**Talking Points for Legislative Chairs, DECEMBER 2024**

Details are in the December issue of the *Advocacy Communicator.*

* Statewide standardized test scores went up a little last year, but they have not returned to pre-Covid levels. Linda Darling-Hammond, the president of the State Board of Education, points out that California’s tests are more rigorous than those in other states. The Communicator has a link to an article by her that includes an example of a test question.
* Good news! Test results in Orange County were substantially higher than the state average. You can use a link in the newsletter to find your school’s results.
* Registration for Sacramento Safari is open! Who are we sending?
* National PTA and the Center for Research and Reform in Education at Johns Hopkins University have teamed up to launch Family Engagement Solutions, a free online tool to help district and school leaders, educators and advocates find evidence-based programs that strengthen family-school partnerships and improve student outcomes. There’s more information in the Communicator.
* The California State PTA Convention is a great place to network and learn new skills. Next year it will be in nearby Ontario. The dates are May 1 to 4.
* Another opportunity for us is the California State PTA Legislation in Sacramento on February 3 and 4. It’s similar to Sacramento Safari, but it includes PTA members from around the state.
* The next CAPTA Advocacy Call will be on December 16 at 7 p.m. It’s an easy way to get important information from our state organization.
* The Fourth District PTA Advocacy Forum in November was excellent. We should all plan to attend the next one on January 24.

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