

the Cryer



San Jose Unified Council of PTAs

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San Jose, California



President's Message

Hello All~

This year has been challenging for everyone with the economic and budget crisis all around. The board has worked so hard to make sure that our units are successful and have questions answered and all they need. I have appreciated their help immensely. We are also so fortunate to have a full board ready and willing to work hard for you next year! I really appreciate the commitment these volunteers are making - not only to help their children and their schools, but to also assist you in helping the students at all of our SJUSD PTA schools!

My term is ending as Council President. I want to tell all of you how much I have enjoyed working with you for the last two years. It has been a rewarding experience for me. I have met so many people, learned so much about how everyone and their dedication to children make things really happen, no matter what the struggles are. Thanks to all of you for your part in making things happen.

— Continued on page 2

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San Jose Unified Council of PTAs Annual Awards Luncheon

Wednesday, May 19
11:30 A.M.—1:00 P.M.

Fiorillo's Restaurant
638 El Camino Real, Santa Clara



Register Now for PTA Training Workshop

Who: You! PTA officers, chairmen, volunteers
When: Saturday, May 22, from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm
Where: tba
What: Training Workshops

- **President**
- **Treasurer & Auditor**
- **Membership**
- **Parliamentarian**
- **Secretary**
- **Reflections**
- **PTA Basics**
- **PTA Council Officers**



Use online registration to sign up today! Benefits of on-line registration include...

- Fast check-in
- Pre-printed name tag
- Guaranteed hard-copy materials
- Door prize eligibility

Register at: www.capta6.org or contact Lynne Wach

President's Message, Continued from page 1 —

I hope to see many of you at our luncheon where we will take time to celebrate our successes together! And, as your incoming Auditor, I look forward to continuing to help where I can next year! ~

— *Lynne Wach, Council President*

National PTA 2010-2011 Official Kit

Unit Presidents:

Don't forget to register to receive the National PTA 2010-2011 Official Kit at:

www.pta.org/officialkit

The sooner you order it, the sooner you can receive it! Free of charge!!!!

Kits should be mailed to the new or continuing PTA president.

Membership Envelopes



It's never too early to start planning for next year. Are you planning on using PTA envelopes for your Membership Drives? I have a good supply to get you started, so contact me and for just \$.02 per envelope you can have one thing out of the way before the start of the next school year

— *Ronda Wilson, VP Membership*

Historians

Have you sent in your Historian's Report yet? The reported hours are very important to the state and national PTAs' legislative advocates teams — to let our representatives know the great amount of time volunteers give to their schools. One number is all we need!



You can find the form at www.sjucouncilpta.org. Click on "Forms" and "Historian's report form". Send it to 1268 Salvatore Dr, San Jose, CA 95120, or onedoctorjulie@pacbell.net

Thanks,

*Julie Herndon,
PTA Council Historian*

Calendar and Reminders

San Jose Unified Council of PTAs

May	13	Supt's Brown Bag, - Cancelled
	19	Council Annual Awards Luncheon
	22	Officer Training!
June-July		End of Year Unit Audits to be completed End of Year Financial Report Due
July	1	2010/2011 Terms of Office Begin!
August		Membership Drives Begin!
September		2010-2011 Unit Budgets due to Council

Forms can be found at

<http://www.sjucouncilpta.org/forms/>

Auditors

Thank you to all units that have submitted the mid-year audit (July 1 - Dec 31 2009). If you have not turned in your audit, please e-mail to me as soon as possible. (jdgrellman@comcast.net) Don't forget



the year end audit needs to be completed in July or August, before the new treasurer takes over for the 2010-2011 school year.

Let us know if you have any questions or need assistance. Thanks,

— *Jill Grellman, Council Auditor*

2010-2011 PTA Reflections Theme

The theme for the next year's student contest was announced at the CA State Convention:

"Together we can..."

For more information about "Reflections," contact **Lynne Wach** or the state website:



Procedure Books

After officers/chairs have written their annual reports, a designated officer (the president, secretary, historian, or ?) should **collect all books and update the information inside** (new board list, volunteer hours reporting sheet, reimbursement forms, etc.) before giving them out again to incoming board members. Ideally this should happen before the end of school.

