these new chairmen will be the same as it is for all PTA matters: COMMUNICATION!

The first matter of business for the year should be the PTA Reflections program, since the deadlines for art submissions come quickly. Many are not yet aware that special education children have three options for participating. The first is

the general competition, where the child enters within his grade division; the second option allows for the parent to choose the grade division that best reflects the child's developmental age; and a new, third option is the Special Education division.

Although the best way to include our special kids in the program is to inform our special teachers of these options, we don't want to burden them with administering the program. Instead, ask the principal to communicate with the special teachers that PTA would like to promote special education participation in the Reflections program, and have a

PTA volunteer coordinate the children's Reflections participation.

What works for the unit in obtaining art from the general education students will also work for the special education kids. These children often exhibit their talent by using creative means to compensate for deficits.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact me or Fourth District PTA Reflections Chairman Kathleen Sarangay, and we will be happy to help you. Thank you again for your inclusion of our special children!

- Debra Dement
Fourth District PTA
Special Education Chairman

(Continued from page 4)

...Membership campaign

- Applicants for PTA scholarships and grants must provide a copy of their membership card.

Keeping records

Like every California nonprofit corporation, California State PTA is required by state law to keep a record of its members. Each PTA membership leader should

keep a list of current members as they join. Include each member's name, address, phone number, child/children's name(s), and the date they enrolled. If your PTA communicates electronically, get email addresses from your members as well. A copy of the membership list must be kept on file with the president, secretary, and membership leader, and should be available at all association meetings to determine who is eligible to vote.

Here's wishing all a successful membership campaign for the 2012-13 school year.



Introduction to the new Common Core State Standards

By Dr. Al Mijares, Ph.D., Orange County Superintendent of Schools



Today, more than any other time in history, educators are charged with ensuring that students are prepared with the knowledge and skills necessary to succeed in the global economy. A large number of jobs today require a bachelor's degree or higher, and the new jobs projected to be created will incorporate a wide variety of education, training, and special skills. In Orange County, we are committed to preparing our youth for jobs that require higher order thinking, complex problem solving, and specialized skills. Those are the jobs that will command the salaries that will be needed to provide the ability to buy homes, raise families, and prosper in the twenty-first century.

As a nation, we must continue to raise the bar and ensure that all students have the opportunity to pursue post high school education that will prepare them for the specialized careers of the future. In this increasingly complex world, our job as educators is to create greater awareness of the college experience, expose youth to new and emerging career opportunities, heighten their desire to attain an education beyond high school, and help guide students in their preparation for postsecondary education, including technical and two-year degrees. The Common Core State Standards (CCSS) are an important step to achieving this goal.

While California's academic standards have consistently ranked at the top, the CCSS were developed to ensure the highest quality and consistency across the state and the nation. There has been a critical need for the development of a mutual set of national learning objectives in order to prepare all American students for a postsecondary education and success in life on a global level.

The mission of the CCSS is to provide a consistent, clear understanding of the knowledge and skills that our young people need to master in order to be prepared for success in college and beyond. The CCSS are the culmination of a collaborative effort between educators, parents, content experts, researchers, higher education leaders, national organizations, businesses, and community groups from forty-eight states, two territories, and the District of Columbia. The CCSS were developed using the best state standards and the experience of teachers, with feedback from the general public. In addition, the standards are internationally benchmarked to ensure that our students receive a high-quality education regardless of where they live.

As educators embark on the exciting work of implementing the CCSS, it will be evident that this is not a "one-size-fits-all" program, and states will be able to customize the implementation and curriculum. While common learning objectives provide a clear vision of what educators in all states should embrace, the standards do not tell teachers how to teach. Instead, the CCSS define what students should know and master so that teachers can design appropriate lesson plans.

With implementation of the CCSS, we will enable more students to be prepared for a postsecondary education and as a result improve our state's economic competitiveness. The CCSS offer an extraordinary opportunity to transform education across America, and are a critical step toward providing a common foundation for young people across the country that will prepare them with the knowledge and skills they need for success in college and beyond. To learn more, visit www.ocde.us/CommonCoreCA.

Orange County Health: Keeping athletes safe in hot weather

CIF's change of the start date for football season has posed a climate safety challenges for inland areas as temperatures have soared into triple digits during practice and games. There were two critical hospitalizations for athletes this summer. Make sure your school has coaches trained in heat trauma.

Cardiologists from Children's Hospital Orange County screened athletes at five Orange County high schools this year. They are going to increase the number to 10 schools in 2013.

There was a pilot study for a training of seventh graders in CPR. Fourth District PTA was a sponsor of the project. Two percent of Orange County seventh-graders have been trained in the pilot so far.



