**Talking Points for Legislative Chairs, December 2021**

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

* Last month’s *Communicator* had an article worrying about a big drop in school funding when one-time federal money runs out and school enrollment drops. A new report by the state Legislative Analyst’s Office paints a different picture. The California economy continues to grow, tax revenues are way up, and school funding will increase for the next five years, the LAO predicts. The number of K-12 students will go down, but that will be offset by children in the state’s new universal Transitional Kindergarten program.
* The 27th Annual Report on the Conditions of Children in Orange County has been released by the Orange County Social Services Agency. This is another great resource for information about our children. There’s a link in the newsletter.
* Registration is open for the California State PTA Legislation Conference in Sacramento on January 24 and 25. If the in-person conference is cancelled registration fees will be refunded.
* A recent report by the nonpartisan Public Policy Institute of California says the Local Control Funding Formula, which provides extra funding to schools with high-needs students, has had some positive impacts, but there is room for improvements to the system.
* The Communicator has a brief description of the Local Control Funding Formula. It’s important to understand the formula because this is how our schools get most of their state funding.
* The California State PTA Legislation Team is holding online briefings followed by small-group discussions with CAPTA team members. These are held at 7 p.m. on one Tuesday each month. The next briefing will be on December 14 and the link is in the newsletter. There is also a link to a recording of the November briefing, which covered a lot of basic PTA advocacy information.
* California State PTA issued a statement in response to the new state vaccination mandate for students and school employees, which is expected to go into effect by July. The statement is in the newsletter.

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