

PTA CONNECTS

CALIFORNIA STATE PTA ONLINE NEWSLETTER
March 2008

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>

Make Sure Your PTA Has Passed a Resolution to “**FLUNK-THE-BUDGET!**”
Tell Your Local Newspaper what your PTA is doing to support our children.

Sample Resolution

<http://www.capta.org/sections/advocacy/downloads/FTBResolutions.pdf>

Flunk the Budget Web Page

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

Electing New Leaders...the Beat Goes On!!!

If you have been following your bylaws, it is likely your nominating committee has met and has presented a slate of officers for the 2008-2009 year. That means it's time for you to have an election at your annual meeting, as prescribed by your bylaws.

Voting booths are not needed. The president presides over the meeting and, unless there IS MORE THAN ONE PERSON NOMINATED FOR A SINGLE POSITION, the election can be held by voice vote. This is also the time when your unit should elect convention delegates, one of whom should be the president-elect.

Script for Holding Elections

<http://www.capta.org/sections/management/nominations.cfm>

Report of the Nominating Committee

<http://www.capta.org/sections/management/nominations.cfm>

Nominating Committee Checklist

<http://www.capta.org/sections/management/nominations.cfm>

Mid-Year Audits are Due

If you haven't already done so, you should perform your mid-year audit now. Check your bylaws for the exact time your audit should be completed.

Regular audits protect the financial officers and assure the members that PTA funds are being properly managed. The completed audit must be formally adopted at an association meeting, signed by the auditor, and attached to the minutes as a permanent record.

Detailed directions on performing the audit can be found at <http://www.capta.org/sections/finance/pta-audit.cfm>

Audit Checklist

<http://www.capta.org/sections/resources/downloads/audit-checklist.pdf>

Audit Report Form

<http://www.capta.org/sections/resources/downloads/audit-report.pdf>

Has Your Historian Been Keeping Track of Volunteer Hours?

Annual Historian Reports will be due soon. Be sure your volunteer hour tallies are up-to-date. If you haven't been keeping track consistently, ask your volunteers to estimate how many hours they have given. Remember that all activities related to PTA functions are counted, including attendance at meetings and other events, travel time to and from PTA activities, telephone and computer time, and time spent preparing agendas, reports, minutes and other written materials.

Why is it so important to report volunteer hours?

Records of service hours help to protect the non-profit, tax-exempt status of PTA by demonstrating the support our organization receives from the public. Volunteer hours also demonstrate the broad-based dedication and involvement of our membership when PTA applies to foundations for grants. And finally, a high number of volunteer hours sends a powerful message to state and national lawmakers when PTA advocates on behalf of all children.

More information about the historian's report may be found at <http://www.capta.org/sections/management/historian.cfm>

PTA Publications

Legislative Alerts

<http://www.capta.org/sections/advocacy/legislative-alerts.cfm>

Sacramento Update

<http://www.capta.org/sections/advocacy/sac-update.cfm>

SMARTS Newsletter

<http://www.capta.org/sections/programs-smarts/newsletters.cfm>

PTA in California

<http://www.capta.org/sections/communication/pta-california.cfm>

The Communicator

<http://www.capta.org/sections/communication/communicator.cfm>

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

Register for Convention: www.capta.org

1. The California State PTA Convention is one of the most important and exciting events in the PTA year! Don't pass up this opportunity to learn more about your organization, attend informative workshops, and exchange ideas with parents from across the state.
2. Make your voice heard at the general sessions. General sessions are when our State PTA listens to its members as it charts its course for the coming years.
3. Don't forget the association must elect delegates. Check the *California State PTA Toolkit*, Section 2.8.1b, for the number of delegates your unit may send.
4. This year's convention will be held May 1-4 in Long Beach. Registration fees, travel expenses and meals are legitimate PTA expenses that should be paid or reimbursed by your unit.

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

Membership

**Deadline for all 2007-2008
Membership per capita to be received in the California State PTA office by
March 31.**

**Teen Driving Safety Week
April 14, 2008
<http://www.impactteendrivers.org/>**

You can find more help on the California State PTA website
www.capta.org

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