

Fourth District PTA Advocacy Communicator



FOURTH DISTRICT PTA ADVOCACY TEAM

NOVEMBER 2022

How to get involved in your school district's LCAP process

With unprecedented amounts of federal and state funding coming to school districts to help them respond to the negative impacts of the pandemic, it's more important than ever for parents to get involved in the development of their district's Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP).

What is the LCAP? It's a plan that every school district, charter school, and county department of education must develop to show how money will be spent to support positive outcomes for all students and to meet the special needs of students who are low-income, English learners, homeless, or in foster care. The LCAP is required by the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF), California's school funding law.

The three-year plan is updated every year and is approved by school district trustees along with the district budget in June.

The LCAP must address eight state priorities: basic services, state standards, course access, student achievement, student outcomes, student engagement, parent involvement and school climate.

Districts must involve parents in the LCAP process, along with students, staff, and the community.

What can you do to get involved? Start by looking at your school district's current LCAP, which should be posted on your district's website. Is it easy to read? Does it effectively describe your district's priorities?

Here are some online resources that will help you get involved in a meaningful way:

- Basic [information](#) from California State PTA in six languages.
- [Information](#) from Ed100.
- An LCAP [Checklist](#) for Parents and Student Leaders, developed by CAPTA and Ed100.
- [Information](#) from the California State Department of Education

You also should know how your school and school district are doing and what specific areas need improvement. For this information, go to the California School [Dashboard](#). This accountability system shows your school and district performance using a number of different measures, including test scores, English learner progress, attendance, graduation rate, suspensions, and college and career readiness. It shows the current status and indicates whether there has been progress in each area. [Ed100](#) has lots of information about how to understand and use the Dashboard.

Use these resources to become an informed participant in your school district's LCAP process.

The 101 provides accurate information about education issues

As education advocates, it's important that we have accurate up-to-date information about public education in Orange County and the state.

One good source of information is [The 101](#), an online resource provided by the Orange County Department of Education.

The site promises to "do our best to unpack complex topics and explain who has oversight in posts that can be read quickly and shared easily with friends and neighbors. We'll also include links to primary sources, including state and county agencies, for those who wish to take a deeper dive."

Here are the topic areas that are covered:

- Sexual health education
- Curriculum and instruction
- Health and wellness
- Ethnic studies
- Immunizations
- Covid-19
- School district governance
- Uniform complaint procedures

Fourth District PTA Advocacy Forum

A panel of Orange County school district superintendents will talk about how they are meeting the challenges their schools face and the solutions they have found.

Featuring superintendents:

- ★ **Dr. Frank Donovan**, Magnolia Elementary SD
- ★ **Dr. Robert Pletka**, Fullerton Elementary SD
- ★ **Dr. Katherine Stopp**, Fountain Valley SD

Friday, November 18
9:30—11:30 a.m.

Fountain Valley School District Boardroom
10055 Slater Avenue, Fountain Valley

Open to all PTA members.

Family engagement is needed to address pandemic impacts

Results of the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) were released in October, showing significant drops nationwide in eighth grade and fourth grade math and reading scores. (California's eighth grade reading scores did not decline and fourth grade reading scores were down by a statistically insignificant amount. Math scores followed the national trend.)

National PTA President Anna King issued the following statement in response to the national results:

"The NAEP results are disappointing to see, but also not surprising due to the disruptions to education from the COVID-19 pandemic. The results underscore the critical need for families and schools to work together to support our students' success. There could not be a more urgent

time for strong family-school partnerships.

"Decades of research shows that when families are engaged and families and schools work together, students attend school more regularly, earn better grades, enroll in higher-level programs and have higher graduation rates. Family-school partnerships also help schools—research suggests it is equally as important as school leadership and a rigorous curriculum in predicting school improvement. Parents, guardians and other caregivers must be key partners in their children's educational success, now more than ever."

Read the entire statement [here](#). For more information on test results in California, see this [EdSource](#) article. Read about Orange County CAASPP test results are [here](#).

Bills supported by California State PTA are signed into law

During the last legislative session, California State PTA took positions on 73 bills. Fewer than 20 passed. Among those that were signed into law are the following:

AB 58 (Salas) School district pupil suicide prevention programs and training must incorporate best practices developed by the State Department of Education.

AB 558 (Nazarian) School districts may provide free breakfast or morning snack to the non-school-aged siblings of children enrolled at the school who are eligible for free or reduced-price breakfast.

AB 1594 (Ting) Establishes a firearm industry standard of conduct and allows civil suits to be brought against industry members who violate the standard.

AB 1817 (Ting) Prohibits the manufacture and sale of textiles containing perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), beginning in 2025.

AB 1867 (Lee) After voter approval of a future statewide school facilities bond, schools that receive state funding for modernization must include installation of water-saving fixtures in all bathrooms.

AB 2239 (Maienschein) A person with a misdemeanor conviction for child abuse or elder abuse is prohibited from owning a firearm.

AB 2329 (Carrillo) A school district may partner with a nonprofit organization to provide eye examinations and eyeglasses to pupils. Parents may opt out.

AB 2571 (Bauer-Kahan) Bans firearms advertisement or marketing that is intended to be attractive to minors.

AB 2598 (Weber, Akilah) Requires the State Department of Education to develop and post on their website best practices for implementing a restorative justice program on a school campus.

AB 2638 (Bloom) After a future school facilities bond is passed by voters, a new school construction or modernization project must include water bottle filling stations.

AB 2806 (Rubio, Blanco) Revises regulations regarding

the expulsion or unenrollment of a child from a state preschool program.

AB 2832 (Rivas) Requires the State Departments of Social Services and Education to develop the Whole Child Equity Framework and Whole Child Community Equity Screening Tool to support the equitable distribution of resources and monitor progress on addressing racial and economic inequities.

SB 291 (Stern) The State Advisory Commission on Special Education will now include two pupils, 16 to 22 years old, with exceptional needs.

SB 906 (Portantino) Requires school districts to annually provide information to parents and guardians about safe storage of firearms. School officials are required to report any threat to law enforcement and law enforcement must conduct an investigation and threat assessment that can include a search of school and/or student property.

- For more information on the bills, go [here](#).
- CAPTA's Final Bill Report is [here](#).

Get ready for the most exciting advocacy event of the year!

Sacramento Safari 2023
February 27 and 28
in Sacramento



Open to all PTA members.
(You must be voted to represent a PTA unit or council.)

Registration opens on December 1.

[Details](#) at fourthdistrictpta.org.