

Talking Points for Legislative Chairs, October 2014

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

- We should all be well-informed about how the California education system works, especially with the big changes that have happened the past few years. There's a new on-line instruction program called Ed100 that was developed with the help of California State PTA. It's divided into short lessons and you can go through it at your own pace. And it's free. The website is www.Ed100.org.
- As you probably know, several state tests were suspended last year because California is transitioning to Common Core State Standards and new assessments. So far, the high school exit exam is still being given. State legislators will have to decide in the next couple of years whether to keep the exit exam or use other methods to decide when students are ready to graduate from high school.
- The next Advocacy Roundtable will be a discussion of education policy by two state leaders: Senator Bob Huff, the Senate Republican Leader, and Rick Simpson, the Deputy Chief of Staff to Assembly Speaker Toni Atkins (Democrat). We'll get an inside look at what is going on in Sacramento regarding our schools. It should be interesting!
- The General Election is coming up on November 4. The *Communicator* has some important dates concerning the election, websites where you can get nonpartisan information and information about voter registration drives.
- Sacramento Safari is Fourth District's two-day trip to the state Capitol to hear from education experts and visit legislators' offices in the Capitol. People who have gone say it is really exciting and informative. Who wants to go this year?

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