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Fourth District PTA, CCPTS, National**President's Message****Show Your Relevance as a PTA ...**

By Fourth District PTA President Bev Berryman

Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out.
-Robert Collie

It is the end of term and you all have survived the year as a team. Each member of the group has been working hard and contributing to the success of the unit and council. At the beginning of the year I challenged you to "use your superpowers for good and change the world." Although you may not have changed the world, every small effort indeed contributed to the success of the PTA to serve your students. Thank you all for this!

It is important as you begin a new term and develop your upcoming membership campaign, that you take the time to sing your own praises. It is time to brag about the accomplishments of your unit or council. Show off the successful programs and impact that the PTA has made on the campus to benefit the kids and families of your school. By doing this, you will not only increase the value of your PTA on the campus, but you will validate the work of your volunteers. You can communicate these accomplishments at upcoming meetings, newsletters, email blasts and even at Open House. Try it... you may be surprised at the enthusiasm it will bring from your families and your volunteers.

With that in mind, I want to share a just a **few** of the accomplishments made at the district level this year:

- Our Advocacy team began the year with a new High School Civic Engagement program, themed "Count Me In." This program encourages our High School Students to register to vote and to "Be Counted."
- Our Leadership team organized the efforts of our fall training and over 300 parent leaders attended. They continue to provide on-site training and support to our units and councils.
- Our Education group formed partnerships with outside agencies in the areas of STEM, Arts, Special Education, Parent Programs and Student Programs. They continue to bring valuable information to our district to help support our students in the county.

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Fourth District
PTA®

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Show your relevance as a PTA

- Our Programs team hit it out of the park this year by hosting a spectacular Administrators dinner that spotlighted our unit and council PTAs and shared the great things happening in our schools. We are proud to say that we had 275 schools participate in the Reflections Program and four of our student entries have been recognized at the National PTA Level!
- Our Finance gurus continue to support units and councils with financial issues and they even hosted three separate Tax Help days to assist with tax filings.
- Our Communications squad has continued to deliver relevant information to our parents with the help of our website, Facebook and now Twitter. This year, we have secured our own group of interpreters to help communicate with our parent leaders.
- Convention this year was AWESOME with the help of the Convention committee. We hosted over 200 delegates from Orange County which was the BIGGEST group of constituents at the State's annual conference.
- Got Members? Continuing our legacy of being the largest PTA district on the planet, Our Membership committee supported individual PTA's efforts and we have recorded over 120,000 members!
- Our Support team continues to keep our district in compliance with Bylaws, minutes and audits, charter new PTAs, facilitate solutions to challenges and continues to tally the volunteer hours of the district. I am sure that we will exceed last year's hours.
- In closing, I want to thank everyone for giving your time, talent and resources to positively impact the lives of the children and families in Orange County. It has been a pleasure to serve you and I look forward to what we can accomplish next year!

FOURTH DISTRICT PTA**CALENDAR****June**

- 2** **General Association Meeting & End of Year Breakfast**—Outdoor Education Center at Irvine Ranch, 2 Irvine Park Road, Orange, 9:30 a.m.
- 4** **Spring PTA Workshops** -Orange Country Department of Education, 200 Kalmus Dr., Costa Mesa
- 30** **Last Day of Regular Office Hours**

July

- 6** **Summer Hours Begin**—Wednesdays, 9:30 am—2:00 pm

August

- 1** **Regular Office Hours Resume**

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The Reflections winners are...

By Fourth District PTA Reflections Chair, David Lee

A BIG CONGRATULATIONS to the following recipients of the National PTA Reflections Program awards for the 2015-16 program theme: **"Let Your Imagination Fly."**



This has been an exceptional turnout for the Fourth District Reflections Program with 13 student entries advanced to the California State level and then 4 of them placed at the National level. We definitely have amazing students leveraging and showcasing their creative and artistic talents!

2016 National PTA Reflections Program Results:

Award of Excellence	Ally Stay	High School	Dance -Color	San Clemente High School PTSA
Award of Excellence	Helen Yeong	Intermediate	Music—Charm with the Magic Flute	Laguna Niguel PTA
Award of Excellence	Isabelle Blevins	Intermediate	Photography—Seeing Beyond	Beechwood School PTSA
Award of Merit	Sarah Kang	Primary	Visual—Imagination in the Sky	Travis Ranch PTA

