

Talking Points for Legislative Chairs, January 2017

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

- California State PTA has six volunteer advocates who lobby the legislators in Sacramento to pass bills that benefit children and public schools. We can help them by sending emails or making quick phone calls when State PTA or Fourth District PTA sends out action alerts. The *Communicator* has a website where you can find out the names and contact information of your state senator and assembly member, so you can be ready to act when needed.
- Last chance to register for Sacramento Safari! Registration closes on January 29.
- Fourth District PTA has a Local Advocacy Award. Can we apply?
- The California legislature is beginning a new two-year legislative session. Any bills that were not passed and signed into law during the last session are now dead. The lawmakers will begin introducing new bills and the Governor will be submitting a proposed state budget soon.
- If we can't go to Sacramento Safari, there is a State PTA Legislation Conference March 13 and 14 in Sacramento. The overnight stay is at the Embassy Suites Hotel.
- The next Advocacy Forum will be all about the state's new school accountability system, which we read about in the December *Advocacy Communicator*. Instead of a single API number, schools will have a dashboard with data on seven performance indicators. The presenters will be two people from California State PTA: Patty Scriptor and our own Celia Jaffe, who was Fourth District President a few years ago. This is important information and we all should go to the forum and learn more.

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