Make it part of your unit's end of the year routine!#

Citizens Bond Oversight Committee (CBOC)

San Jose Unified School District

The Board of Education is seeking applications for individuals who would like to serve on the Citizens Bond Oversight Committee (CBOC) for Measure F and Measure C bond funds. At the end of the two-year term, members are able to apply for an additional two-year term if they wish.

The purpose of the CBPC is to inform the public concerning the expenditure of bond revenues. Currently the committee meets four to eight times per year on Monday nights.

For an application, please call **Diane Duenas** at 535-6053 or email her at diane_duenas@sjusd.org. Applications will continue to be accepted until all positions are filled.#

Our Great Units!

- Allen at Steinbeck K-8 PTA
- Almaden Elementary PTA
- Autism Project PTA
- Bachrodt Elementary PTA
- Carson PTA
- Anne Darling PTA
- Empire Gardens PTA
- Hammer/Galarza PTA
- Los Alamitos PTA
- Olinder PTA
- Reed PTA
- Simonds PTA
- Terrell PTA

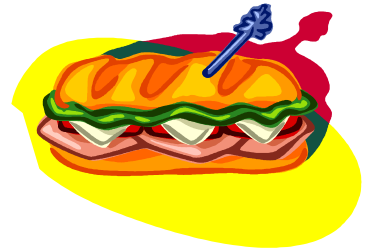
- Williams PTA
- Willow Glen Elem PTA
- Burnett Middle PTSA
- Castillero Middle PTSA
- Hoover Middle PTSA
- Muir Middle PTSA
- Willow Glen Middle PTA
- Gunderson High PTSA
- Lincoln High PTSA
- Pioneer High PTSA
- San Jose High PTSA



How About a Mid-Summer Luncheon?

Take a few minutes now to organize a Mid-Summer Luncheon for your unit! Choose a local restaurant (one with a private room is best), and invite your PTA/PTSA members, staff, and your principal to join you. **Make this a social event** — **except for Mid-Summer School Updates** from the principal — parents love to hear school updates!

(You may wish to plan pre-payment for lunch either a set menu or tell attendees the bill will be equally split.)



San Jose Unified Council of PTAs 2009-2010 Executive Committee

President	Lynne Wach	flekwach@aol.com	781-0607
1st VP, Membership	Ronda Wilson	bohica2939@yahoo.com	448-1854
2nd VP, Cryer and Directory	Chris Gray	grayaspens@hotmail.com	629-0989
3rd VP, Yahoo Group	Sandee Ruiz	sruiz@iname.com	265-8316
4th VP, Parent Education	Open		
5th VP, Convention	Peggy Hertzberg	peghertz@earthlink.net	972-5968
Secretary	Brandy Varni	varnimom@sbcglobal.net	268-6355
Treasurer	Denise Johnson	dhojohnson@sbcglobal.net	268-5227
Financial Secretary	Julie Chovanec	jchovanec@yahoo.com	997-6576
Auditor	Jill Grellman	jdgrellman@comcast.net	227-6657
Historian	Julie Herndon	onedoctorjulie@pacbell.net	323-9990
Parliamentarian	Andrea Wheeler	awheeler@demoworks.com	297-2515
Web site	Open		
Annual Luncheon	Robin Cruz	robin111@pacbell.net	268-5455
Reflections	Open		
Legislation	Open		
Budget Advisory Committee Rep.	Open		
SJUSD Wellness Representative	Open		
SJUSD Board of Ed. Liaison to Council	Pam Foley	pam@effoley.com	
SJTA Liaison to Council	Janice Allen	SJTAPres@aol.com	

2010 CA State PTA Convention

.....**THE** California State PTA Convention was a success! Several thousand PTA delegates and guests attended convention in Sacramento from April 29-May 2. Check the www.capta.org website and also become a group member of the California State PTA group on **Facebook** to see reports of the sessions and more photos. I hope that units will continue to attend conventions to become familiar and comfortable with the reasons why PTA is such an important organization that speaks on behalf of ALL children...not only in our state, but nationwide! It was a pleasure to have held the position of VP Convention for the past two years for San Jose Unified Council of PTAs. I look forward to going to convention next spring in Anaheim and hope to see many of you there too!!

— **Peggy Hertzberg**, Council Convention Chair

THE recent CA State PTA convention in Sacramento was another great experience! **This was my 6th convention**, and I have to say I have learned



6th District Convention Chair **Cynthia Slusher**, SJU Council Delegate **Sandee Ruiz**, and Sandee's daughter **Sara** waiting for the General Meeting to begin.

something new every time. There are workshops available for all levels of officers as well as others about issues concerning youth and families.

