

# PTA CONNECTS

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## CALIFORNIA STATE PTA ONLINE NEWSLETTER April 2008

Spring has arrived!

It's time to reinvigorate your PTA as you head into the last few months of the current year and start to look forward to the next year.

**Here are a few ideas to keep your PTA fresh and alive with enthusiasm!**

**Make sure your incoming officers get PTA training so they are ready to take on their new jobs.**

**California State PTA Convention** is a fabulous place to get officer training and learn more about our wonderful organization. You can register online, by mail, or by fax through April 17, or register on site at the convention after that date.

There are workshops for presidents, membership chairmen, parliamentarians, financial officers, and Reflections chairmen, as well as a variety of other workshops to assist new officers.

### Register Online

<https://www.smart-reg.com/web-reg/capta08/>

### Convention Chronicle

[http://www.capta.org/assets/managed/whatsnew-pdf/2008\\_Convention\\_Chronicle.pdf](http://www.capta.org/assets/managed/whatsnew-pdf/2008_Convention_Chronicle.pdf)

### Convention Registration Book

[http://www.capta.org/sections/convention-2008/downloads/2008-Conv\\_Registration\\_Book.pdf](http://www.capta.org/sections/convention-2008/downloads/2008-Conv_Registration_Book.pdf)

### More Information

<http://www.capta.org/sections/convention-2008/>

**Celebrate PTA! Thursday, May 1, 7:00 PM-11:00 PM**

A fun-filled evening is planned for delegates to socialize and relax. This year's special event will be held at the Long Beach Aquarium of the Pacific. **Find out more:** <http://www.aquariumofpacific.org/>

Enjoy a buffet dinner, dancing and fun. Tickets cost \$35 per adult and \$20 per child 3-11, and include private admission to the Aquarium of the Pacific. **Order ticket(s) on the registration form; tickets will not be available for purchase on site as seating is limited.** Busing will be provided to and from the event site to all PTA hotels from 6:00 PM - 11:30 PM on May 1 only.

### **Spring is also a great time to review your bylaws.**

As your new board members are elected, it's the perfect time to put together a bylaws committee that includes members of the old and new boards. New board members will have an opportunity to become familiar with the "laws" of their unit as the committee reviews and updates the bylaws. For more information, see Section 2.4.1 of the California State PTA Toolkit. You can also get information and a **Bylaws Review Checklist** at <http://www.capta.org/sections/management/bylaws.cfm>

### **It's a good time to start planning your budget for next year.**

Estimate expenditures to the end of the school year to project a year-end cash balance, and use that as the starting point for next year's budget. Current and incoming officers should meet to review the past year's finances, evaluate fundraisers and programs, and discuss plans for the next year. Remember that the budget is a living document that can be changed at any time by a vote of your association. For more information on developing a budget, see Section 5.2 of the Toolkit.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sample Budget</b> <a href="http://www.capta.org/sections/resources/downloads/Toolkit2007-09-SamplePTABudget.pdf">http://www.capta.org/sections/resources/downloads/Toolkit2007-09-SamplePTABudget.pdf</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Basic PTA Policies</b> <a href="http://www.capta.org/sections/finance/financial-officers.cfm">http://www.capta.org/sections/finance/financial-officers.cfm</a></p>
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### ***Flunk The Budget...Not Our Children***

The California State PTA **opposes** any cuts to education and children's programs in the state budget.

**"Our children did not create this crisis, and we cannot allow their future opportunities for success to be undermined because of it."**

**Take Action Today**

<http://www.capta.org/sections/advocacy/flunk-the-budget.cfm>

**PTA Publications**

**The Communicator**

Camera-ready print material for use in PTA newsletters and handouts.  
<http://www.capta.org/sections/communication/communicator.cfm>

**PTA in California**

Official newsletter of the California State PTA.  
<http://www.capta.org/sections/communication/pta-california.cfm>

**SMARTS Newsletter**

California State PTA program to encourage arts education.  
<http://www.capta.org/sections/programs-smarts/newsletters.cfm>

**Sacramento Update**

PTA Legislative information from Sacramento and Washington.  
<http://www.capta.org/sections/advocacy/sac-update.cfm>

**Legislative Alerts**

Information for PTA members to support advocacy for children and youth.  
<http://www.capta.org/sections/advocacy/legislative-alerts.cfm>

Please encourage your members to subscribe. Send these via your email list to your PTA unit members.

You can find more help on the California State PTA web site  
[www.capta.org](http://www.capta.org)

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