

Crescent Courier

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Message from the president . . .

It's All About the Children...

While pondering what focus to take for my letter to you all for this issue, I commented to someone that I was really having a time trying to figure out just what to say. His response to me was to just remember that, no matter what I decided on, "It's all about the children."

I thought about it and he is right. No matter what direction we decide to take, the children have to be our focus. We are all aware of the dire news coming out of Sacramento and hopefully all of our members are taking time to learn exactly what the proposed budget cuts mean to California. We all know how our local schools have been hurt by past budget cuts but we need to look at the bigger picture as well. We need to know that California ranks number 46 in the nation in per capita spending for students. We need to know that the proposed budget cuts will not only affect education but will cut funds for foster care, child welfare services, Cal Works programs, children's services health care, juvenile rehabilitation facilities and crime prevention grants, and early childhood education and child care. We need to know that the proposed budget cuts will hurt ALL children in California.

As the strongest advocacy group for children in our state and nation, we cannot sit back and do nothing. Our children need our voices. They need us to make it be known in Sacramento that we will not stand by and watch our children suffer because of a problem they had no part in creating. Many of our units and councils are actively involved in helping to get the word out and we thank you on behalf of our kids. But there is still more to be done. If you have not done so already, go to the California State PTA website at capta.org. It's teeming with information about the proposed cuts, the effects of those cuts and things you can do to make our voices be heard. Contact your unit and council presidents, too, as they receive updated information from State as soon as I receive it to forward. We can help to make a difference in the lives of children.

On a lighter note, do not forget to register for our District Annual Meeting to be held on April 17 at the Double Tree in Carson. There is still time to register for the California State PTA convention to be held in Long Beach, May 1 through May 4. There are lots of exciting things to see and hear at convention and we hope to see all of you there. Lastly, keep an eye out for information about our Leadership West and East conferences to be held in May and June. Our committees are working on great events for all.

Again, thank you all for all you do for our children.
 Kathy Corzine
 President
 Thirty-Third District PTA

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Parent Education

Please save the following dates in 2008-2009 for Parent Education Workshop/Training that will be presented by Nancy Jenkins, a PTA consultant and Los Angeles County Office of Education staff member.

- Monday September 29th, 2008 - "Helping With Homework"
- Thursday, January 29th, 2009- "Getting Ready for Kindergarten"

The idea behind the workshop training programs is to teach the material to parent leaders from units and councils. These parent leaders will be able to present the programs to parents and other parent leaders, who in turn will be able to present the programs. The Thirty-Third District PTA has several councils with no trainers so we hope to have participants from each council for the 2008-09 school year.

Has your PTA/PTSA had a successful Parent Education program that could be shared? Please help me assist units and councils to learn about these special programs. Contact me with the details!

Mary Ross

Parent Education



Health Information

A Pandemic Influenza Outbreak

What should you do if we have a “pandemic” flu? Scary, but it could happen; and such an outbreak will be global.

First, what is influenza? Influenza is a virus and an infection is transmitted by large respiratory droplets settling on the host’s oral, nasal or conjunctival mucosa. Experts believe that up to 30% of the population may be sick at one time. Schools tend to be affected more than other settings because they are occupied by children and the children are in close proximity to one another. Many schools are already establishing plans for an outbreak. It is part of their emergency preparedness plans. A Pandemic outbreak will be global.

Two of the main preventive hygiene procedures- adequate hand washing and covering the mouth when sneezing or coughing- should always be practiced in our schools. Wash your hands while singing the “Happy Birthday” song with regular soap and water to adequately cleanse them. Viruses can live up to 48 hours outside the human body or on nonporous surfaces like plastic, metal and wood so it is vital that our schools are regularly cleaned.

Perhaps this is the impetus for you to hold a Health Fair at your school or district. The California State PTA website has all the necessary letters and ideas on holding a Health Fair available on its web site for downloading and printing. It includes everything you need; there is no need to re-invent the wheel.

Stay informed and healthy!

