

PTA CONNECTS

California State PTA Online Newsletter

October 2017

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Believe in Children and Join PTA

When you join PTA, you join millions of others who care about issues that affect children. Membership is open to **anyone** concerned with the education, health and welfare of children and youth. Watch the video below to learn more and be sure to join your local PTA.



See and share the importance of PTA membership!

October is Dyslexia Awareness Month

Did you know that over 1 million California students in public K – 12 schools have a disability in language and speech processing? This month, California State PTA is raising awareness about dyslexia in honor of National Dyslexia Awareness Month.

According to the International Dyslexia Association, dyslexia is a neurobiological learning disability that is characterized by difficulties with accurate word recognition, poor spelling and poor decoding abilities. Because of these symptoms, people with dyslexia often experience problems in reading comprehension and have a reduced reading experience, which can impede growth of vocabulary.

All month, California State PTA will be sharing resources, information and tools to inform and educate parents and families about supporting students with dyslexia. Do you know someone with dyslexia? Share your story with us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) or [Instagram](#). Let's raise awareness about dyslexia!



Learn more at www.capta.org.

Reminder: PTA Continuing Education Scholarship Applications Due October 16

Did you know that California State PTA offers several scholarships for PTA members? To help school professionals and volunteers continue their education, California State PTA is proud to offer \$500 scholarships for credentialed teachers and counselors, school nurses and PTA volunteers.

Apply and learn more at www.capta.org/scholarships. Continuing Education Scholarship applications are due **October 16, 2017**.



Resources to Keep Kids Learning

California State PTA has FREE multilingual resources available to strengthen student success and family engagement throughout the school year:

- [100 Ways to Help Your Child Succeed](#) – These tips help you support your children's learning at home, at school and everywhere, and are available in English and Spanish
- [Tips From Teachers](#) – Created in partnership with the California Teachers Association, these fliers are available in 11 languages and offer advice from educators
- [And more!](#)

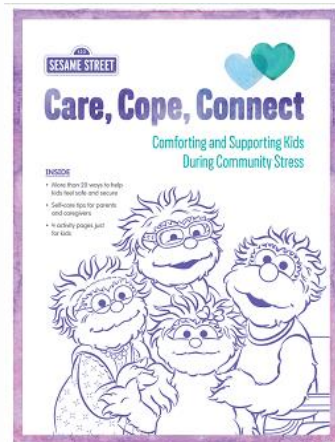


Care, Cope, Connect

A new resource is available to help the growing number of families in California under heightened community stress due to changing immigration legislation. Nearly half of all children under the age of 17 have immigrant parents, and 46 percent of those children reported that they had experienced significant trauma because of this.

The Care, Cope, Connect resource was created by Sesame Street in Communities in collaboration with the First 5 Association of California, and aims to help parents and families cope with stress and provide safety and security for their children.

Take a look online at Care, Cope, Connect at www.first5association.org/care-cope-connect to learn more.



New Poll: Safe Environment or Higher Test Scores?

In evaluating school performance, California voters say that creating a safe and positive school environment is far more important than schools earning higher test scores on standardized tests.

Voters also express significant concerns about bullying, school fights and other forms of intimidation and violence on school campuses, along with harassment that students face on social media. Read the full [EdSource article](#) and [survey results](#) to learn more.

Save the Date

2018 Legislation Conference

Mark your calendars! The 2018 Legislation Conference is scheduled for January 22 - 23, 2018 at the Sheraton Grand Hotel in downtown Sacramento.

Whether you're experienced in speaking up for children or you're interested in learning about key issues and legislation, the California State PTA Legislation Conference is for you! Stay tuned – registration opens soon at www.capta.org.



Stay Engaged with PTA

Get the latest news in education, health, family engagement and community concerns affecting children, schools and communities and join us online! Follow California State PTA on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#) and we'll follow you back and share your stories.

Be sure to use **#PTA4Kids**, **#BelieveInOurChildren** and **#JoinPTA** when tweeting or posting about membership and the value of PTA.



Please keep in mind that it's because of the dues of PTA members like you and the other thousands of parents, families, educators and community leaders throughout the state that we are able to continue to offer great resources and materials – thank you!

California State "PTA Connects" is sent monthly to all PTA members and leaders as well as to all California principals and superintendents.

