

About PTA

PTA is an all-volunteer organization working to ensure the health, safety, and academic success of all children.

Our strength is in our diversity. Our members are parents, grandparents, friends, teachers, administrators, businesses, and community members from every walk of life, all working together toward a common goal: To positively impact the lives of all children and families.



Children and youth are our highest priority.

Fourth District PTA Orange County, CA



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Orange County School Data

Students: 490,430 in 626 schools
Pupil-Teacher ratio: 24 (State avg. 21.7)
English language learners: 24.3% (119,315)
Socioeconomically disadvantaged: 48% (237,266)
Special Education: 11.1% (54,522)
Homeless Youth: 4.2% (20,795)
Truancy rate: 24% (121,812)
English standards met/exceeded: 57%
Math standards met/exceeded: 48%
— California Dept. of Education, 2015-17 data



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*Fourth District PTA
Orange County, California*

PTA®
everychild.one voice.®

Legislative Agenda 2017-18



Representing 120,000 members
and 500,000 children in
Orange & southeast LA Counties

www.fourthdistrictpta.org

PTA advocates for all children



Fourth District PTA members advocate at the local, state, and federal levels for the health, safety, and academic success of every child.

Local priorities



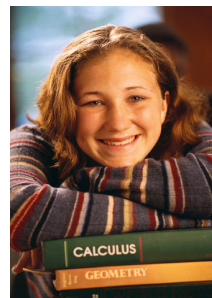
PTA supports programs that contribute to the success of all students, including:

- **Early childhood education** and quality preschool.
- Promote programs that develop **civic responsibility**.
- **STEAM** education — science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics.
- Programs that serve our most **vulnerable children** — the homeless, foster youth, and English Language Learners.

PTA supports student health and safety by:

- Assuring that schools have **support staff** such as school nurses, counselors, and librarians.
- Programs that **prevent bullying** and cyber-bullying.
- Teaching children healthy and active lifestyles that promote physical **health** and academic achievement.

- Increasing the **safety** of students traveling to and from school through transportation services, crossing guards, and safe routes to school.



PTA encourages Orange County families, businesses, and community leaders to participate in advocacy efforts by:

- Supporting **parent involvement** in Local Control and Accountability Plans.
- Empowering parents and community members to **participate** as education advocates in their local communities.
- Encourage **partnerships** with the Orange County Department of Education, local business leaders, and community groups.
- **Educating** civic and business leaders regarding the importance of public education.

State issues

PTA supports adequate funding for education, including:

- Sufficient funding to construct and maintain needed **school facilities**.
- A **stable school finance** system that does not rely on local fundraising.
- **Accountability** through Local Control and Accountability Plans.
- **Flexibility** for local school districts in allocation of funds, allowing sufficient reserves to support financial responsibility.
- Improving **school attendance** through policies that reduce truancy and address absenteeism.



PTA supports a comprehensive and well-rounded education to every child through:

- Access for every student to a **full curriculum** under the California State Standards, including STEAM and physical education.
- Programs that promote student **health and safety**, including driving safety.
- Measures to **eliminate the opportunity gap**.



Federal focus

PTA supports federal legislation that:

- Strengthens **family engagement**.
- Provides access to **well-rounded curricula**.
- Offers **equity protections** for disadvantaged populations.
- Assures **accountability** to parents and the community.
- Ensures student access to highly **qualified teachers**.
- Increases funding for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) by a minimum of an additional **3% this year**, to move towards the commitment made by Congress to authorize federal funding of 40% of IDEA costs.
- Supports federal programs and policies that promote safe routes to school, prevent bullying, and **protect children** from gun violence.