Rhonda Burd

Long Beach Council PTA

Long Beach Council PTA includes 31 elementary schools, 8 K-8 schools, 8 middle schools and 4 high schools for a total of 51 PTA units. Our council encompasses not just Long Beach, but Signal Hill, part of Lakewood and Catalina Island.

Long Beach Council was established in 1909 and we are excited to be celebrating our centennial next year! Our oldest units were chartered in 1909 and our newest unit was just made official in January of this year.

Over the years Long Beach Council has been involved with children's issues within Long Beach and beyond. For example, in the late 1940's a football competition called the "Milk Bowl" was established. The Milk Bowl raised money to aid with necessities like shoes and medical care. More recently we have been involved in candidate forums, parent workshops, environmental issues and many school district committees.

Our goal is to improve the reputation of PTA within the community and place the focus more on child advocacy instead of fundraising. Wouldn't it be nice for people to think of something else besides fundraising when they think of PTA? Within our council we work to improve our communication and to empower our parents as we work together to build a brighter future for our children. We strive to continue the good work and community involvement that has been a hallmark of PTA. We are proud of the role our parent volunteer organization has played in the success of our children and our award winning school district.

Diana Craighead

Long Beach Council PTA

**THIRTY – THIRD DISTRICT PTA
Leadership Workshops – West**

everychild.onevoice.

FOR: COUNCIL and UNIT OFFICERS & CHAIRMEN

DATE: WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 2008

TIME: 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

8:30 a.m. Registration

9:00 a.m. Call to order

PLACE: VETERAN’S MEMORIAL COMPLEX

4117 Overland Avenue

Culver City, CA 90230

FEE: Pre-registration = \$5.00 per person – deadline 5/7/08

After 5/7/08, registration = \$10.00

Units – please submit reservations through your council and observe council deadlines. Workshop materials will be guaranteed to pre-registered participants

Please duplicate and submit individual registrations for each participant.

Leadership Workshops –West, Wednesday, May 14, 2008

Send reservations to: Thirty–Third District PTA: due date 5/7/08

Thirty- Third District PTA Council due date: _____

Attn: K. Haworth

P.O. Box 1235, Lakewood Ca 90714-1235

NAME: _____

UNIT/COUNCIL: _____

PHONE: (____) _____

PTA POSITION _____

SESSION 1 _____

SESSION 2: _____

9:30 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

FEE: \$ 5.00 per person

Pre- registration

\$ 10.00 per person

Late registrations

Units – please submit reservations through council and observe council due dates!

LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP-- WEST DIRECTIONS

From the 405 Freeway

(Coming from either direction)

Exit Culver Blvd onto Sawtelle Blvd.

From the south turn left off the ramp

From the north turn right off the ramp

Proceed to Culver Blvd (south turn right) (north turn left)

Travel east to Overland Avenue (parking starts on the right side, just after Elenda Avenue and continues to Overland)

Note: The freeway is under construction at this intersection, so please allow plenty of time.

Workshop Choices

1st session 9:30 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

2nd session 10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

___ President (both sessions)

___ President (both sessions)

___ Communication (newsletter, media)
& Parent Involvement

___ Bylaws Workshop

___ Program Planning, Founders Day,
Red Ribbon, Resources, Earth Day,
Safety Awards, Inspirations
& Directories

___ Reflections Programs

___ Membership

___ Secretaries & Historians

___ Financial (both sessions)

___ Financial (both sessions)

**THIRTY – THIRD DISTRICT PTA
Leadership Workshops – East**

everychild.onevoice.

FOR: COUNCIL and UNIT OFFICERS & CHAIRMEN

DATE: SATURDAY, JUNE 7, 2008

TIME: 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

8:30 a.m. Registration

9:00 a.m. Call to order

PLACE: MONTEBELLO INTERMEDIATE

1600 Whittier Boulevard

Montebello, CA 90640

FEE: Pre-registration = \$5.00 per person – deadline 5/19/08

After 5/19/08, registration = \$10.00

Units – please submit reservations through your council and observe council deadlines. Workshop materials will be guaranteed to pre-registered participants

Please duplicate and submit individual registrations for each participant.

