

Fifth District PTA

Arrowhead

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The latest happenings in the state.....

CALIFORNIA STATE PTA DISAPPOINTED BY LATEST RULING IN ROBLES-WONG SCHOOL FUNDING LAWSUIT

Director of Communications and Strategic Initiatives, meklund@captta.org
Joint Statement from ACSA, CSBA and PTA

SACRAMENTO – Plaintiffs in the Robles-Wong v. State of California lawsuit expressed disappointment in the ruling today by the First District Court of Appeal in San Francisco. The case, brought forward in 2010 by the California School Boards Association, Association of California School Administrators and California State PTA, along with nine individual school districts and approximately 60 individual students and their families, alleges that the state’s school finance system violates article IX (the Education Article) of the California Constitution.

In a 2-1 ruling for the defendants, the Appeals Court held that the California Constitution does not guarantee the right to an adequate level of education as defined by funding or by qualitative measures, stipulating only that the state must provide for a “system of common schools.”

The case had been pending for several years after Alameda County Superior Court Judge Steven Brick initially rejected the plaintiffs’ core claims in November 2011. In his ruling, while acknowledging that children in California have a fundamental right to an education, Brick ruled that the state Constitution doesn’t require the Legislature to fund it at any particular level, “however devastating the effects of such underfunding have been on the quality of public school education.” Oral argument on appeal of that ruling took place January 27 in San Francisco.

CALIFORNIA STATE PTA DISAPPOINTED BY LATEST RULING IN ROBLES-WONG SCHOOL FUNDING LAWSUIT (CONTINUED)

“Today’s decision is truly disappointing for California’s students and families,” said CSBA CEO & Executive Director Vernon M. Billy. “We firmly believe all students in California have a fundamental right to an education that meets the standards the state has set – and that is currently being denied to many, especially low-income students and students of color. We will continue to petition the court to see that the state meets its obligation to provide all students, regardless of background, with an equitable and high-quality education.”

Plaintiffs in Robles-Wong made two key claims when filing the case:

The state of California currently operates a school finance system that prevents schools and school districts from providing all students access to an education that satisfies their fundamental interest in being prepared to obtain economic security and participate in our democratic institutions; and The state is violating its duty to “provide for” a system of common schools and to “keep up and support” the system it has established.

“Our core arguments still hold true,” said ACSA Executive Director Wes Smith. “The state of California has an obligation to adequately fund our schools. We’re going to continue pursuing whatever means may be possible to address the state’s failure and to address the inequities.”

Important Information

Please contact all councils and units, if necessary, to ensure elections have been conducted and new officer contact information is updated to California State PTA via PTA EZ.

The importance of district leadership attending convention cannot be over emphasized. Those attending should give reports upon return.

Membership

In preparation for next year, Fifth District is asking all Councils and Units to please take inventory of how many membership envelopes you have and how many you may be needing for next year. Please contact Ms. Lynda Dykes @ 2vp@fifthdistrictpta.org with your estimates. We are hoping to have supplies purchased prior to June 15, 2016.





CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF TRAFFIC SAFETY

Share the Road This May Important Reminders for Bicycle and Motorcycle Safety Month

The month of May is upon us, along with blue skies, sunshine and the perfect opportunity to take advantage of the outdoors. For many, this will mean an more frequent utilization of bicycles and motorcycles as primary modes of transportation. As sharing the road becomes more prominent throughout the upcoming months, so does the importance of both cyclist and driver safety.

In recognition of May as Bicycle and Motorcycle Safety Month, the California Office of Traffic Safety offers some important safety tips for both drivers and cyclists alike.

Motorists:

1. Perform regular checks for cyclists- Cyclists are not always easy to spot. Slow down, remain cautious and check mirrors and blind spots regularly- especially when changing lanes or pulling out of driveways and parking lots.
2. Alert cyclists of intentions- Before changing lanes or merging with traffic, drivers should always alert nearby cyclists by utilizing their turn signals.
3. Maintain safe following distance- Cyclists require more time to maneuver around obstacles or stop in an emergency. Take extra caution and allow a minimum of three to four seconds when following a cyclist.

Cyclists:

1. Increase visibility with brightly colored protective gear- Cyclists should not assume they are fully visible to drivers, even in the daylight. Whether on a bicycle or motorcycle, wearing brightly-colored, reflective gear will aid in remaining visible to motorists at all times.
2. Use hand and turn signals- Cyclists should always alert drivers of their intentions by utilizing hand or turn signals before making a turn or lane change.
3. Adhere to traffic laws- Cyclists maintain the same rights and responsibilities as motorists, and should obey all traffic signals and stop signs, signal intentions and travel with the flow of traffic.

For more information and tips on bicycle and motorcycle safety, or to learn about OTS's additional efforts, log on to www.facebook.com/CaliforniaOTS or www.twitter.com/OTS_CA or visit www.ots.ca.gov .