– Barb Shangraw

From notes by Marlene Vermeer Campbell,
MES/LEAPS meeting, August 23, OCDE

Outreach

By Diana Flores
Fourth District PTA Outreach Chairman and
Latino Educational Attainment Liaison (LEA)

Outreach is first a commitment to create an inviting climate. It is also about forming respectful, trusting relationships throughout the school community and recognizing that everyone has value. Outreach is sharing and distributing important information about PTA and topics of concern that informs and invite action.

Outreach must be a priority for all of us. The greater the ability of PTA members and leaders to form positive one-on-one relationships with all community members, the greater their ability to generate positive impacts for all children, the school community, and the organization.

Outreach efforts are successful when PTA leaders can develop community support with meaningful two-way discussions focusing on student success.

Outreach includes efforts that focus on enlisting the participation of parents, students, and community members in the educational process.

- Invite and encourage everyone to be a part of outreach efforts, and assure that everyone may play a role, because your community is your greatest asset.
- Empower others with information, support, and resources focused on students' needs.
- See the uniqueness of each individual.
- Work to build representative leadership and voice – support the democratic process. Is the PTA reflective



of the greater community?

- Assess practices to assure inclusiveness and speak out for change.

Steps to take

Be bold – Envision community-wide involvement in seeking educational excellence.

Understand that everyone has value – See the assets each person brings, because everyone counts.

Speak to everyone – Build a volunteer base that is representative of the diversity of the community, encompassing all languages and customs.

Build personal relationships – Invite involvement through one-on-one relationships focused on what can be achieved for children.

Show school spirit and pride – Display logos and accomplishments, student work, and share expressions of affirmation because, “This school is the best!”

Readily share information – Share PTA’s goals and values, programs, PTA contact information, resources, and published literature on important topics.

Check your success – Regularly measure your efforts, share your results, and modify your goals.

Building a safe, respectful and inclusive school climate

By Barb Shangraw, Fourth District PTA Vice President of Parent & Community Issues

Ingredients for success in making the school climate safe include caring relationships, communicating high expectation messages, and opportunities for meaningful participation and contribution for all groups.

In a presentation by Commander Joseph Levy, Long Beach Police Department, at the 3rd Annual Safe Schools Conference held in Long Beach in August, attendees were challenged to help identify and resolve obstacles to creating safe, respectful, and inclusive school climate.

A stereotype is a fixed thought about a person or group which can set up expectations. Prejudice is a judgment attached to a thought. Discrimination is the action piece. Are stereotypes and prejudices negatively impacting the ability to provide a safe environment at school? Do we look differently at people who are rich or poor, English language learners vs. native English speakers, gay and lesbian vs. straight? Statistics show that there are 25 antigay epithets at school per day and most teachers fail to address them.

It is important that school personnel and parents recognize problems and take them on. As Nelson Mandela said, “Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world.”

As a PTA leader, you can take action to educate teachers, students, and parents in your school and community about bullying. You can create a coalition of elected, school, and civic community leaders to sign a school-wide pledge to say, “No Bullying in Our School/Not in Our Town.” You can sponsor “Not in Our School” week with buttons, banners, slogans, and T-shirts. And you can put on programs for your community to learn, discuss, and work on solutions to this problem.

Crucial PTA Tax Information—Fall 2012

Tax Laws Require Three Sets of Tax Forms from every PTA

By the laws and tax code of the State of California and the IRS, all PTAs must file both state and federal tax forms every year. And all PTAs must register for a Charitable Trust number from the California Attorney General, or if they already have a charitable trust number they must file an annual form to renew it. See additional information on the reverse side.

When do we file tax forms? For most PTAs the deadline is **November 15**, which means you should work on it in **September and October**. Specifically, forms are due no later than the 15th day of the fifth month after the fiscal year-end. For PTAs with fiscal year-ends on June 30, your federal and state tax forms are due on November 15. These are prepared on 2011 tax forms for the 2011-2012 fiscal year.

What is "gross income"? Total money coming into the PTA in the fiscal year, with the exception of the dues or Founders Day offerings sent up PTA channels. Gross income includes the total funds deposited from fundraisers, not just the net profit. Your year-end audit and your annual financial report have these figures.

What is PTA's tax exempt number? Sometimes called the "GEN" or "group number," this is the IRS tax exemption number shared by all PTAs within California. It is **0646** for all of us.

Keep records of your tax filings! Make three copies of all your tax forms, including the online receipt if you file the e-Postcards. Keep one copy and turn in two copies to your council. Councils will forward one to Fourth District PTA.