Leadership Workshops –East, Saturday, June 7, 2008

Send reservations to: Thirty–Third District PTA due date: May 19, 2008

Thirty- Third District PTA Council due date: _____

Attn: Mary Helen Carrillo

P.O. Box 1235, Lakewood, CA 90714-1235

NAME: _____ UNIT/COUNCIL: _____

PHONE: (____) _____ PTA POSITION _____

SESSION 1 _____ SESSION 2: _____

9:30 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

FEE: \$ 5.00 per person

Pre- registration

\$ 10.00 per person

Late registration

Units – please submit reservations through council and observe council due dates!

JUNE LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP-EAST DIRECTIONS

From East Take 60Fwy Take GARFIELD Exit
Make RIGHT onto GARFIELD
Turn RIGHT onto WHITTIER BLVD.
School is on corner of Vail Ave. and Whittier Blvd.

From I-605-N to I-5-N towards Los Angeles
Take EXIT 128A toward GARFIELD AVE.
Turn LEFT onto TELEGRAPH RD
Turn RIGHT onto GARFIELD
Turn Right onto Whittier Blvd.
School is on corner of Vail Ave. and Whittier Blvd.

Merge onto I-110 N via the ramp on the LEFT.
Merge onto CA-91 E/ GARDENA FWY.
Merge onto I-710 N toward PASADENA.
Exit Olympic Blvd. go right on Olympic
Turn Left onto Vail Ave.
School is on the corner of Vail Ave. and Whittier Blvd.

Workshop Choices

1st session 9:30 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

- President (both sessions)**
- Communication (newsletter, media)
& Parent Involvement**
- Program Planning, Founders Day,
Red Ribbon, Resources, Earth Day,
Safety Awards, Inspirations
& Directories**
- Membership**
- Financial (both sessions)**

2nd session 10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

- President (both sessions)**
- Bylaws Workshop**
- Reflections Programs**
- Secretaries & Historians**
- Financial (both sessions)**

The Governor's proposed 2008-2009 budget contains disastrous cuts to education and children's programs.

Take Action

Email the Governor and Your Elected Officials

[Find Your Legislator](#)

[Contact the Governor](#)

Tell Them:

- The California State PTA **opposes** any cuts to education and children's programs in the state budget.
- This budget flunks the basic test of good government: It hurts our children.
- Our children did not create this financial crisis and they should not have to pay for it.

The need for PTA has never been greater.

- For the next several months (or however long it takes), we will be pursuing a statewide effort to make sure every legislator and the Governor hear PTA's message loudly, clearly and often:

Flunk the Budget





Save the Date

California State PTA
 109th Annual Convention
 May 1-4, 2008
 Long Beach Convention Center

California State
PTA
everychild.onevoice.

LONG BEACH CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

 A collage of four images showing Long Beach attractions: a Ferris wheel at night, a ship at a pier, a beach scene, and a view of the city.

**Official Publication of
 Thirty-Third District PTA**

**California Congress of Parents, Teachers, and
 Students, Inc.**

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*Need a hard copy of the
 Crescent Courier*

*PTA Presidents, Officers, Chairmen,
 Treasurers, and Principals*

Contact Thirty-Third District PTA at
562-804-4519

Calendar of events

- March 24-Executive Board 9:30 a.m. at Hawthorne
- April 7-Convention Orientation
- April 14-Board of Directors 9:30 a.m. Thirty-Third District PTA office
- April 16-Council Presidents 9:30 a.m. Thirty-Third District PTA office
- April 21-Executive Board 9:30 a.m. at Hawthorne
- May 1-4 California State PTA Convention in Long Beach
- May 5- Board of Directors 9:30 a.m. Thirty-Third District PTA office
- May 7-Council Presidents 9:30 a.m. Thirty-Third District PTA office
- May 14-Leadership Workshop West Culver City
- May 19-Executive Board 9:30 a.m. at Hawthorne