During the business portion of the general meetings, **we passed two resolutions**. When I first looked at the resolutions, I thought they would be passed without much opposition; I was wrong. One of the great things about convention is that you get a wide variety of opinions. **While delegates did not object to the idea of PTA supporting Computer Workstation Health, many objected to the wording of the original resolution and proposed amendments** that led to the eventual adoption of this resolution, (after much debate - a great chance to learn more about parliamentary procedure!). Another impressive fact - **student delegates from a middle school PTSA in southern California presented this resolution**. State PTA is making a strong effort to include more students; there are now student members on the board of managers. Remember to encourage student participation in your own units, they can participate and serve on the board of any PTA or PTSA.

Convention is one of the best places to learn about our PTA duties and to network with our peers. Make sure your units understand this is a valid (and vital) budget line item. Next year's convention is in Long Beach, I hope to see you there!

— **Sandee Ruiz**, Council 3rd VP and Convention Delegate

SURE I'd been to many conventions before, but as in-coming San Jose Unified Council President, I felt like I needed a refresher course to bring me more up to date and give me that pizzazz (?) to start the new term! So, off I went to Sacramento. I met a number of great delegates from 6th District, making my trip even more enjoyable. My workshops: **Advanced Parliamentary Procedures, Conflict: Not a Bad Thing, Council/District Responsibilities, and Effective Boardmanship**. Several of the General Meeting speakers were super: I especially enjoyed author **Julianna Baggott**, a.k.a. N.E. Bode, who wrote the children's series, *The Anybodies*. (Did you know that "if you've ever told a fib, if you are a jabbermouth, if you are a collector of odd things, or if you have a bizarre family, you just may be a writer in disguise?!!") Santa Clara County Superintendent **Chuck Weis** also spoke. He told us what he thought "PTA" stood for: "People who are There for you Always!" Tom McKee, author of *The New Breed: Understanding and Equipping the 21st Century Volunteer*, suggested "episodic volunteering" and "slacktivism" (clicking a mouse) should not be knocked — these volunteers can be put to work too. Also, check out using a "WIKI" at pbi.wiki.com.

The **parliamentary procedure** shown at the Resolution discussions and votes during the General Meetings may have been a bit stressful for State PTA President **Jo Loss**, but it was fascinating to watch!

— **Chris Gray**, Council Cryer/Directory Editor and Convention Delegate



At least 600 people gathered at the Capitol on the first day of the California State PTA 111th Annual Convention in Sacramento. Their purpose was loud and clear: We must invest in the more than 9 million children living in California, and stop cutting budgets for education and other critical services.



Spotlight

Terrell PTA

It has been a terrific year for the Terrell Tigers! It is hard to believe that the year is winding down.

We started the year with a **root beer float social**. It was a great opportunity for the families to get together to learn a little about PTA and to see how they could help. Soon after, we had a very successful **walk-a-thon**. Terrell families came out in full force to support the school. Volunteers could be seen all over campus. Our students met the goal set for them, which helped PTA support wonderful programs. Our community held a **holiday concert** in December. The **Terrell choir** entertained us while wonderful refreshments were served.

We are fortunate to have a wonderful set of **art teachers** at Terrell. Through their hard work and PTA support, children received class instruction culminating in a very professional art show at Open House.

Our very own **school garden** is currently being transformed into a replica of Monet's Garden. It will truly be a sight to see!



On May 15 from 10 am-2 pm, we will be holding our 3rd annual **Spring Fling**. It will be a day full of shopping, carnival games, scrapbooking, food, and an exciting raffle. As the year wraps up, PTA will be supporting a **concert** performed by Terrell students followed by a spaghetti dinner. PTA has enjoyed working with the staff to honor the students who received **Tiger Pride awards, Accelerated Reader awards, and CST awards**.

Terrell PTA wishes everybody a happy summer and a successful 2010-2011 school year.



— *Tanya Smith, President*



Spotlight

Allen at Steinbeck K-8 PTA

The school year for Allen at Steinbeck K-8 School has gone by very quickly as I am sure it has for the other units within San Jose Unified School District. This year, our school had its first year of 7th graders and it's second year of 6th graders. The 2010-2011 school year will bring the first year of 8th graders. The students in the upper grades as well as Kindergarten through fifth grade have had great programs and events available to them that were supported through the PTA.

