**Talking Points for Legislative Chairs, November 2017**

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

* A number of bills that California State PTA supported have become law. They involve homelessness, lead in school drinking water, charter schools, and ingredients in cleaning products, among other things. The High School Exit Exam is now permanently gone, a principal can’t give someone permission to carry a gun in a school zone, and schools may not shame students whose parents don’t pay for school lunches on time.
* Sacramento Safari is coming in February! Are we going?
* We’re only halfway through the two-year state legislative session and some of the bills that didn’t pass this year can be brought up again when the lawmakers get back to business in January. CAPTA is opposed to a bill that would allow the state to open a STEM charter school in Los Angeles with no local participation or oversight. PTA supports two other bills, one that would allow middle and high schools to begin the school day later and one that would extend the probation period for new teachers from two years to three.
* Poverty is too big of an obstacle for some students to overcome and that is a big reason why we still have about 50,000 students dropping out of high school every year in California. The lives of these children and their families have to improve for the students to be successful.
* The Fourth District PTA Legislative Agenda, with advocacy priorities at the local, state and national levels, is now available at the Fourth District office or at [www.fourthdistrictpta.org](http://www.fourthdistrictpta.org).
* The California State PTA also has a Legislation Conference, which is held in January. If we can’t go to the Fourth District Sacramento Safari, perhaps we can attend this one.

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