2016 California State PTA Reflections Program Results:

Award of Excellence	Isabelle Blevins	Middle School	Photography	Fullerton	Beechwood School PTSA
Award of Excellence	Taylor Cox	Special Artist	Music	Huntington Beach Union	Dwyer Middle PTSA
Award of Excellence	Christopher Cross	High School	Visual Arts	Saddleback Valley	Laguna Hills High School PTSA
Award of Excellence	Sarah Kang	Primary	Visual Arts	Placentia Yorba Linda	Travis Ranch PTA
Award of Excellence	Ally Stay	High School	Dance	Capistrano Unified	San Clemente High PTSA
Award of Excellence	Helen Yeong	Intermediate	Music	Capistrano Unified	Laguna Niguel PTA
Award of Merit	Mallika Cadin	Intermediate	Dance	Irvine Unified	Turtle Rock Elementary PTA
Award of Merit	Grace Cook	Special Artist	Literature	Saddleback Valley	Trabuco Hills High PTA
Award of Merit	Scott Garreton	Special Artist	Dance	Capistrano Unified	Philip J. Reilly Elementary PTA
Award of Merit	Noah Klenske	Intermediate	Photography	Capistrano Unified	Canyon Vista PTA
Convention Display	Kaitlyn Amid	Intermediate	Visual Arts	Placentia Yorba Linda	Fairmont Elementary PTA
Convention Display	Anthony Cortez	High School	Photography	Irvine Unified	Irvine High PTSA
Convention Display	Bella Udovch Gottdank	Primary	Photography	Capistrano Unified	San Juan Elementary PTA



Teachers Make a Difference

By Al Mijares, Ph.D., OC Superintendent of Schools



One billion is a number that's impossible for most of us to fathom. But if it can be measured in dollars, why not acts of kindness?

On May 5, we posed that question to approximately 500 educators and community leaders who gathered at the Hyatt Regency Orange County to take part in perhaps the most important event the Orange County Department of Education has sponsored — the kickoff of our One Billion Acts of Kindness campaign.

This ambitious initiative has the potential to amplify civility in a time of social fragmentation and political polarization. Moreover, kindness is a virtue that powerfully manifests character, and character defines who we are. In fact, character development is among the 21st-century learning skills we teach in our classrooms, and it is embedded in our state educational standards.

Is one billion feasible? I am certain it is, with the caveat that OCDE cannot do it alone.

To reach our target, we'll need a broad coalition of individuals and organizations, all working together toward the same goal. To that end, we are encouraging our community partners to take ownership of the effort, and we're hoping the schools and districts we serve will consider incorporating the One Billion Acts of Kindness campaign into activities and events planned for the 2016-17 school year.

Welcoming a new student to school, sending a card to a friend or relative, or picking up trash in your community are all examples of the kinds of actions we're talking about, and you're probably already doing these things. But we're asking you to take the additional step of recording them on the website www.kindness1billion.org, or sharing them on social media using the hashtag #kindness1billion.

At our May 5 launch event, we played a video featuring a handful of prominent Orange County leaders advocating on behalf of kindness, including Sheriff-Coroner Sandra Hutchens, United Way CEO Max Gardner and Orange County Business Council President and CEO Lucy Dunn. We then brought out our featured speaker, Dr. James Doty, a prominent neurosurgeon and author of the book "Into the Magic Shop: A Neurosurgeon's Quest to Discover the Mysteries of the Brain and the Secrets of the Heart."

Dr. Doty's story is a compelling one -- and so is his message. Humans, he explained, are hardwired to care for others.

"When you do a kind act to another, it is a double-reward," he said, "because when you do that, science has shown those regions in your brain that are associated with reward increase their metabolism."

OCDE may have kicked off the One Billion Acts of Kindness effort, but now it's up to all of us to realize that double-reward and build a movement that can extend beyond Orange County, into other parts of California and perhaps even across the country.



By banding together and playing to our shared values rather than our learned differences, we can become a nation of billionaires — in the truest and most meaningful sense.

Thank you for reading Orange Leaves.
Email contest@fourthdistrictpta.org for a chance to win a Starbucks gift card! Put "Contest" in the subject line and tell us your favorite thing about Orange Leaves. Good luck!"

Advocacy Notes

By Fourth District PTA VP of Advocacy, Kathleen Fay

HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR VOTER REGISTRATION EFFORTS CONTINUE

PTAs across Orange County have given *Easy Voter Guides* to high school U.S. Government/Economics teachers for distribution to 12th grade students, or have provided the link to the online version (easyvoterguide.org). This is part of our continuing effort to encourage voter registration and promote the value of being a well-informed citizen, in partnership with the Orange County Registrar of Voters, the OC Department of Education, and OC Fourth District PTA. Produced by the California League of Women Voters, these guides offer accessible and impartial information to voters for the June 7, 2016, Presidential Primary Election.

