

Talking Points for Legislative Chairs, March 2016

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

- Seventy-five PTA parents attended Sacramento Safari last month and heard from 15 education experts before breaking into small groups and visiting legislator offices in the Capitol. They heard about the state's new accountability system, preschool for all children and school funding, among other topics. There is a report in the Communicator and a longer report on the Fourth District PTA website.
- Did you know that in California 17-year-olds can register to vote if they will be 18 before the next election?
- At Laguna Beach High School the PTA passed out voter registration packets to seniors in government classes. This is part of a countywide project to encourage young people to register to vote that also involves the Orange County Department of Education and the Orange County Registrar of Voters. We should do this in our high school(s).
- The California School Boards Association has put out a new report showing that our schools are still seriously underfunded, even with the recent budget increases. The report says it would take an additional \$22 billion to \$42 billion to give our kids the education they need. It sounds like a lot of money, but California is the seventh largest economy in the world and we spend less of our taxable income on education than the national average.
- There's going to be another Advocacy Forum on April 22, so save the date.
- Here's a reminder that your vote does matter. Senator Janet Nguyen won one of her previous elections by just three votes!

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