



CUCPTSA LEGISLATION/ADVOCACY TEAM March 2020 Report

In Local News:

Sacramento Safari was amazing! I am very thankful for the amazing representatives we had from CUCPTSA and CUSD in Sacramento. There will be a separate file of notes on the trip for all to read.

On March 3, 2020, the voters in SFID #2 and SFID #3 once again rejected school facilities bonds to modernize our schools. Today, March 4th, parents and families, school administration, and students pick themselves back up and begin the process of moving forward and looking towards the future and trying to creatively figure out how to fix our facilities issues. After moments of reflection, people will again begin the good work of trying to improve educational outcomes (and facilities) for all students.

On March 4th at 7pm is the next state Advocacy Call – really a webinar – please see page 2 for how to register. This webinar shortly after the Special Board Meeting tonight where I am sure we will hear some thoughts on the election results.

Agendas from the most recent Board of Trustee meetings can be found here:

March 4, 2020 – Special Board Meeting – <http://capousd-ca.schoolloop.com/file/1514016268888/1531973256666/1693859489181012347.pdf>
February 19, 2020 – Board Meeting – <http://capousd-ca.schoolloop.com/file/1514016268888/1531973256666/6391379141946913457.pdf>
February 5, 2020 – Special Board Meeting - <http://capousd-ca.schoolloop.com/file/1514016268888/1531973256666/776393909731471928.pdf>
January 15, 2020 – Board Meeting - <http://capousd-ca.schoolloop.com/file/1514016268888/1531973256666/6033754224362986477.pdf>

Minutes and Audio Recordings of Meetings can be found at https://capousd-ca.schoolloop.com/pf4/cms2/view_page?d=x&group_id=1514016268888&vdid=wi10b1qsopu12s
Minutes are listed once approved, audio is typically posted within a day or two of the meeting. Also, on this page are links to 2018-2019 minutes/agendas/audio and previous years.

From Fourth District PTA: Talking Points for Legislative Chairs, February 2020

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

- Governor Gavin Newsom issued his proposed state budget for 2020-21. It has a \$3.8 billion increase in funding for K-12 schools. Most of that is dedicated to Newsom's education priorities: teacher recruitment, special education, and assisting the lowest performing school districts. About \$1.2 billion would come to school districts through the Local Control Funding Formula. School districts get to decide how to spend that money.
- The next California State PTA Advocacy call is on Wednesday, March 4. Directions are in the *Communicator*.
- There was a lot of interesting information at the Fourth District PTA Advocacy Forum with four Orange County school superintendents. For example, did you know that at some schools in the Anaheim Elementary School District 20 percent of the students are homeless?

Back issues of the Communicator can be found at: <http://www.fourthdistrictpta.org/advocacy-communicator/>

CA PTA Monthly Advocacy Calls:

Join California State PTA Director of Legislation Shereen Walter and members of the Legislation Team on **Wednesday, March 4th** from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. for a webinar. The group will discuss the following topics:

- School Facility Bond Measure
- Current bills that CAPTA has taken a position on

The Legislation Team recently switched from a conference call format to a **webinar format** to reduce background noise and provide our participants with the opportunity to see visual information. Please take note of the registration details below, and be sure to select the March 4 date when you sign up:

Registration link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/1383569761862691852>

Webinar ID: 438-197-835

If your computer does not have speakers or you otherwise have trouble hearing the audio once you've logged in, mute your speakers and call 415-655-0052 to hear the discussion. Use attendee PIN number 455-276-312. (**Note:** you cannot use this phone number to hear the webinar unless you are registered and logged in.)

In State News:

California lottery shortchanged schools by \$36 million as revenues soared, audit finds by Wes Venteicher – The California State Lottery should pay the state \$36 million to make up for not putting enough money toward education, according to a State Auditor's report published Tuesday. Read the complete article at <https://www.sacbee.com/news/politics-government/the-state-worker/article240618662.html> (A Michele note to put the amount in perspective – there are 6 million students in California – so this amounts to about \$6 per student – not a stunning amount of money, for CUSD it would amount to less than \$300,000. The Lottery needs to fulfill its obligation to students and education, but it is still not a magic bullet to solve the state's education issues.)

