

Talking Points for Legislative Chairs, September 2014

Details are in the September issue of the *Advocacy Communicator*.

- Welcome to a new year of PTA Advocacy.
- We have a General Election this fall. PTA is nonpartisan, so units and councils should not endorse any candidates. An individual PTA leader who chooses to support a candidate should do so without using a PTA title.
- PTAs should hold candidate forums for school board to help voters be informed.
- PTAs can also vote to support a local school bond and can work on the campaign.
- There will be more information about all of this at a **PTA and Elections** session during the Fall Workshops on September 10. There is also information on the Fourth District PTA website and in the *Toolkit*.
- The Advocacy Training Roundtable will be on September 26 in the Fountain Valley School District Board Room. Among other things, we'll hear about **Ed 100**, a new online course on California's education system. There have been lots of changes the last few years and we need to stay informed. Everyone should plan on attending the Roundtable!
- The state legislature was trying to get a school construction bond on the November ballot, but the governor said he would veto it so it was pulled the bill from consideration. The school construction bond that the voters approved in 2006 has been used up. Governor Brown doesn't think the state should be involved in school construction and would like to see a different system that would leave the responsibility at the school district level.
- Prop. 2 on the November ballot would set up a general rainy day fund for the state and a separate one for public education. State PTA is neutral on this measure.
- The *Advocacy Communicator* lists some of the bills that California State PTA supported and that were passed and signed into law.
- The *Communicator* also has a calendar of all the Fourth District PTA advocacy events for the year and a list of the various advocacy programs and services that Fourth District offers. Be sure to take a look and see what they offer.

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