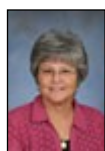


MARCH 2010 BOARD OF MANAGERS REPORTS



Leadership Services Commission:
Barbara Ledterman

■ [Peralta District](#) President [Alison Wiscombe](#) was named Woman of the Year for the 20th Assembly District of Alberto Torrico, D-Fremont.

- Leadership Commission provides each PTA district with a [leadership](#) mentor. The Finance Commission and the Leadership Team have added financial and legislative mentors respectively.



Member Services Commission: Mary Galuska

■ The commission will recognize "Legacy PTAs" at the 2010 California State PTA Convention, PTA units, councils and districts that have reached a milestone anniversary of 50 or more years of continuous service.

- [REFLECTIONS CHAIR DELL GOODMAN](#): There were more than 500 Reflections entries submitted to state PTA out of 63,103 total entries. State PTA sent 24 entries to the national level. The 2011-2012 Reflections Theme choice is "Diversity Means" The theme for 2010-2011 will be "Together We Can." View past national and state winning entries.
- Shipping rates for California State PTA materials will increase on May 1, necessary after more than a decade of postal rate increases. The new schedule will begin at \$5 for all orders, including up to 500 free brochures.
- [PTA SPOTLIGHT AWARDS, LEZLIE DARLING](#): 2010 awards have been announced. More than 80 percent of applications came from Southern California units.
- [SCHOLARSHIPS & GRANTS COMMITTEE, WENDY HICKS](#): The committee awarded \$500 scholarships to 136 graduating seniors. Hewlett Packard donated a laptop and tour of their facilities to two seniors, Vivian Lai and student board member Sierra Lowe. Hicks noted many scholarship applicants were disqualified for having no current membership card or because their school had no PTA.
- [HONORARY SERVICE AWARD COMMITTEE, HEIDI MCLEAN](#): Honorary Service Awards are being promoted as Local Hero awards to raise awareness of their role in funding California State PTA scholarships and grants.



Communications Commission: Linda Mayo

■ The California State PTA posted 64 print and [online news releases](#), and press conference statements from Jan. 1 to Feb. 15 featuring state and local PTA media activity.

- [Parents Know the Answer PSAs](#) created with help from the [Pearson Foundation](#) are posted on the website. For media-quality versions contact the [California State PTA office](#).



Convention Commission:
Kathy Stevenson

■ [Convention 2010](#) (Sacramento, April 29-May 2) is open for [registration](#); secure [housing](#) through the PTA website and help keep convention costs down. Free registration is granted to convention [volunteers](#).

- Friday there will be a forum with candidates for State Superintendent of Public Instruction: Larry Aceves, Gloria Romero and Tom Torlakson. Submit [questions](#) for the candidates.
- Reflections winners will perform at Friday and Saturday evening meetings.
- [Sponsorship](#) opportunities are still available.



Community Concerns Commission:
Brian Bonner

■ Brian Bonner will participate in a workshop on school attendance at the [2010 National PTA Convention](#) in Memphis, Tenn., June 10-13.

- The California State PTA adopted a position statement that supports linking [student attendance](#) and achievement data, developing early warning systems to identify chronic absentees and creating strategies to prevent academic failure.
- The commission met with [LA Unified School District](#) Lori Volandt and [Los Angeles Deputy City Attorney](#) Michelle McGinnis regarding anti-gang measures.
- Bonner represented the California State PTA at a conference of the [California Association of African-American Superintendents and Administrators](#). He also participated in a meeting of the state public health department [Childhood Injury Policy Planning Committee](#) which included discussion of reducing school speed limits to 15 mph.
- Commissioners attended a round-table discussion at the Stanford Criminal Justice Center: [Budgeting for a Just California](#).



Education Commission: Suzan Solomon

■ [Head Start Preschool](#), [ConnectEd California](#) and [First Five California](#) were approved as allied agencies. Roman Stearns of ConnectEd met with the commission and discussed [linked learning](#).