Why the Census is Important to PTA – By CAPTA - 2020 is an important year for the state and the country ♦ it's the once-per-decade time that every person in America is counted in the U.S. Census. Census-taking starts in **March 2020**.

Why is this important to you as a PTA member or leader? In a nutshell, responding to the census helps your community get its fair share of funding for the next 10 years. Census data guides how more than \$675 billion in federal funding is distributed for the following:

- Schools
- Health care facilities
- Roads and transportation
- Recreation centers
- Social services
- And much more!

The logo for the United States Census 2020. It features the words "United States" in a smaller, dark red font at the top. Below that, the word "Census" is written in a large, bold, dark red font. At the bottom, the year "2020" is written in a very large, bold, dark red font.

In terms of education and schools, the census count impacts the next 10 years' worth of funds that your community's schools will receive for special education, classroom technology, teacher training, after-school programs, school lunch assistance, and so on. If your child is in second grade now, the census count will have an impact on her education until she graduates from high school!

To help children understand the importance of the census, the U.S. Census Bureau has created a program called **Statistics in Schools**. The program features activities and lessons for grades K-12 which bring school subjects to life using real-world Census Bureau statistics.

We encourage you to promote Statistics in Schools at your school in order to teach students about the census and why it's crucial that every person is counted. To learn more about the program visit <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/sis.html> .

You have the power to shape the future for the children of California by helping to ensure that everyone in your community is counted in the 2020 Census.

Census 2020 – In April 2020, the next US Census taking happens. It is important for an accurate count to occur. The results of the Census impact school funding from the federal level, apportionment of seats within the state and federal elected houses, and helps decide where new infrastructure is built. Here is a helpful site for all things Census: <https://occensus.org/>

Census Bureau launches Statistics In Schools program ahead of 2020 Census by Shawna De La Rosa – While part of the program’s purpose is to encourage students to urge their families to participate in the 2020 Census, the statistics gleaned from the work unlock valuable – and interesting – data that can encourage deeper math exploration. Many math and science professionals believe schools need to teach more statistic and data analysis, with some saying statistics is more important than calculus. Read the entire article at: <https://www.educationdive.com/news/census-bureau-launches-statistics-in-schools-program-ahead-of-2020-census/>

How some California school districts invest in counseling – and achieve results: Investing in counseling can raise graduation and college-going rates, schools find by Carolyn Jones – San Francisco Unified is among dozens of districts across California that has invested in counseling in recent years, hiring more staff to guide students through the college and career process and help with their mental health needs. For many districts, the investment has paid off with higher graduation rates, a drop in absenteeism and more students submitting financial aid forms and completing the A-G courses required for admission to UC and CSU. Read the complete article at <https://edsources.org/2020/how-some-california-school-districts-invest-in-counseling-and-achieve-results/>

Newsom wants more dyslexia screenings, services for California students: \$4 million investment will help improve dyslexia services in schools. By Carolyn Jones – A new plan by Gov. Gavin Newsom, who struggled with dyslexia as a child, would pay for more screenings and services for the thousands of California students with dyslexia – a condition that advocates say has not received enough attention in schools. The California Dyslexia Initiative, which the governor announced last week as part of his 2020-21 budget proposal, would set aside \$4 million for screening, professional learning for teachers, research and a conference on dyslexia, a learning disorder that affects one’s ability to read and write. Although the amount is small compared to the overall education budget, it lays the groundwork for future investment and bring much-needed attention to the issue, advocates said. Read the complete article at <https://edsources.org/2020/newsom-wants-more-dyslexia-screenings-services-for-california-students/>

Special education in California in need of overhaul, researchers say: Better training for teachers and improved screening are among the recommendations. By Carolyn Jones – Special education in California should be overhauled to focus on the individual needs of students, with better training for teachers, more streamlined services and improved screening for the youngest children, according to a compilation of reports released today. Read the complete article at <https://edsources.org/2020/special-education-in-california-in-need-of-overhaul-researchers-say/>

At the National Level:

From the National PTA:

The White House released its proposal for the 2021 fiscal year budget last week. Overall, the budget allocates \$66.6 billion for the Department of Education, 7.8% or \$5.6 billion less than the previous year.