2016 THINK BIG THINK PTA[®] CONVENTION & EXPO

Think Big, Think PTA: 2016 Annual National PTA Convention & Expo

June 30 to July 3, 2016—to connect with over 1,500 of the nation's most influential leaders in education, as well as other parents and educators in **Orlando, Fla.** Don't miss the opportunity to:

- Get Big Ideas to use at School and at Home
- Be Inspired by Big Thinkers
- Learn new ways to make your PTA Bigger, Bolder and Better

National PTA is the organization that solves the toughest problems and creates valuable tools for schools, families and students. Join the excitement and be a part of our Biggest convention yet!



To build tomorrow's PTA, we must Think Big and it starts at convention.

Dates and Deadlines

Feb. 29, 2016 Deadline for Early Bird Registration

June 4, 2016 Deadline to cancel your registration to receive a refund **June 4, 2016** Deadline for Hotel reservations (5:00pm ET)

Registration Rates

Regular Rates (March 1 - June 28)

Individual: \$325

Group (3+ people): \$265 each

Onsite Rates apply as of June 29, 2016

Questions? <http://www.pta.org/newsevents/convention2016>



Hi Everyone!

This is just a friendly reminder that all Auditors will need to complete the Year-End Audit once PTA books close by the end of the fiscal year June 30, 2016. The current Auditor should process this report in July and have ready to be presented at the 2016-2017 PTA Executive Board meeting, and then adopted at the first PTA Association meeting according to your Bylaws.

Make sure that all information is turned over to the Auditor, such as treasurer's reports, secretary minutes, bank statements and a copy of your Mid-Year Audit. Please go to capta.org or the Tool Kit under Auditor for a complete list of reports and information that the Auditor will need to complete this report.
Your Auditor will thank you!

Rosemary Batista, Auditor
5th District PTA

EXPLORE the Arts!
PARTICIPATE in PTA Reflections

A Big Congratulations to the following students from Fifth District who made it to the National PTA Reflections Program!!!

*Ethan Hunt, Upland highlanders PTSA
Award of Excellence in Film Production*

This summer, National PTA will recognize the collective accomplishments of the honorees during the National PTA Awards and Reflections Celebration on Sat., July 2, 2016 at the Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Resort in Orlando, Fla.



On Thursday April 14th, 2016 at David and Buster in Ontario, CA, Fifth District had the pleasure of honoring 9 of it's exceptional leaders and volunteers. Honorary Service Awards are awarded for hard work and dedication that volunteers have done throughout the year. The Honorary Service Awards is design in a unique way that allows for Districts, and units to publicly acknowledge individuals and organizations for outstanding community services to children and youth in their community. The following is a list of recipients and the Award they received:

- *Monica Hooker Outstanding Teacher Award*
- *Dusty Guerra Outstanding Teacher Award*
- *Brenda Dowdy Outstanding Administrator Award*
- *Rod Frederwisch Outstanding Administrator Award*
- *Tami Marschalk Continuing Service Award*
- *Margaret Stambaugh Honorary Service Award*
- *Ray Kinyon Very Special Award*
- *Rosemary Batista Golden Oak Service Award*
- *Brian Montez Golden Oak Service Award*

In addition to the above awards, membership awards were given to the top three Councils that excelled in Membership for 2015/2016 school year.



Honorary Service Awards



Outstanding Administrator Brenda Dowdy



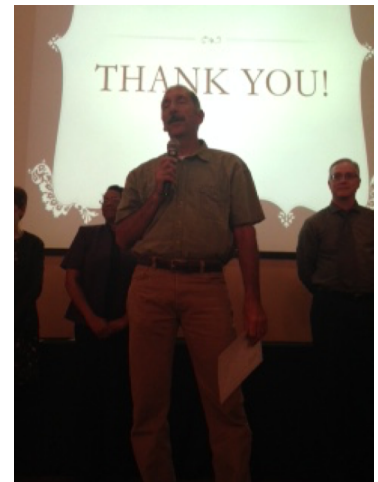
Superintendent Ted Alejandre and Apple PTA



President Elect Diana MacDonald



HSA Committee



Golden Oak Service Award, Brian Montez



Outstanding Teacher Dusty Guerra



*Fifth District President Ms. Mary Anderson
CAPTA President Elect Diana MacDonald*



*Apple PTA President Ms. Kristine Alvarez
and HSA Chair Ms. Yvonne Molles*

Fifth District California
Congress PTA

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Save the Date

Fifth District is holding it's annual workshop
on
June 11, 2016 in Rancho Cucamonga, CA

With a wide variety of Classes to be offered,
including some in Spanish and English!!

*Vendor Fair, Lunch, tons of great information
as well as tools to take back to your local units *

Please keep a look out for more information to follow!!!!