- [Meeting of California Commission on Teacher Credentialing, Linda Ross](#): Panel will review teacher librarian requirements in the spring and will consider foundational math and science credentialing, and "recognition of study" standards for single subject teachers with other competencies. Meeting [webcast](#).
- [Meeting of California Middle Grades Alliance, Solomon](#): The California State PTA had significant input regarding parent involvement for a draft study titled, "A White Paper on California's Middle Grades – Achieving Student Success In and Beyond the Middle Grades: An Action Plan for Stemming the

Tide of High School Dropouts." Watch for its publication on the CDE website.

- [WASC Accrediting Commission](#), Liaison Rosaline Turnbull: The "Focus on Learning" criteria for accreditation are being reviewed. Adopted policy and procedures. The California State PTA is now a part of the commission. Met with the Superintendent of the [Department of Education in Hawaii](#), where the arts are still a flourishing part of the curriculum.
- [Education Coalition](#), Solomon: Discussed a statewide event held March 4, "[Start the Day for Students](#)."
- [SPECIAL NEEDS COMMITTEE: JULIE REDMOND](#): Ideas are [welcome](#) for a web page under construction with resources for parents and PTAs on [special needs/GATE](#).

Health Commission: Colleen You



- Convention attendees are urged to support "Sleep in for PTA" (T-shirt and ribbon given). The \$20 fee will be directed to the "[Healthy Lifestyles Grants](#)" fund. Units, councils and districts may apply for grants to develop, promote and implement Healthy Lifestyles programs, projects and activities to improve the overall health of children and adults.
- The Commission is compiling a list of District PTA health chairs and VPs. Please [contact us](#) if you have any to add.
- [School Environment Health Asthma Collaborative](#), Jamie Hintzke: Representatives of dozens of school districts and nonprofits attended the first meeting of this collaborative to implement the strategic plan for asthma in schools.
- [For information](#): The American Cancer Society has a program for healthier gatherings that suggest strategies for PTA and other meetings: [Meeting Well](#).



Membership Commission: Carol-Ann Koch-Weser

- Strong membership is community commitment and support for PTA's programs. Membership resources are online. We all need to ask those involved and participating to be PTA members.
- Membership awards acknowledged at convention are based on per capita remitted through channels and postmarked to the state office by March 31. We're excited to see which units met the "+10 in 2010" challenge.
- A survey of PTA state per capita dues shows California is one of four states at \$1.25; six state PTAs charge \$1 and the rest charge more, up to a high of \$9.25 per member in Hawaii.
- [Diversity & Inclusion Committee: Deborah Kemper](#): Save the Date: An [Emerging Minority Leaders Conference](#) promoting inclusion will be held in Southern California on Saturday, Oct. 16, 2010. A "building diverse and inclusive leadership" strand is being offered at our convention. The committee is working with CAFE, Migrant Ed and Head Start to offer scholarships for convention registration.
- [Student Involvement Committee: Suzanne Meloy](#): The committee challenges all PTAs to send [student delegates](#) to convention.
- [Just Between Friends](#), the unit management tools software provided for free by National PTA, is used by 630 PTAs in California.



Parent Involvement Commission: Becky Reece

- The California Department of Education is finalizing the document, [California State Action Plan for School, Families and Community Partnerships](#). PTA and other education stakeholders developed this, focusing on the importance of engaging families in education.
- [Preschool Learning Foundation Stakeholders Meeting, Michael Butler and Emmett Keith-Jones](#): Sponsored by CDE and WestEd, the meeting worked on Science and History, for [Vol. 3. Public comment](#) period April 1-30.



Finance Commission: Treasurer Diane Foote

- California State PTA has changed its insurance billing cycle, effective this fall. The insurance payment will be due by December 20, 2010, for the 2011-year policy, and the premium will be announced 90 days prior.
- The Board adopted Conflict of Interest/Whistleblower and Protection from Retaliation policies for volunteers and employees.
- With 40 percent of units reporting, California State PTA calculates 19.8 million hours of volunteer time, representing \$414,801,852, and \$106,600,000 donated to schools for the 2008-2009 fiscal year.
- 2009-10 is the third year since IRS regulations changed to require all nonprofits file [tax returns](#) (some may file electronically) or lose their nonprofit status. PTAs may want to hire an outside professional, well-versed in nonprofit tax requirements, to complete these complex and often daunting forms. Taxes must be filed by every unit no later than 4½ months after fiscal year's end.