PTA SUPPORTS PROP 30 TAX EXTENSION

California State PTA has taken a support position on The Tax Extension to Fund Education and Healthcare Initiative, an initiated constitutional amendment proposed for the California ballot on November 8, 2016. The measure would extend the temporary personal income tax increases approved in 2012 on incomes over \$250,000 for 12 years to be used for education and healthcare funding. About 89 percent would go toward K-12 schools and 11 percent to state community colleges. This income tax was approved in 2012 under Proposition 30. Prop 30 also had a sales tax component that this initiative would not extend. Prop 30 raised about \$6 billion per year since it was approved in 2012. Without extension through approval of this measure or another like it, the income tax approved under Prop 30 was designed to be phased out starting in 2018, and the sales tax part of Prop 30 was designed to expire at the end of 2016. Elimination of these taxes would likely result in flat revenues for schools, and cuts in the event of a recession.

INCLUDE ADVOCACY IN YOUR PTA'S 2016-17 BUDGET

Be sure to allocate \$650 for Sacramento Safari when adopting your PTA's budget for next year! PTA advocates and other leaders receive valuable training, insight, and clarity on how each local PTA can have a significant impact on policies that affect children, youth, and families.

Also consider setting aside funds for a student "grant" program to address what's important to the kids themselves – the students can then propose their ideas to your PTA for funding. We're here for our children, so if you want to know what matters to kids, ask them!

THANKS TO THE A-TEAM!

Fourth District PTA was fortunate this school year to have outstanding support from an Advocacy Team that combined decades of legislative consulting experience with a passion for improving the welfare of all of California's children, youth, and families. Heartfelt thanks for all your help and important contributions go to Chrystie Adams, Kim Anderson, Donna Artukovic, Bev Berryman, Jan Campbell, Suzanne Gauntlett, Gisela Meier, Daniel Pietenpol, and Fran Sdao. Your skills, talent, and commitment are unmatched!



Reflections 2016-17— What Is Your Story?

That's the theme for the 2016-17 Reflections Art Program which has been bringing the arts to life for more than 10 million students since 1969. And California State PTA and its members, families and kids are on the forefront of this amazing program, which increases community awareness of the importance of arts in education.



Convention on Safari!

By Fourth District PTA Vice President Chrystie Adams

The **2016 California State PTA Convention** was **AWESOME** this year (as our State President would say)!

The San Diego Town and Country Resort and Convention center was the perfect venue for all of the delegates to spread out and enjoy the San Diego weather (although we did have rain one day). At last count there were more than 2,000 attendees registered for convention this year and 202 were from Fourth District, yay!

Wednesday was the first day of convention and our first opportunity to get a look at the Exhibit Hall, Sponsor Hall (which included Google as a major sponsor), PTA Store and Reflections entries; as well as the Healthy Lifestyles Walk and Scavenger Hunt and the Equity Institute meeting in the afternoon. After the opening ceremonies, greetings from the National PTA President, a report by the CAPTA Executive Director-Sherry Skelly Griffith and the Keynote Speaker-San Diego Superintendent of Schools Dr. Randy Ward, we adjourned and went to Old Town for a traditional Mexican dinner celebration with around 30 of our Fourth District delegates.

Thursday, Fourth District threw a wildly successful buffet lunch on the patio and expansive lawn of the hospitality suite. We were expecting 100 guests and almost 150 showed up!



Delegates attended the second round of workshops and table talks and a rousing debate ensued over the proposed Bylaws Amendments at the General Session. Afterward we boarded school busses and traveled to Sea World for a very fun dinner in a semi-permanent tent on the grounds of the park; where we got a chance to see Flamingos, a Kangaroo, a Porcupine and a Macaw. We had a very nice buffet spread and an opportunity to have most of the 202 Fourth District Delegates sit together and get a picture of our "Fantastic Fourth District" in their red convention t-shirts!

On **Friday** was the Arts Advocacy breakfast, Hearst Exhibit, more workshops and table talks and the third General Meeting celebrating the Arts and our Reflections Program winners! Fantastic Fourth District had lots of cheering to do, as we had many of the talented student Reflections winners in our District. After the general session, we adjourned to the large banquet hall where we had a lovely dinner sponsored by Google.

The last day, **Saturday**, was the last General Session with votes on the Legislative Platform and Resolution on Dyslexia. We also heard from the California Teacher of the Year, Michelle Cherland and watched four of the Spotlight-Awards go to Fourth District PTA Units and Councils! Then it was time to say goodbye to lovely San Diego and look forward to the 2017 Convention in San Jose April 28-30th!

The Convention Committee of Marcela Alban and Stacey Small; along with the rest of the Delegate Team of Donna Broussard, Daniel Pietenpol, Michele Langham and Bev Berryman worked together seamlessly to pull off being open for our delegates for breakfast two mornings (serving coffee, tea and food), a catered lunch for 150 one day and open for lunch the next and lastly unofficially open for networking and general fun Wednesday night, Thursday night, AND Friday night, whew! In my experience we were open more than any other convention I can remember and we had a fabulous time hosting and getting to know all of our delegates. Marcela and Stacey did a phenomenal job and it was my pleasure working with and guiding this team. Now on to San Jose!!!