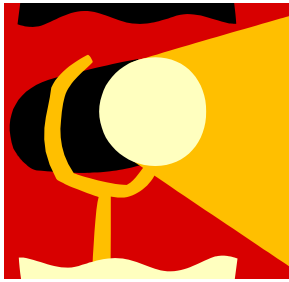
The year was kicked off to a great start to a **Welcome** to the teachers, staff and families. The families had a great time at the **Fall Family Festival** and were able to also have an enjoyable time at **Story Fun Night** that is the large event in the spring. The PTA thanked the many volunteers that help throughout the school at a **Thank you Brunch** that was held in April.

In May, families were able to enjoy attending the **Walk-a-Thon & Multi-Cultural Faire** that were held together. The weather was cooperative and the attendees were able to walk to some great music, seeing performances from different cultures and to enjoy doing activities that represented the continents of the world. Programs that the PTA supported this year were **Art Vistas, ABC Reading, Los Dichos, and Junior Achievement**. They were a lot of fun for the students.

Looking back; it was a successful year for the 2009-2010 PTA Executive Board and Association. The school looks forward to seeing continued growth and leadership with the 2010-2011 PTA Executive Board, Chairpersons and Association. Have a wonderful summer and remember to spread the word on how important volunteerism is important for all our children and schools.

Best Regards,

-- *Peggy Hertzberg, President*



Spotlight Castillero PTSA

Castillero Middle School’s PTSA is wrapping up another dynamic year of events and programs that help grow the caring school climate on campus. Events like **Ice Breaker Day, Student Appreciation Day** and our **Last Blast Carnival** – each event now a 4-year tradition at the school – are the perfect opportunity to bring the three elements of the school community together: students, teachers and parents. Some 60 parents come on campus to help with supervision or to assist with games and crafts.



A sub-group of these parents has also formed a **Project Cornerstone parent group** to help build assets in our middle schoolers by hosting **two bi-weekly book clubs, supporting a monthly Character Awards luncheon and a monthly training and recognition of upstanders.** The Upstander Awards program is in its first year and aims to turn as many bystanders into upstanders as possible through conversations, nominations and pledges to put an end to bullying.

In addition to these programs and events, the PTSA continues to support its traditional programs such as a **welcome coffee, four school dances, three family fun night fundraisers and the book fair.** We also send out a **weekly e-newsletter of events and volunteer opportunities** to keep our parents informed of not just PTSA activities, but any school-related function. We’re also proud of our active **staff appreciation and hospitality committees** that make our teachers feel valued and our parent community feel welcomed.



— *Shana Moore, PTA President*

SAN JOSE UNIFIED COUNCIL OF PTAs Officers for the 2010 - 2011 School Year

Elected Positions

President -	Christine Gray
VP1 - Membership -	Ronda Wilson
VP2 - Communications -	Terri Jimenez
VP3 - Yahoo Group -	Jill Grellman
VP4 - Convention -	Shelley Alberti
VP5 - Parent Education -	Johnny Baltierra
Secretary -	Sandee Ruiz
Treasurer -	Jill Anderson
Financial Sec -	Simone Nelson
Auditor -	Lynne Wach
Historian -	Laura Raimondi

Appointed Positions

Under VP2 - Communications

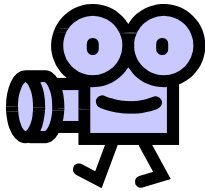
Cryer -	Terri Jimenez
Directory -	Rhonda Rodriguez-Leyva
Web Site -	Eric Wach

Under VP5 - Parent Education

Legislation --	OPEN
Health/Emergency Prep -	Julie Herndon
Parliamentarian -	OPEN
Luncheon Co-Chair -	Robin Cruz
Co-Chair -	Mary Pizzo

Unit Updates

Autism Project PTA



Over 220 students, parents and families attended when APPTA rented an Oakridge Mall movie theater on Saturday morning, April 17. Most parents said their children had never been to the movies before, but since we rented the entire theater, parents felt it was safe to bring their children out and not have to worry about any behaviors. Out of the 220 people in attendance, only two children stayed in the hall playing with stickers. Along with the free movie, everyone received popcorn, candy, and a drink.

