

December Advocacy Newsletter

State

Results of the Election:

California State Ballot Propositions Supported by CAPTA: ALL PASSED!!

Prop 51 – K-12 and Community College Facilities	54% / 46%
Prop 55 – Tax Extension for Education and Healthcare	62%/37.9%
Prop 56 - Cigarette Tax to Fund Healthcare	62.9%/37.1%
Prop 58 – English Proficiency. Multilingual Education	72.4%/27.6%
Prop 63 – Firearms and Ammunition Sales -	62.6%/37.4%

The State Board of Education voted to approve a new Science Framework for California's public schools that will dramatically upgrade and modernize science instruction. The Science Framework provides guidance to teachers, administrators, and textbook publishers for the teaching of the Next Generation Science Standards adopted in 2013, from transitional kindergarten through 12th grade. Throughout the spring of 2017, the CDE, together with educational partners, will present California Science Framework rollout events around the state to start preparing educators and administrators. The CDE is also developing a new online science assessment that reflects the Standards and Framework. A pilot test of the new assessment will take place in spring 2017 in grades five, eight, and in one high school-ten, eleven, or twelve- that will vary for each high school.

Bullet Points from Ron Bennett CEO of School Services in California (Fourth District PTA Advocacy Forum, October 28, 2016)

- California's rate of economic growth is slower than expected for the current fiscal year. There hasn't been a real recovery from the "Great Recession".
- State revenues for the 2015-16 fiscal year fell short of expectations by \$706 million and are almost \$1 billion below expectations for this year.

Have enough spa

- During the Great Recession, Prop. 98 funding for education was cut by 22 percent. Increased education funding during the past few years has only been a restoration of previous cuts.
- The Legislative Analyst's office estimates Prop. 55 will generate \$4 billion to \$9 billion in General Fund revenues annually.
- The passage of Prop. 55 (forum was before passing of Prop.) would make the state's tax structure even more volatile, with greater reliance on tax payments from wealthy individuals whose income fluctuates with the stock market. Half of the state's income tax comes from the top one percent.
- Before Prop. 13 passed in 1979, California was in the top five nationally in education funding. For the past 40 years California has been in the bottom 10 in funding and school staffing. None of the legislators want to talk about changing Prop. 13.
- Many school districts continue to find it difficult to get the parent community engaged. PTA has created the National Standards for Family-School Partnerships Assessment Guide to help families and schools implement meaningful engagement.

PTA Parent Engagement Resources

PTA National Standards for Family-School Partnerships Assessment Guide in English and Spanish-<http://capta.org/resource/family-school-partnerships/>

LCAP Quick Guides for each of the state priority areas in English and Spanish - <http://capta.org/resource/quickguides/>

School Smarts Parent Engagement Program General Information-
www.capta.org/schoolsmarts

School Smarts Parent Engagement Brochure in English and Spanish-
<http://capta.org/resource/school-smarts-parent-engagement-program-brochure/>

General Tips for Parents - <http://capta.org/focus-areas/family-engagement/tips-for-parents/>

Local

Have enough spa

OC School Bond Measures Passed:

Anaheim Elementary School District \$318,000,000 73.9%/26.1%

*Enrollment Approx. 19,000 students/ 24 Campuses

Centralia Elementary School District \$ 49,000,000 70%/30%

*Enrollment Approx. 4,500 students/ 8 Campuses

Fountain Valley School District \$ 63,000,000 63.2%/36.8%

*Enrollment Approx. 6,300 students/ 10 Campuses

Garden Grove Unified School District \$ 311,000,000 74.6%/25.4%

*Enrollment Approx. 45,000 students / 67 Campuses

Huntington Beach City School District \$159,850,000 63.1%/36.9%

*Enrollment Approx. 7,064 students / 10 Campuses

Ocean View School District \$ 169,000,000 57.6%/42.4%

*Enrollment Approx. 8,500 students/ 21 Campuses

Orange Unified School District \$ 288,000,000 60.8%/39.2%

*Enrollment Approx. 29,000 students/ 39 Campuses

Westminster School District \$ 76,000,000 69.2%/30.8%

*Enrollment Approx. 9,503 students/ 18 Campuses

ALL ARE MEASURES FOR REPAIR AND IMPROVE AGING SCHOOLS, BUILDING STRONG NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOLS, BASIC REPAIRS AND ESSENTIAL UPGRADES FOR STUDENTS, IMPROVE SCHOOL SAFETY AND LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS, STUDENT SUCCESS

OC School Bond Measures Defeated:

Have enough spa

Brea Olinda Unified School District \$148,000,000 48.4%/51.6%

*Enrollment Approx. 6,000 students / 9 Campuses

Capistrano Unified School District \$889,000,000 44.6%/55.4%

*Enrollment Approx. 52,000 / 63 Campuses

Capistrano Unified School District is committed to work with all stakeholders and leaders to determine a path forward to solve the situation of the district's aging schools. The district is forming additional layers of community oversight including the School Facilities and Finance Committee and the Community Facilities District Oversight Committee. APPLICATIONS are closed. More info @ www.capousd.org.

