**Talking Points for Legislative Chairs, January 2025**

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

* President-elect Trump has promised to get rid of the federal Department of Education, so the Communicator takes a look at the role of that Department. It plays an essential role in enforcing civil rights in schools, providing information about effective education programs, and providing financial assistance to college and university students.
* In December, the Orange County Registrar of Voters certified the results of the General Election. Most of the state legislators representing Orange County were re-elected. State Senator Josh Newman was replaced by Steven Choi. There will be a special election in the 36th State Senate District because State Senator Janet Nguyen was elected to the Orange County Board of Supervisors.
* The next Advocacy Forum on January 24 will be about advocating in our school district. There will be information about how school board meetings are run and how to communicate with our community about education issues. We’re all invited to attend!
* It’s January, so a new budget process has started in Sacramento. Last year there was a huge budget deficit to contend with but the Legislative Analyst’s Office says this year may be easier because tax revenues have increased.
* The newsletter has a quick description of how laws are passed in California.
* The 30th Annual Report on the Conditions of Children in Orange County has been released. It includes lots of information that we might use in our advocacy efforts.
* Sacramento Safari is coming up next month! Who is going?

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