

T is for “teachers” – our middle name

PTA provides common ground for parents and teachers to develop a positive relationship that helps every child. Together we work for the good of our school community. Together we can demonstrate that we care about our children and that education is a key to their future.

What is PTA?

PTA is an advocacy association comprised of parents, teachers, students and others who care about children, youth, families and schools.

PTAs and PTSAs (Parent Teacher Student Associations) serve as forums where all concerned community members discuss ways to promote quality education, encourage community involvement, and work for a healthy environment and safe neighborhoods.

Involvement in a PTSA is a great way for students to develop their abilities and to get involved in their schools and communities.

Why PTA?

Schools are facing shrinking budgets, increasing class sizes and government mandates. We know the challenges of delivering quality education are daunting.

More than 85 rigorous academic research studies conducted over 30 years prove that kids do better when parents are involved. Grades are higher, test scores improve, and attendance increases.

The partnership between parents and teachers is powerful. PTA promotes parent involvement, and involved parents understand the challenges teachers face and become part of the solution.

PTA not only impacts your local community, but also has influence in major legislation and policy groups (such as the Education Coalition) affecting children throughout the state and across the country.

Find resources at *Focusing on the "T" in PTA* here:
www.pta.org/4439.asp



“Our students succeed when parents, guardians and teachers work together as partners to ensure a quality education. Please join PTA and help make a difference in our students' education.”

~ Les Nakasaki

First-grade teacher, Arlene Bitely Elementary School,
Rosemead, Los Angeles County

Please JOIN PTA!

PTA only asks that you make the commitment to **add your “teacher” voice** so that PTA can more powerfully speak for every child with one voice. When you join and promote PTA membership to parents, you provide a strong foundation for more involved and better informed parents.

All PTA members have a voice in guiding their local PTA as well as in the statewide and national PTA associations.

Dues are determined by each PTA but usually range from \$6 to \$12 a year.

Members of local PTAs are also members of the California State PTA and National PTA.

What else is in it for teachers?

In addition to speaking up for kids and connecting schools and families, each year California State PTA awards \$10,000 to \$20,000 in continuing education scholarships to teachers, nurses and counselors who are PTA members.

Additional benefits of membership can be found at www.pta.org/benefits. Contact your local PTA to find out more about benefits in your community.

A history of continuing commitment

For more than 110 years, the PTA has provided support, information and resources to families focused on the health and education of children.

Whenever young people's education, health, safety, or well-being were threatened, PTA members were on the forefront of working to resolve those challenges. PTA has been instrumental in the passage of important laws and guidelines we often take for granted.

PTA has been crucial in turning the following ideas into realities:

- kindergarten classes
- child labor laws
- hot lunch programs
- a juvenile justice system
- mandatory immunizations
- the Day of the Teacher and Teacher Appreciation Week
- four decades of the National Reflections arts-recognition program

PTA continues to champion:

- full funding for education
- the arts as part of a complete curriculum
- strengthening child passenger restraint laws
- improving indoor air quality of school buses and implementing bus idle-free policies
- promoting healthy lifestyles
- restricting use of cellular technology by teens while driving
- supporting programs that make schools safer
- opposing vouchers

Mission Statement of California State PTA

The mission of the California State PTA is to positively impact the lives of all children and families by representing our members, and empowering and supporting them with skills in advocacy, leadership, and communications.

Adopted by the California State PTA Board of Managers, October 2009

Membership in PTA means:

- Making a difference in the lives of all children and youth.
- Partnering with parents and other concerned community members to keep children safe, healthy and involved in school
- Investing in the future of children and public education
- Supporting efforts to change laws, policies, and conditions for children
- Communicating with local and state decision-makers on children's issues
- Obtaining valuable information, skills and services to keep abreast of issues affecting children
- Uniting with a national association that advocates exclusively on behalf of all children



**For more information,
contact your local PTA.**

(Insert contact information
for your PTA here.)

or the California State PTA at info@capta.org,
916.440.1985 or www.capta.org