Gross Income for your PTA Unit or Council	Federal Tax Forms to the IRS- Internal Revenue Service	State Tax Forms to the FTB- California Franchise Tax Board
Normally less than \$25,000	990N- "e-Postcard" online	199N -"e-postcard" online
Normally \$25,000 to \$50,000	990N- "e-Postcard" online	199 California Exempt Organization Annual Information Return
Normally \$50,000 to \$200,000 and total assets less than \$500,000	990EZ- "Short Form" Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax	199 California Exempt Organization Annual Information Return
Normally more than \$200,000 and total assets more than \$500,000	990 Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax	199 California Exempt Organization Annual Information Return

Note: For PTAs that are required to file more than the online postcards, it is recommended that an accountant or tax professional specializing in nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations be consulted regarding all tax filings. Do not neglect to include Schedule A and possibly Schedule O.

Keeping your tax numbers straight:

Number	Additional names for that number	What forms it is used on
Employer Identification Number (9 digits) XX-XXXXXXX	EIN or FEIN Tax ID Number	Federal (IRS) tax forms Charitable Trust application
Franchise Tax Board Number (7 digits) XXXXXXX	FTB# Corporate/Organization Number Entity number	California Franchise Tax Board forms Charitable Trust application

Charitable Trust Number (CT#)—Do you have one yet?

Last year the State Attorney General's Office announced a new requirement that all unincorporated PTA units (and many other California nonprofits) must register, using the CT-1 Registration Form, with the Attorney General's Office Registry of Charitable Trusts and must start filing the RRF-1 form annually. This was already a requirement for councils.

By November 15* every PTA needs to do one of two things:

1. Renew the PTA's existing charitable trust number. Use the RRF-1 form found online at http://ag.ca.gov/charities/forms/charitable/rrf1_form.pdf There is a fee if your gross income is over \$25,000. Also, register any raffles your PTA holds with the attorney general.
- OR
2. Apply for a charitable trust number if your PTA has not done so yet. See the instructions below.

How to find out if your unit has a CT#:

Your previous president, treasurer, or parliamentarian should have records from last year of being assigned a CT#. Your council president has a list of the CT#s known to CA State PTA. You may also search using your Franchise Tax Board number at the California Attorney General's website (<http://oag.ca.gov/charities>) under "Registries Search."

What to do if your PTA has no CT# yet:

1. Obtain a Letter of Determination from State PTA.

The unit president (as submitted to 4th District PTA) should email LOD@capta.org requesting the unit's letter of determination. It will come back quickly by return email.

2. Make a copy of your current, adopted bylaws.

The bylaws should have two signatures, one by the state parliamentarian and the other signature dated a month or two later by your unit secretary when your PTA voted to adopt the bylaws.

To be current, the signature by the state parliamentarian should be dated less than three years ago. If your bylaws are older than that, please begin immediately to update your bylaws! Contact your council parliamentarian for assistance.

3. Fill out the CT-1 –Charitable Trust Registration Form.

Here's the good news: California State PTA has provided us with pre-filled out application forms. Your council president should have a pdf file with your unit's legal name and appropriate numbers already filled in. All that you need to add are the officer list and the signature of the president.

4. Write a check or purchase a money order or cashier's check. (Sometimes processing delays have ended with checks being "stale dated" as too old.)

\$25 initial registration fee made out to DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

5. Mail all of the above documents to:

California Attorney General's Office Registry of Charitable Trusts
P.O. Box 903447
Sacramento, CA 94203-4470

Make copies and mail registered mail with return receipt to insure proof of mailing.

For more information, go to www.capta.org, click on the "Tax Filing Updates," "Registry of Charitable Trust." and then click on provided links for fillable Form CT-1 and sample instructions. If you have any additional questions, you can email the Registry of Charitable Trusts registration department at registration@doj.ca.gov.

What if we just ignore all this about the Charitable Trust Number?

*Units that do not apply by Dec 31st, will be required by the California Attorney General to

- find 7 years of financial records
- provide 7 years of 990s
- generate 7 years of RRF-1 forms
- pay 7 years of RRF-1 filing fees
- possibly also pay a penalty assessed by the Attorney General



Mensaje de la Presidenta

Su voto es otra manera de encargarse del futuro de sus hijos

Por Celia Jaffe

Usted y yo compartimos el interés en el bienestar de los niños. Esto lo sé porque usted está involucrado con PTA y leyendo este artículo. Si usted está registrado para votar en las elecciones del 6 de noviembre revise muy bien su boleta y piense en sus hijos de la misma manera que cuando considera programas de PTA, eventos en el calendario y su presupuesto.