Among proposed changes is a push to restructure the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESSA) into a block grant of \$19.4 billion, consolidating major programs and amounting to \$4.8 billion less than what Congress approved for 2020.

The proposed budget would also invest an additional \$100 million in funding in special needs, which would bring Trump's proposed Individuals with Disabilities Education Act funding to \$13 billion, less than the \$13.9 billion Congress approved for 2020.

Among priorities the White House highlighted in its budget were Education Freedom Scholarships, which the President called on Congress to pass in his recent State of the Union address. The program would give \$5 billion in annual federal tax credits to businesses and individuals who voluntarily donate to organizations providing private school scholarships.

While Education Secretary Betsy DeVos said the initiative is meant to expand educational freedom for families, many are worried it will siphon away public dollars to private schools.

PTA opposes this proposal as it would redirect \$5 billion per year of federal taxpayer dollars to fund private school voucher programs. PTA advocates for the improvement of, and investments in public education for all children and to guarantee public funds are not diverted to any private school choice proposal or voucher system.

The budget proposal also includes a renewed emphasis on career and technical education, with a proposed increase of \$680 million for Perkins V, which would bring its total funding to \$2 million. The proposal builds on the President's call during his State of the Union speech to ensure every high school has access to a high-quality vocational program.

Additional programs that would be impacted under the proposed budget include the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), which would see a \$182 billion cut over the next decade. PTA has been closely monitoring recent regulatory activity related to SNAP. This fall the California State PTA joined many other state PTAs and National PTA in submitting comments expressing concerns about the U.S. Department of Agriculture's proposed rule to revise SNAP and the potential for benefits to be eliminated for millions of families which could jeopardize children's access to free school breakfast and lunch.

Congress is expected to decide between now and September on the final budget.






For National PTA's response to the President's State of the Union address and proposed budget, http://downloads.capta.org/leg/2020_State_of_Union_Memo_NATIONAL_PTA.pdf .

Advocacy letters for National PTA:

Please visit the Take Action site <https://www.pta.org/home/advocacy/take-action> to send a letter to your Congress members on the issues of the day/week/month. Here you can keep up-to-date on the latest issues the National PTA is supporting or opposing.

The 116th Congress is considering the following legislation items. The National PTA is supporting (green checkmarks) or opposing (red x) the following items:

Child Health and Safety

- H.R. 5: Equality Act | 116th Congress (2019-2020) 
- H.R. 662: REACH Act | 116th Congress (2019-2020) 
- H.R. 852: Get the Lead Out of Schools Act | 116th Congress (2019-2020) 
- H.R. 2311: Anti-Lunch Shaming Act of 2019| 116th Congress (2019-2020) 
- H.R. 2599: Suicide and Threat Assessment Nationally Dedicated to Universal Prevention Act of 2019| 116th Congress (2019-2020) 

H.R. 3451: To protect children affected by immigration enforcement actions 116th Congress (2019-2020) ✓

H.R. 3452: To amend part E of title IV of the Social Security Act to ensure that immigration status alone does not disqualify a parent, legal guardian, or relative from being a placement for a foster child, to authorize discretion to a State, county, or other political subdivision of a State to delay filing for termination of parental rights in foster care cases in which an otherwise fit and willing parent or legal guardian has been deported or is involved in (including detention pursuant to) an immigration 116th Congress (2019-2020) ✓

H.R. 4019: To protect and educate children about the dangers of e-cigarettes and other electronic nicotine delivery systems, and for other purposes 116th Congress (2019-2020) ✓

H.R. 4381: To effectively staff the public elementary schools and secondary schools of the United States with school-based mental health services providers| 116th Congress (2019-2020) ✓

H.R. 5463: To amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to require a study of the time and duration of school lunch periods, and for other purposes | 116th Congress (2019-2020) ✓

S. 788: A bill to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, gender identity, and sexual orientation, and for other purposes | 116th Congress (2019-2020) ✓

S. 1119: A bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to prohibit the stigmatization of children who are unable to pay for meals| 116th Congress (2019-2020) ✓

