

Talking Points for Legislative Chairs, February 2016

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

- Governor Brown released his proposed **budget** for the next year and it again includes more money for K-12 schools. The average per pupil expenditure would be \$10,591. As always, the Governor is warning that another recession could be just around the corner, so he wants to put additional money in the state's rainy day fund.
- Three **court cases** dealing with education are pending, two in California and one in the U.S. Supreme Court. The California cases deal with adequate funding for education and with teacher tenure, layoff and dismissal practices. The one in the Supreme Court is about whether teachers need to pay fees to employee unions, even if they are not members. The outcomes of those cases could have some serious impacts on public education.
- The Communicator has a report on last month's **Advocacy Forum**. Four Orange County superintendents talked about how their districts are handling all of the current changes in education. It looks like it was a very interesting program.
- We have talked about the achievement gap for a long time, but now the topic of conversation is changing to the **opportunity gap**. If kids are going to succeed academically, they need a full educational program.

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