**Talking Points for Legislative Chairs, February 2018**

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

* Governor Jerry Brown presented his proposed budget for the next year. He wants to spend an additional $4.6 billion on Prop. 98 funding, most of which goes to K-12 schools. (The rest goes to community colleges.)The *Communicator* has a list of his ideas for spending the money. While the additional money is good news, our schools still aren’t receiving nearly enough funding.
* Speaking of school funding, that is one of two big goals for California State PTA this year. PTA will try to convince the state legislature to hold informational hearings on ways to bring our state education funding up to the level of the 10 states with the highest achieving students. Fourth District PTA is joining in this effort.
* California State PTA’s other big push is to improve the Family Engagement framework in the Local Control and Accountability Plan. The goal is to increase the active involvement of families in their schools. Fourth District PTA is joining this effort also.
* Parent involvement was the focus of the presentation by State PTA President Dianna MacDonald at last month’s Advocacy Forum. Families should participate in creating a positive school environment where students have the best chance of success. This is a job for PTA!
* Do you know that California has a new way to measure school performance? Instead of a single number based only on tests we now have the Dashboard, which shows how a district or a school is doing in a number of different areas. You can see the Dashboard at [www.caschooldashboard.org](http://www.caschooldashboard.org).
* The next Advocacy Forum will be on Friday, March 9. The speaker will be Lynne Pedersen, from One Recovery, a mental health program for young people.
* The next advocacy conference call will be on Monday, February 26. Instructions are in the *Communicator*.

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