Legislation Committee: Debbie Look

- A lawsuit against the state of California over its unconstitutional method of funding schools (not the amount; this is about governance) is being prepared by the [California School Boards Association](#), the [Association of California School Administrators](#) and the California State PTA. As background, here are positions on legislation and budget of [CSBA](#), [ACSA](#), and [California State PTA](#).
- The California State PTA is pioneering the just-because-it's-right initiative process, [seeking volunteers](#) to qualify ballot measure 1420 [Local Control of Local Schools Funding Act](#). We need 1 million signatures by April.
- Committee members attended the federal [Legislative Conference](#) of National PTA and met with six elected officials in Washington, D.C.
- The [9 Million Reasons To Speak Up](#) campaign is underway. Committee members have joined the [Education Coalition](#) "sweeps," visiting every member of the legislature – 90 visits so far – to express united opposition to education funding cuts.
- California was not awarded [Race to the Top](#) funding in the first round of grants. However, the Legislation Team will continue to be active in discussions of qualifying for the second round. Hear Debbie Look's [radio interview](#) on RTTT.
- California State PTA Legislation Team member Patty Scripser

testified before the Board of Education.

- The 2010 Legislation Conference held in February was California State PTA's largest ever, with 150 [delegates](#).
- [Water Cooler Group, Michael Butler](#): Chaired by [First 5 California](#), focuses on pending early care and education legislation. California's [application](#) for Race to the Top included pre-school. State is well-positioned for [Early Learning Challenge Fund](#) grants.



Resolutions Committee: Brenda Steffen

- Two [resolutions](#) will be forwarded for consideration of the delegates at 2010 Convention, *Child Trafficking in California* from [Vista Elementary PTA](#) in Twelfth District PTA, and *Computer Workstation Health*, the first resolution submitted by a team of students and adults, from [Carmel Valley Middle School PTSA](#) in Ninth District PTA.
- Two 2009 resolutions, [Teen Driving Safety](#) and [Social Host Accountability for Underage Drinking](#) were accepted by National PTA.



Parliamentarian:

Sue King

- The California State PTA formalized its longstanding policy of requiring [bylaws](#) set the election of officers for the ensuing year no later than the second week of April.



President-elect:

Carol Kocivar

- State PTA is asking all units to promote the [2010 Census](#) to assure allocations for schools are equitable.
- [For information](#): [EdSource](#) has timely, nonpartisan explanations of school funding issues. There is [help for students](#) with disabilities who lack parental representation.



President: Jo Loss

- Loss was a guest on "Class Action" on the Bay Area NBC affiliate. [Watch](#) the show.
- Loss moderated a panel at the California Association of African-American Superintendents and Administrators ([CAAASA](#)) [statewide conference](#).
- [Michelle Obama](#) spoke about the "[Let's Move](#)" campaign at National PTA's [Legislative Conference](#).
- The [Emerging Minority Leaders Conference](#) and [MORE](#) (Men Organized to Raise Engagement) have been linked with the 2010 National PTA Convention.
- [National PTA remains active](#) in development of parent involvement standards for [Race to the Top](#), the evolution of [No Child Left Behind](#) and [Common Core](#) uniform state standards.



Executive Director: Paul Richman

- [Engaging Emerging Leaders](#) Grant (Walmart Foundation): Work continues to engage parents and offer opportunities and resources with the help of this \$145,000 grant. One application has been [Spanish media](#) outreach through consultant Maria Alvarez of the Hispanic Bridge, to inform and engage Spanish-speaking parents.
- [COMMITTEE FOR THE ARTS, PATTI YOMANTAS](#): Four PTA Districts have been chosen for a [pilot arts parent engagement and training project](#), Twenty-Third (Riverside County), Fifth (San Bernardino County), Seventeenth (San Mateo County) and Peralta (Alameda County). [Resources](#).