Le sugiero que su devoción a los chicos no se quede tan solo en la PTA y las escuelas. Esta devoción también puede ser expresada cuando examine a los candidatos para la mesa directiva del distrito escolar, el senado, la asamblea, el congreso y todos los otros candidatos incluidos en su boleta. Pregúntese a sí mismo si su voto afectara negativa o positivamente la vida de los niños, su educación, su salud, seguridad y su bienestar en general. Estas preguntas deberán tener gran prioridad sobre los tópicos discutidos en las campañas políticas.

Los candidatos elegidos para un puesto político además de las medidas adoptadas en las elecciones, tienen un profundo impacto en la vida de nuestros hijos. Desde que la PTA se fundó ha peleado por políticas que benefician la defensa y protección de los niños. Imagínese nuestra sociedad sin una ley que prohíba a los niños a trabajar o sin tener acceso al kindergarten gratis, dos de las causas principales por las que la PTA se formó al principio.

Este otoño existen 2 medidas estatales que nuestra PTA de California ha decidido apoyar. La primera es la de la proposición 38—*Nuestros hijos, Nuestro futuro* que apoya la educación; y la proposición 35, para terminar con el tráfico humano. Como líder de la PTA, le pedimos que pase esta información sobre la posición de la PTA a todos los miembros de su organización ya que nuestra función es la defensa de los niños.

Recuerde que la PTA no apoya a ningún candidato, ni se inclina por ninguno de los partidos políticos. Nuestra labor en ese caso es darles a nuestros miembros información sobre los sitios de internet donde encontrara una posición neutra sobre los candidatos como, el registro de votantes del condado de Orange (www.ocvote.com) o la liga de mujeres votantes (www.smartvoter.org), los cuales ayudan a los miembros de la PTA a estar informados, además de proveer información para registrarse como votante lo cual es un derecho y deber para los ciudadanos.

El pasar tiempo como voluntario que trabaja para organizar programas de la PTA que atraigan a las familias a las escuelas y que colaboren en la recaudación de fondos para la mejora de los programas escolares que benefician a los niños es muy loable; pero el mantenerse informado y considerar la importancia de la decisión de su voto en las elecciones de noviembre es de vital importancia por las consecuencias que traerá a su comunidad.

Construya un clima seguro, respetuoso y que incluya a todos en su escuela

Por Barb Shangraw, Vicepresidenta de asuntos comunitarios de la PTA del 4º Distrito.

Algunos de los ingredientes para establecer un clima seguro en su escuela son las relaciones que comuniquen el cuidado a los niños y las oportunidades por una participación que contribuya a todos los grupos de la escuela.

En una presentación hecha por el capitán Joseph Levy de la policía de Long Beach se señalaron los siguientes puntos:

La creación de estereotipos crea expectativas sobre las personas. Los prejuicios son juicios formados por pensamientos. La discriminación es el resultado o acción al prejuicio. Pregúntese ¿Los prejuicios y estereotipos negativos impactan la habilidad de proveer seguridad en la escuela? ¿Miramos a las personas pobres o ricas de la misma manera? ¿Tratamos igual a todos sin importar el idioma, aspecto físico o tendencias sexuales? Las estadísticas nos demuestran que existe un promedio de 25 demostraciones en contra de los homosexuales al día en las escuelas y la mayoría de los casos son eventos ignorados por el personal de la escuela.

Es muy importante que el personal escolar y los padres reconozcan el problema y lo combatan. Como bien dijo Nelson Mandela, “La educación es el arma más poderosa que podemos usar para cambiar al mundo”.

Como líder la PTA, usted puede tomar la acción de educar a los maestros, estudiantes y padres en su escuela y comunidad sobre la burla. Puede crear una coalición en su escuela que incluya a los líderes comunitarios y proponga una medida como: “No se tolerara la burla en nuestra escuela, No se tolerara la burla en nuestra ciudad/comunidad.” Patrocine una semana de “No en nuestra escuela” durante la que los estudiantes y los miembros de su PTA se pongan un listón, un botón o una camiseta y cuelgue un anuncio en su escuela. También puede promocionar programas en su comunidad que eduquen a las personas y que discutan las diferentes soluciones a estos problemas de burla.

Expansion

Por Diana Flores Directora de Enlace
4to Distrito de PTA y del
Latino Educational Attainment Liaison (LEA)

La expansión es el compromiso de la PTA de incluir a toda la comunidad en la afiliación y en todas las fases de sus programas y actividades. Es de tanta importancia que se le debe dar prioridad cuando se planifiquen actividades de la PTA. Se debe incluir a todos.