Mensaje del Presidente

Muestre Su Importancia como un PTA.....

Por la presidenta del Cuarto Distrito de la PTA Bev Berryman

El éxito es la suma de pequeños esfuerzos, repetidos día tras día

Robert Collie

Ha llegado el final del periodo y todos ustedes sobrevivieron el año en equipo. Cada miembro del grupo ha estado trabajando duro y contribuyendo al éxito de la unidad y el concilio. Al principio del año los reté a que "usaran sus superpoderes para el bien y para cambiar el mundo". Aunque no hayan cambiado el mundo, cada pequeño esfuerzo de hecho contribuyó al éxito de la PTA para servir a sus estudiantes. Gracias a todos por esto!

A medida que comienza un nuevo periodo y al desarrollar su próxima campaña de membresía, es importante que se tome el tiempo para halagarse; es el momento de presumir de los logros de su unidad o consejo. Presuma de los programas exitosos y del impacto que la PTA ha tenido en el plantel escolar para beneficiar a los niños y las familias de su escuela. Al hacer esto, usted no sólo aumentara el valor de la PTA en el plantel escolar, pero validará el trabajo de sus voluntarios. Puede comunicar estos logros en las próximas reuniones, boletines de noticias, correos electrónicos masivos e incluso en Open House. Inténtelo... puede que le sorprenda el entusiasmo que le traerá a sus familias y sus voluntarios.

Con esto en mente, quiero compartir solo **algunos** de los logros obtenidos a nivel distrito este año:

- Nuestro equipo de Abogacía comenzó el año con un programa nuevo de Participación Cívica en Secundaria con el tema "Cuéntame". Este programa anima a los estudiantes de secundaria que se registren para votar para que "Sea contado".
- Nuestro equipo de Liderazgo organizó los esfuerzos de capacitación en el otoño y más de 300 padres líderes asistieron. Ellos continúan proporcionando capacitación en el sitio y apoyo a nuestras unidades y concilios.
- Nuestro grupo de Educación formó asociaciones con agencias externas en las áreas de Ciencia, Tecnología, Ingeniería y Matemáticas (STEM por sus siglas en ingles), Arte, Educación Especial, Programas para Padres y Programas para Estudiante. Ellos siguen aportando información valiosa a nuestro distrito para apoyar a nuestros estudiantes en el condado.
- Nuestro equipo de Programas se reunió en el parque este año al patrocinar una cena espectacular para Administradores que destacó a nuestra unidad y el concilio de la PTA y compartió las cosas grandes que están sucediendo en nuestras escuelas. Estamos orgullosos en decir que tuvimos 275 escuelas participantes en el Programa Reflexiones y cuatro de los trabajos de nuestros estudiantes han sido reconocidos a Nivel Nacional de la PTA!



- Nuestros gurús de Finanzas continúan apoyando a las unidades y los concilios con asuntos financieros e incluso patrocinaron tres días separados para ayudar con las declaraciones de impuestos.
- Nuestro equipo de Comunicación ha continuado entregando información relevante a nuestros padres para ayudarles con nuestra página de Internet, Facebook y ahora Twitter. Este año, hemos conseguido nuestro propio grupo de intérpretes para ayudar en la comunicación con nuestros padres líderes.
- La Convención este año fue IMPRESIONANTE con la ayuda del Comité de la Convención. Auspiciamos a más de 200 delegados del Condado de Orange que fue el grupo MÁS GRANDE de los constituyentes en la conferencia anual del Estado.
- ¿Tienes Miembros? Para continuar con nuestro legado de ser el distrito con la PTA más grande del planeta, nuestro Comité de membresía apoyó los esfuerzos de la PTA individuales y hemos registrado más de 120,000 miembros!
- Nuestro equipo de Apoyo sigue manteniendo a nuestro distrito en conformidad con los Estatutos, las minutas y las auditorías, iniciar PTA nuevas, facilitar soluciones a los retos y continúa anotando las horas de trabajo voluntario del distrito, y estoy segura de que vamos a sobrepasar las horas del año pasado.

Para concluir, quiero agradecerles a todos por dar su tiempo, talento y recursos que impactaron positivamente en las vidas de los niños y familias en el Condado de Orange. ¡Ha sido un placer servirles y espero con anticipación lo que podremos lograr el próximo año!



SAVE THE DATE

SAVE THE DATE FOR
NEXT YEAR'S
CALIFORNIA STATE
PTA CONVENTION:
APRIL 28-30, 2017
IN SAN JOSE



June 2016

1520 Brookhollow Dr., #40
Santa Ana, CA 92705-5449

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