

PTA CONNECTS

California State PTA Online Newsletter

February 2016

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Celebrate family engagement in February and all year long

Decades of research prove [family engagement](#) is key to kids' success in school – and in life. That's why California State PTA is proudly taking part in National PTA's Take Your Family to School Week February 15 – 19.

Here are three tips to keep family engagement and student success going, not just during one week, but throughout the entire year:

- **INVOLVEMENT MAKES A BIG DIFFERENCE** – Research shows family engagement is the [number-one factor](#) in student success, so check out ways to [get and stay engaged](#) at school, at home -- even on the go!
- **PARENT-TEACHER COMMUNICATION IS KEY** -- Strong interaction, teamwork and partnership between [families and teachers](#) creates the optimal environment for student success.
- **PARENT-ADVOCACY OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND** – [New state laws and standards](#) mean new opportunities for parents to get involved in the education process.



HOW HAS FAMILY ENGAGEMENT MADE A DIFFERENCE FOR YOUR CHILDREN AND SCHOOL? LET US KNOW!

With family engagement as the highest factor in student achievement, PTA volunteers and advocates are working hard at the state level to help secure funding for meaningful family-engagement programs and services. [Find out more](#) and share your family-engagement success stories with us -- email communications@capta.org and tell us why family engagement matters to you, your children and your school!

Help your child and school: Attend convention!

Join thousands of PTA parent-volunteer advocates and leaders along with educators and community leaders to address education, health and community issues affecting our state's kids and families. Don't miss the excitement!

**California State PTA Annual Convention
May 4-7, 2016 in San Diego**

- Take part in [workshops and table talks](#) led by dynamic leaders to get up-to-date information to strengthen your PTA and your school
- Listen to [fantastic speakers](#) on STEAM, education, the arts and other hot topics
- Visit [exhibitors](#) and gain ideas for fundraising, assemblies and more – free samples and prizes
- Link up with hundreds of others working on behalf of children and families
- Check out the amazing work of students – student achievements and Reflections artwork on display
- Recharge your PTA battery – leave convention excited, exhilarated and ready to do great things for kids at your PTA
- It's San Diego -- come for the convention, stay for vacation!



[Find out more](#) about all that's in store and register online today!

REGISTER TODAY

Inspiring stories of PTAs making a difference

PTA members and volunteers are true change-agents, creating local programs that go on to touch – and engage – entire communities:

- [Walt Whitman Elementary PTA is empowering parents](#)
- [Sacramento Council of PTAs Clothes Closet has local families covered](#)
- [San Ramon Valley Council of PTAs is giving teens the gift of civic engagement.](#)



Be sure to share your own inspiring PTA stories with us: Write to communications@capta.org.

Ed100 gets you the education information you need

California's education system is changing fast. Learn how it really works so you can make a difference -- and you could win \$1,000 for your school's PTA!

Designed in partnership with California State PTA and available in both English and Spanish, this free and fun online program helps everyone -- parents, students, teachers and interested citizens -- understand our state's education programs and changes.

And just by participating, you can help your PTA to win up to \$1,000!

Congratulations to our most recent winners:

- Wood Middle PTA
- Arbolita School PTA
- California Military Institute PTSA!

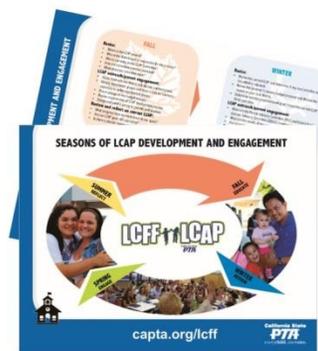


[Find out more](#) and begin your Ed100 engagement journey today!

We're all about family engagement - - and so are these FREE resources!

From a newly revised funding formula to new standards for teaching and learning, California's schools are undergoing historic changes. Stay informed and get engaged with these handy resources:

- [Seasons of LCAP](#) -- This new English and Spanish flier helps parents stay engaged all year long
- [PTA in California Education Edition](#) -- Available in six languages, our newsletter has the latest information on the new student assessments and scores, education changes and easy ways you can help your child succeed
- [Parents' Guide to Student Success](#) -- Also available in six languages, this guide outlines what your child is learning at each grade level
- [100 Ways to Help Your Child and School Succeed](#) -- Available in English and Spanish, this flier features how you can support your child's learning at home, at school -- and even on the go
- And [more!](#)



All of these resources are available to everyone at no cost thanks to the generosity of PTA members like you -- **thank you!**

California State "PTA Connects" is sent monthly to all PTA members and leaders as well as to all California principals and superintendents.

Please keep in mind that it's the dues of PTA members like you and the other thousands of parents, families, educators and community leaders throughout the state that we are able to continue to offer great resources and materials.