— *Cynthia Armon, President*

Bachrodt Charter Academy PTA

Spring is blooming at Bachrodt! At our last **school beautification day**, Bachrodt families worked together to plant flowers and plants throughout the campus and their hard work is paying off! Students are enjoying the beautiful campus and many families are wanting to become more involved in school beautification projects.

As the end of the school year approaches, the PTA is busier than ever! We are looking forward to a wonderful **Teacher Appreciation Week** to celebrate and honor our wonderful teachers and staff. Some of the week's events include a catered lunch, appreciation cards from students, and other fun activities...all centered around a "sweet" theme.



Our **Bachrodt Folkloric dance groups and Choir** will be performing at the *Lunada event* at the *Children's Discovery Museum*. This is a wonderful opportunity for our performing arts groups, and

the students are thrilled!

Our **May Madness Carnival** is on May 15th. Everyone is invited to attend this fun filled event. We'll have games, prizes, lots of food, entertainment and even a special appearance by the Bachrodt Eagle! We are looking forward to this special event!

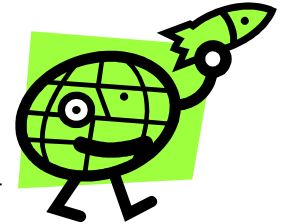
We'd like to wish everyone a very happy spring

and wish you all the best for the end of the year and for a terrific summer!

-- *Heidi Wolcott, President*

Hammer & Galarza PTA

The Hammer & Galarza PTA has had a fantastic year. The students enjoyed the **annual walk-a-thon** with fantastic tamales, pozole and other goodies. Our first **literacy night** was enjoyed by all. The kids loved hearing their teachers read wonderful books and even wear butterfly wings. Our **science night** presented by the *Children's Discovery Museum* was a huge success with the biggest turn-out ever. We continued to give our teachers **monetary support in the classroom**, fund **assemblies** and were able to fund **Art Vistas** and help buy supplies for the **garden** through the *Earn 4 Learning* program. We'll end the year with a big bang with our 3rd annual **End of Year Social**. The kids, parents and teachers will get their groove on and dance the night away. We look forward to a great 2010-2011 school year under the leadership of our new president, **Dyanne Compton** and her fantastic board.



— *Lori Stokes, President*

Reed Elementary PTA

On April 23rd Reed Elementary held an **Anniversary Party for it's 50th Anniversary**. At one time Reed was the largest Elementary school in the area with over 1400 students. We marked the day with an assembly and visitors such as Superintendent, **Don Iglesias**; Vice Mayor, **Judy Chirco**; area Trustee, **Veronica Lewis**; and State Assemblyman **Jim Beall**, who is a Reed Alumna. We also enjoyed visits from past principals, **Pat Passarelli** and **Juan Correa**. With help from the **Student Council** and great **student artists**, the school was presented with a decades quilt to be hung with others in the school cafeteria. Lunch time brought a picnic lunch out on the field and hula-hoop contest. We finished the evening with a sock hop including free drinks, cake and popcorn. Happy Anniversary Reed!



— *Ronda Wilson, President*

Gunderson High PTSA

We are enjoying the frantic pace of the springtime semester. Our organization participated in the planning and execution of a very successful WASC visit. Our principal, **Cary Catching**, began working with our secretary, **Pam Greene**, in the fall to develop a welcoming environment for the accreditation team. I was able to use time during the parent round table to introduce our PTSA organization to new families and reconnect with members that haven't been present at our general meetings.

Elections have been held with PTSA/Booster members joining in as board members for 2010—2011.



The **Academic Honors** celebration and scholarships are on the horizon, which are also key events to remind families how PTSA membership benefits all students. With nearly 50% of all students

eligible for the recognition, we host an event which is well attended and shines a positive light on PTSA.

I've still got work to **do updating program binders** for the incoming leaders, so I better get going...

— **Mary Pizzo, President**

Lincoln High PTSA



Another year is coming to a close...with that comes changes. I'd like to thank **Bernadette McCann** our Student of the month chairperson for her dedication and support of the LHS PTSA over the last four years. And to **Tisha Bocian** who successfully managed the VP of Membership position and helped add new incentives to our membership campaign. **Amy Schiff**, one of our most active members and former VP of Activities will also be leaving LHS PTSA as her son is graduating this year. Good luck to all of our seniors and their families - we wish them all the best!