¿QUE HACER?

Forme un comité de expansión cuyos miembros sean representativos de la escuela y la comunidad. Haga una encuesta en la escuela y la comunidad por medio de cuestionarios, vía telefónica o de puerta en puerta. Averigüe que tipo de actividad interesaría a todas las partes de la comunidad. Entérese que impedirá su participación: barreras del idioma, transporte, cuidado infantil, horario de las actividades, etc. Pregunte que significado tiene para los padres involucrarse en su PTA.

- Desarrolle un plan de expansión como respuesta a los resultados de la encuesta.
- Establezca metas razonables. ¿Que desea lograr?
- Desarrolle actividades que incluyan y que interesen a los estudiantes, familias de un solo padre / madre, padres de familias que trabajen, abuelos, personas discapacitadas, personas que no hablen inglés, personas de diversos grupos culturales, étnicos, sociales y comerciantes de su comunidad.
- Provea un intérprete en las reuniones según se necesite.
- Busque a través de otros grupos copatrocinar eventos o actividades como:
- Otros comités o jefes de comités dentro de la organización de la PTA
- Organizaciones de liderazgo estudiantil y escolar.
- Comités de conserjería para padres como consejos del área local, grupos bilingües y de apoyo a otras unidades, consejos o distritos de la comunidad.
- Grupos y oficinas gubernamentales, centro para personas mayores y organizaciones cívicas, grupos culturales, cámaras de comercio y comerciantes.
- Promueva y publique las actividades a través de boletines informativos de su PTA, correos electrónicos, sitio web, periódicos locales, llamadas personales, anuncios de servi-



cio público (PSA). Determine cual es el método más efectivo de distribuir material impreso: correo, volantes para llevar a casa, o entrega personal por un adulto.

EVALUACIÓN DE LA EXPANSION

Evalúe cada actividad mientras se realiza o al finalizar así como los logros.

- ¿Fueron exitosas los esfuerzos de expansión?
- ¿Mostraron interés los participantes en el programa?
- ¿Vendrán de nuevo? ¿Traerán a otras personas?
- ¿Les fue accesible el programa?
- ¿Participaran en la mesa ejecutiva de su PTA?
- ¿Qué harían diferente?
- ¿Hubo conflicto en la planificación del programa, fecha, interpretes, instalaciones?
- ¿El programa fue oportuno y de interés para los participantes?
- ¿Cómo se pudo haber alcanzado a mas personas?
- ¿Qué hizo exitoso el programa?
- ¿Se alcanzaron las metas? ¿Es necesario revisar las metas?

SABRA QUE LA EXPANSION FUE EXITOSA CUANDO

- La composición de su PTA refleja la composición de su comunidad escolar.
- Cada año hay algunos miembros nuevos en la mesa ejecutiva que representan todas las partes de la comunidad escolar.
- Los miembros de su PTA hacen preguntas y sugerencias durante las reuniones de asociación.
- Los afiliados activos son estudiantes, maestros, miembros de la comunidad, parientes lejanos no solamente los padres de familia.
- La afiliación y Expansión son parte de todas las actividades de planeación de su PTA.
- La mesa ejecutiva de la PTA y la Afiliación no piensa en términos de “ellos” y “nosotros”.

Translation by



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SPANISH FOR LIFE

After School Spanish Program: 909-319-9796

Tips from the Treasurer

By Julie Redmond, Fourth District PTA Treasurer

Budget • Audit • Tax Returns • Membership Remittances • Insurance • Charitable Trust Number acquisition

September is a very busy month for treasurers. At your first association meeting, you have to approve your **budgets** and your **audits**.

October is the month to focus on getting those very important **tax returns** – 990, 199 and RRF-1 – completed so that they can be filed by the due date of November 15 for most of you. This is also the month when your **dues remittance** of at least 30 members must be submitted through channels in order to qualify for the Ready, Set, Remit recognition from the California State PTA.

You also should be paying your **insurance** through proper channels. Please make sure to use the proper forms when submitting dues and insurance payments to your council. This will be of great help to your council board members responsible for collecting these funds.

If you haven't already filed the necessary paperwork to request your **Charitable Trust Number** from the Attorney General, please do it right away. If the paperwork is not filed by December 31, units will be responsible for collecting and sending seven years of information. You can go to the Fourth District PTA website (www.fourthdistrictpta.org) to download the necessary information for completing the application, as well as a checklist for everything that needs to go with the application. You will need a letter of determination for the initial application which can be requested by your president from lod@capta.org.



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Fourth District
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