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

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

* PTA is all about advocating for children. Fourth District PTA has a lot of resources to help us with advocacy work in our unit/council. There is an Advocacy Training on Friday, September 14. It’s free and open to all PTA members. Who would like to join me?
* The California State PTA advocacy team has conference calls once a month and we all can participate in those too. The first one is on September 24 at 7 p.m. The phone number and directions are in the September *Advocacy Communicator*.
* Ed100.org is a great online resource to help us learn all about the education system in California. It’s a full course of information divided into short units. We should all work through the course so we understand our schools *and* earn a chance to win a cash prize for our PTA. In addition to the basic information, Ed100 also has a blog on current education issues. Some of the recent topics are suicide prevention, charter schools, the Supreme Court decision on teacher unions, and why our schools *still* don’t have enough funding.
* California State PTA believes all students should have access to arts education at every grade level. To help us advocate for that, there is a new booklet on the CAPTA website called **Parents’ Guide to the Visual and Performing Arts in California Public Schools.**
* For the past year, California State PTA has been working hard to make sure that AB 2878 is passed. This bill, which is sponsored by PTA, would provide a more detailed definition of family engagement in the state’s Education Code, which will help schools to develop their Local Control and Accountability Plans. The bill has been passed by the Assembly and Senate, but another vote is needed to approve the amendments added by the Senate.
* Two people, Tony Thurmond and Marshall Tuck, are running for state superintendent of education. You can get a lot of information about both of them at EdSource.org. This website is also a great place to find basic information about the California school system as well as information and commentary on current education issues.

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