Following in our quest to encourage student involvement, **Nicole Hines** is our newest appointed board member as Student Involvement Chairperson, and she will act as our liaison to the student body and help recruit student members. Welcome Nicole! Most of all, we open our arms to **Linda Funk**, our incoming President. Linda is not new to the PTSA. She is the former President of **Hoover PTSA** and last year, at the San Jose Unified Council of PTA's luncheon, she received the Honorary Service Award. Lincoln is very lucky to have Linda on our team.

Grad Night is our next big adventure. We have lots of students who have made the commitment to go to Disneyland! We are lucky to have such dedicated chairpersons **Susan Bradley and Stephanie Padilla** organizing this event.

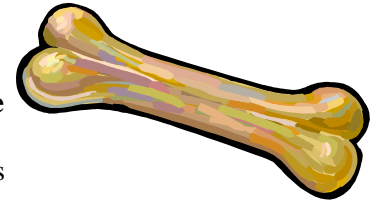
It was my pleasure to have been involved with the LHS PTSA for the last three years and I look forward to being Parliamentarian in 2010-2011. Happy Summer everyone!

-- **Rhonda Rodriguez-Leyva, President**

San Jose High PTSA

Name change! San Jose High Academy is now, once again, "San Jose High." Our school reclaimed its original name this past March.

Volunteer news: San Jose High and Lincoln High have a joint partnership in the "**Big Bone Alliance.**" During spring break, 15 students and 3 teachers from the



two schools joined together with the BBA to travel to New Orleans. They worked with *Habitat for Humanity* to build homes for the post-Hurricane Katrina relief effort. Our schools had fundraisers to pay for the trip, including a "**Beauty Battle**" for 12th grade boys that Lincoln High put on and a **Computer Recycling & Car Wash** that San Jose High PTSA put on. It was a rewarding and fun experience for everyone involved.

Science news: on April 24th San Jose High hosted an inaugural high school **Engineering Design Challenge**. It was sponsored by *Chevron Corporation* and *Project Lead The Way (PLTW)*. It brought together more than 50 students from a variety of Bay Area high schools. They worked in teams to create an original design based upon a brief given them the morning of the competition. Students had to have been in PLTW Introduction to Engineering Design in order to compete. The top three teams will now travel to San Diego for the state finals in May."

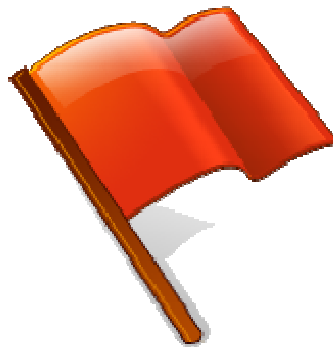
— **Geneva Ebisu, President**

Financial red flags

- No treasurer's reports at executive board or association meetings.
- Reports are given orally with written information to be provided "later."
- Treasurer's reports list only general categories without sufficient detail.
- Treasurer misses meetings, and reports are not provided in his or her absence.
- Bank statements sent to treasurer's or president's house rather than the school.
- Only one person counting money; no cash verification sheets.
- Only one person signing checks; only one person on bank signature card.
- Signing blank checks.
- Receipts not attached to Payment Authorization/Request for Reimbursement Forms.
- Inability of treasurer or chairman to say how much a fundraiser made.
- Unapproved budgets or yearly calendars.
- Audits not performed as scheduled.
- Bank statements not reviewed by a non-check signer.
- Board unfamiliar with unit bylaws payment authorization procedure.
- Failure to provide a year-end audit on request.

Financial situations to avoid

- School staff member as treasurer or president.
- Principal who wants projects funded without going through the approval process required by PTA.
- Fundraising projects that will benefit a board member financially (Conflict of Interest).
- Encumbering future boards by paying for salaries for ongoing staff positions.
- President writes the checks because the treasurer has no experience, is unavailable, etc.
- Consistently paying per capita/insurance late or not at all.
- Lack of/incomplete minutes, particularly in matters involving use of funds; no motions releasing funds or approving expenses.
- Banks that do not return processed checks or make copies available.