S.1832: A bill to protect and educate children about the dangers of e-cigarettes and other electronic nicotine delivery systems and for other purposes 116th Congress (2019-2020) ✓

S. 2097: Protecting Sensitive Locations Act 116th Congress (2019-2020) ✓

S.2492: Suicide Training and Awareness Nationally Delivered for Universal Prevention Act of 2019| 116th Congress (2019-2020) ✓

S. 2499: A bill to effectively staff the public elementary schools and secondary schools of the United States with school-based mental health services providers| 116th Congress (2019-2020) ✓

S. 2548: A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to address and take action to prevent bullying and harassment of students| 116th Congress (2019-2020) ✓

S. 2600: A bill to promote minimum State requirements for the prevention and treatment of concussions caused by participation in school sports and for other purposes| 116th Congress (2019-2020) ✓

Education Technology and Student Data Privacy

H.R. 1693: To require the Federal Communications Commission to make the provision of Wi-Fi access on school buses eligible for E-rate support|116th Congress 2019-2020 ✓

S. 558: CAMRA Act| 116th Congress (2019-2020) ✓

S.738: A bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to make the provision of W-Fi access on school buses eligible for E-rate support |116th Congress (2019-2020) ✓

S.1167: A bill to require the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to establish a State Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program, and for other purposes | 116th Congress (2019-2020) ✓

Elementary and Secondary Education

H.R. 69: Ending Common Core and Expanding School Choice Act| 116th Congress (2019-2020) ✗

H.R. 865: To provide for the long-term improvement of public school facilities, and for other purposes. | 116th Congress (2019-2020) ✓


H.R. 3322: Renew America's Schools Act of 2019 | 116th Congress (2019-2020) ✓


H.R. 4220: Chronic Absenteeism Reduction in Every School (CARES) Act| 116th Congress (2019-2020) 


S. 5: Educational Opportunities Act. | 116th Congress (2019-2020) 

S. 213: A bill to amend the SOAR Act. | 116th Congress (2019-2020) 

S. 235: Teachers Are Leaders Act | 116th Congress (2019-2020) 

S. 266: A bill to provide for the long-term improvement of public school facilities, and for other purposes. | 116th Congress (2019-2020) 


S. 579: A bill to provide grants to eligible local educational agencies to help public schools reduce class size in the early elementary grades, and for other purposes. | 116th Congress (2019-2020) 

S. 1299: A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide grants to local educational agencies to encourage girls and underrepresented minorities to pursue studies and careers in STEM fields 116th Congress (2019-2020) 


S. 2784: Family Friendly Schools Act. | 116th Congress (2019-2020) 

Federal Investments in Education

H.R. 2021: To amend the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 and to establish a congressional budget for fiscal year 2020. | 116th Congress (2019-2020) 

H.R. 2315: To require full funding of part A of title 1 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 and the Individuals with Disabilities Act. | 116th Congress (2019-2020) 


H.R. 3647: Impact Aid Infrastructure Act 116th Congress (2019-2020) 

S.1172: A bill to require full funding of part A of title 1 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 and the Individuals with Disabilities Act | 116th Congress (2019-2020) 

Gun Safety and Violence Prevention


H.R. 8: Bipartisan Background Checks Act of 2019 | 116th Congress (2019-2020) 

H.R. 1236: Extreme Risk Protection Order Act of 2019 | 116th Congress (2019-2020) 


S. 42: Background Check Expansion Act | 116th Congress (2019-2020) 


S. 506: Extreme Risk Protection Order Act of 2019| 116th Congress (2019-2020) 


Post-Secondary Access and Opportunity


S. 874: Dream Act of 2019 116th Congress (2019-2020) 

Special Education

H.R. 1878: To amend part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to provide full Federal funding of such part. | 116th Congress (2019-2020) 

H.R. 3086: To amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide students with disabilities and their families with access to critical information needed to select the right college and succeed once enrolled 116th Congress (2019-2020) 

H.R. 4107: To authorize funding for section 619 and part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 116th Congress (2019-2020) 

S.866: A bill to amend part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to provide full Federal funding for such part. | 116th Congress (2019-2020) 

S. 1585: RISE Act of 2019 116th Congress (2019-2020) 