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**CONVENTION RELEASE**

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## A remarkable teacher shares her lesson plan

*Kelly Kovacic is a teacher of the year who makes every day count for her students*

**SACRAMENTO** – Kelly Kovacic, one of five 2010 California Teachers of the year, was selected by State Superintendent of Public Instruction Jack O’Connell to represent California in the National Teacher of the Year competition.

In a presentation Sunday morning at the California State PTA convention, she made it clear she sees the challenge of teaching as a gift, rather than a burden.

“As teachers, we are blessed with a huge responsibility, one that I eagerly embrace,” she said. “We must create an environment in which students realize the vast extent of their abilities and that, with hard work and dedication, they can accomplish great things.”

Kovacic teaches 12<sup>th</sup> grade Advanced Placement U.S. Government and Politics and 11<sup>th</sup> grade Advanced Placement U.S. History at The Preuss School, a charter school on the campus of the University of California, San Diego. The school provides a rigorous college-preparatory education for motivated low-income students.

“Teaching in a learning environment that works allows me to see, firsthand, each day, the transcendent power of a true commitment to provide educational equity to the most at-risk students,” Kovacic added. “Together, we must make it possible for qualified teachers to enter classrooms each day engaging and inspiring students to grow, learn and change the world.”

Kovacic was presented with a California State PTA Honorary Service Award during her convention appearance.

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*The California State PTA has nearly 1 million members throughout the state working on behalf of public schools, children and families, with the motto, "Every child, one voice." The PTA is the nation's oldest, largest and highest profile volunteer association working to improve the education, health and welfare of all children and youth. The PTA also advocates at national, state and local levels for education and family issues. The PTA is nonprofit, nonsectarian and noncommercial. For more information, visit [www.capta.org](http://www.capta.org).*