The Stark Reality in California's Schools



Over the last two years, more than \$17 billion has already been cut from education. California's schools rank at the very bottom of all 50 states in staff-to-student ratios, and nearly last in the nation in per-pupil spending. In addition, libraries have been virtually wiped out, while arts, music, sports, advanced placement and other essential programs have been eliminated from the curriculum.

After decades of budget cuts and our students being forced to do "more with less", a recent report from UCLA entitled "Educational Opportunities in Hard Times", found that 67 percent of principals in California reported that class sizes increased this year, with 74 percent of elementary school principals reporting larger class sizes. The same study showed that 75 percent of principals reported that summer school had been reduced or eliminated.

Last July, when lawmakers passed and the governor signed the state budget, an agreement was memorialized in AB 4X 3, which imposed \$5.2 billion in cuts to education funding, including an unprecedented retroactive reduction of \$1.6 billion to the prior year Proposition 98 guarantee. As part of the agreement to balance the magnitude of these cuts, the Governor and Legislature agreed to certification and created a maintenance factor to restore \$11.2 billion to public schools and community colleges. AB 4X 3 left no doubt that it was addressing a maintenance factor created by, and subject to, the provisions of Article XVI, Section 8 of the California Constitution – Proposition 98. This bill was passed by two-thirds vote of the Legislature and signed into law by the Governor.

Less than seven months later, the Governor proposed to directly ignore that law and renege on the promise made to students to restore the \$11.2 billion. He did this by manipulating the General Fund and Proposition 98 in his 2010-11 budget proposal to make more cuts to education funding. Essentially, the Governor's maneuvers would attempt to repeal AB 4X 3, violate the Constitution by recertifying the 2008-09 Proposition 98 funding guarantee, and break the July 2009 budget agreement.

The Governor also redefines revenues to reduce State General Funds through the gas tax swap and by claiming that the 2008-09 funding level actually consisted of \$1.3 billion owed to schools for a prior year, therefore allowing the Governor to lower the Proposition 98 guarantee even further.

If the Governor and the Legislature do not live up to their word it would mean an additional cut of \$2.4 billion to education funding, on top of the more than \$17 billion that has been cut from education over the past two years. This results in an additional cut of \$400 per student and a total cut of \$2,500 per student over the last two years.

CTA, with members of the California Education Coalition, are asking California Legislators to uphold the promise to California's students by signing a "**Commitment Card**" which reads:

"As an elected official, I will stand by my promise to California's students and:

- Protect public education funding from further cuts,
- Stand by the budget agreement signed into law (AB 4X 3) to restore \$11.2 billion in funding owed to schools and community colleges, and
- Oppose any attempts to suspend or undermine Prop 98, the voter approved minimum school funding guarantee.

Our students deserve better. Investing in public education is an investment in California's future. I will stand by my word to protect our students."

It is SJTA's hope that PTA will support this effort by the California Education Coalition and urge California State Legislators to sign the Commitment Card and keep the promises made to students.

Sincerely,
Janice Allen, President
San Jose Teachers Association

Communications Commission

Multi-language resources from National PTA

State PTA leadership helped identify key PTA resources to be translated into eight languages to cover needs in a variety of markets.

The first phase of this ongoing project includes four translated PTA publications to assist your PTA with its outreach efforts in your diverse community.

To locate these resources visit the National PTA website www.pta.org, “Running a PTA” tab, then click on the “National & State Leadership Resources” item.

http://www.pta.org/national_and_state_leadership_resources.asp

100 Ways to Help Your Child and School Succeed

- English
- Spanish
- Vietnamese
- Korean
- Japanese
- Chinese
- Arabic
- Russian
- Somali

The Value of Membership

- English
- Spanish
- Vietnamese
- Korean
- Japanese
- Chinese
- Arabic
- Russian
- Somali

Help Your Child: Join PTA!

- English
- Spanish
- Vietnamese
- Korean
- Japanese
- Chinese
- Arabic
- Russian
- Somali

Disclaimer: Language translations provided by TransPerfect Translations, using certified linguists and subject-matter specialists with proven expertise in every major industry, certified to both the ISO 9001:2008 and EN 15038:2006 quality standards. For more information, visit www.transperfect.com

Ready, Set, Lead! PTA National Standards for Family-School Partnerships

- English
- Spanish
- Vietnamese
- Korean
- Japanese
- Chinese
- Arabic
- Russian
- Somali