Resource: CAPTA.org, CDE.org, News Advisory Release November 9th, 2016- Ryan Burris CUSD

Results of Capistrano Unified School Board of Trustees:

Trustee Area 1- Amy Hanacek - Incumbent

Trustee Area 2- Jim Reardon – Incumbent

Trustee Area 3- Patricia Hollaway

Trustee Area 5 – Gary Pritchard – Incumbent

Key Points – Board Meeting November 16, 2016

Trustees present: Amy Hanacek, Gary Pritchard, Gila Jones, Jim Reardon, John Alpay,(last meeting), Lynn Hatton-Hodson, student advisor Quinn Darling. Trustee Martha McNicholas-not present

*Motion and vote was made to approve the proposed 2018-2019, 2019-2020 School Calendars. Calendars passed with the motion to change the pupil free day of October 31 to November 1. (Due to Halloween). A provision was approved to bring back additional conversation on the dates of parent conferences for elementary schools. It is believed the dates are not in alignment with the early start date of school. Currently no decision on those dates.

*Motion and preliminary vote on school location for the Mandarin Immersion Program. (MIP) Currently at Bergeson Elementary grades K-5, a middle school was

Have enough spa

needed to continue the program. After a presentation and discussion between four locations: Las Flores Elementary & Middle School, Fred Newhart Middle School, Niguel Hills Middle School, and Aliso Viejo Middle School, a preliminary vote for Fred Newhart was chosen as the best location. Because of the absence of Martha McNicholas, and Patricia Hollaway (who begins her term next month), the item will be placed on the Consent Calendar for discussion for final vote next meeting.

* The proposed revisions of Board Policy 6172, *Accelerated Academic Achievement Program (AAA)*, has been revised to align to current Education Code related to the California Gifted and Talented Program which is no longer available or funded. The title AAA has been updated and replaced with the *Gifted and Talented Student Program*. Policy and language was added and adjusted to reflect the values of the GATE/ High Achievers Advisory Council made up of teachers, parents and District staff. Discussion among the trustees included: not supporting the policy language, no policy at all, instead a Mission Statement including goals and models, examining courses in middle school, and overall research on the subject.

The "GATE" program is ideally fully implemented in elementary school, continuing into middle school (the argument is not enough accelerated or high level classes), continuing into high school with the AP program.

Gila Jones presented a motion to indefinitely table the motion until further research and discussion. All approved.

- Sign up for Sacramento Safari!! This is a crazy two day trip to Sacramento with fellow Fourth District PTA members! The dates are February 27-28, 2017. We fly out in the morning and return the next evening. The agenda typically includes guest speakers, legislator visits and more! Cost typically runs between \$650-\$750. (PTA expense).
- Go to fourthdistrictPTA.org and register. You will need to book your own flight reservations-typically Southwest Airlines- first flight out.

Footnote:

Proposition 51 passed with Measure M being defeated. Proposition 51 authorizes \$9 billion in general obligation bonds: \$3 billion for new construction, \$3 billion for modernization of K-12 public school facilities. \$1 billion for charter and vocational education facilities, and \$2 billion for California Community Colleges.

This program is based upon state and local partnerships. For buying land & new construction the state share is 50% /50% local funds. For modernization projects, the state share is 60%/local is %40 of the project costs.

Districts raise local funding for facilities mainly through local General Obligation Bonds. This was Measure M.

K-12 Public school facility projects are approved through a state review process. Schools submit project proposals to the state's Office of Public School Construction. The project proposals can be for buying land, constructing new buildings, and modernizing (renovating) existing buildings. Schools are eligible for new construction funding if they do not have enough space for all current and projected students. Schools are eligible for modernization funding for buildings that are at least 25 years old.

(California General Election Official Voter Information Guide)

In conclusion, Proposition 51 is beneficial to other school districts that have the matching funds, but due to the defeat of Measure M, CUSD will not have facilities funds to receive the matching funds from the state.

CUCPTSA Legislative Advocacy Team is dedicated to educate the public on the ways our school district is funded. Stay tuned for different opportunities to educate your schools and PTA.

The CUSD Board of Trustees have approve a College Readiness Block Grant Plan from the State of California totaling \$467,371. The plan will be implemented and the money will be spent over the next three years, with a goal to provide unduplicated high school students (low income English learners and foster youth) in the district the support they need to increase college readiness and access to higher education. An additional college and career counselor will be hired who is bilingual in Spanish to provide group sessions and meetings for parents. The first meeting for parents and students is January 10, 2017.

Have enough spa