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May 13, 2021

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*Para leer en español, [clíc aquí.](#)*

## WEEKLY DEI OFFICE HOURS - STARTING MAY 18



Looking for guidance about how to begin a DEI committee at your unit, council, or district? Seeking feedback or ideas about how to make a prospective program or event as inclusive as possible? Wondering what PTA Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion trainings, presentations, and resources are available, and how to access them?

You can get answers to those questions and more by signing up for a slot during the DEI committee's weekly virtual office hour, where you can speak directly with a California State PTA DEI committee member. They are available to help every Tuesday evening from 7:00-8:00 p.m., starting on May 18 and continuing through the end of the term (June 29).

Spaces are limited, so sign up now! You can attend with a PTA peer, or even with your whole committee.

[Click here](#) to make an appointment.

## SOCIAL MEDIA THEME KIT FOR MAY: MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS



social media accounts.

For May, the theme is **Mental Health Awareness**. May is Mental Health Awareness Month. PTA is dedicated to expanding mental-health supports and services for our kids. As parents, we know what it takes to keep a child physically healthy -- nutritious food, exercise, immunizations -- but the basics for good mental health aren't always as clear. The first "basic" is to know that children's mental health matters. We need to treat a child's mental health just like we do their physical health, by giving it thought and attention and, when needed, professional help.

[Click here](#) to view the May kit, which consists of a series of sample posts and downloadable images for all the major social media platforms, including Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, plus a fun Zoom background.

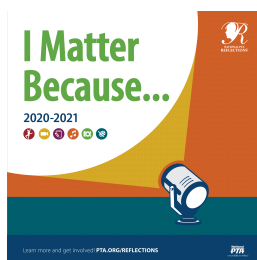
## MAY MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGE



Don't forget to take part in the **"Cinco de Mayo" Membership Challenge**: All PTA units that forward a minimum of 5 new members to the California State PTA office through channels by May 31, 2021 will be entered into a drawing for a PTA sandwich board sign for your school. The drawing will be held no later than June 15th, 2021.

For more information on membership incentives and challenges, visit our [Membership Incentives](#) web page.

## 2020-21 REFLECTIONS AWARDEES NOW ON CAPTA.ORG



Please join us in celebrating the accomplishments of the amazing student artists from across California that received awards in the 2020-2021 National PTA Reflections Art Program, whose theme is "I Matter Because..."

You can find the awardees and links to their works of art on the [Reflections pages](#) of the California State PTA website.

Thank you to all units who participated and provided the opportunity for thousands of children to express themselves and to be heard and seen. This program has a huge reach and is deeply meaningful to so many students, especially during these challenging times.

## MAY 18 DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS TO SERVE ON BOM



We wanted to remind you that deadline to apply to serve on the 2021-23 California State PTA Board of Managers (BOM) is fast approaching!

Online applications must be submitted by **May 18, 2021**, and paper

**Why should you consider serving on the BOM?** So that you can be a part of the team of dedicated volunteers that conducts the business of California State PTA! We work together to support the [mission of PTA](#) by developing programs and policies that support local leaders, and by promoting the welfare of children and families in schools and local communities.

Through [commissions and committees](#), the BOM addresses internal priorities such as leadership, membership, programs and services, communications and finance as well as external priorities such as family engagement, education, health and community concerns.

Committee-only and consultant positions are also available and offer flexibility to help advance work of the association in the areas of Reflections Art Program, scholarships, grants, resource development, regional training and more. (Please see the [application](#) for additional details.)

## CETF'S DIGITAL EQUITY BILL OF RIGHTS

INTERNET FOR ALL NOW



Did you know that 35% of households in California with school children lack internet access? The pandemic has highlighted the power of quality internet for those who have it, and the negative impact on those who don't.

The digital divide will continue to widen unless we **come together and change it**. The time is now!

CETF has written a **Digital Equity Bill of Rights** with the goal of empowering everyone to have quality internet access. It contains 10 foundational principles to guide policymakers, corporations, foundations and academics during this extremely critical year to build a post-pandemic America with the promise of Internet for All Now.

We encourage you to [click here](#) and sign CETF's **petition**, and help make Digital Equity a reality.

We also encourage you to read or download CETF's [Digital Equity Bill of Rights flyer](#), which you can share with your PTA families.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR BLOG



We're constantly adding new content to [our blog](#), but if you haven't had a chance to check it out recently, here's a quick rundown of what's been posted in the last few weeks:

- [May 2021 events](#): See a list of all training and advocacy opportunities for our leaders and members for the remainder of May.

on the details surrounding the \$2 billion to incentivize schools to reopen for in-person learning, what can your PTA do? Get inspired by the ideas and suggestions in this article written by Shereen Walter, California State PTA's Director of Legislation.

- [Staying Connected with PTA Families in a Virtual World](#): In this article, Kari Gray of our Family Engagement Commission suggests ways to keep everyone connected in our PTAs and schools when we can't meet in person: for example, by communicating clearly and frequently, by hosting a variety of social and learning activities, and by building authentic relationships.

## ETS UPDATE ON SPRING ASSESSMENTS



The COVID-19 pandemic has created extremely challenging learning environments for both students and parents. Which is why gathering information through state tests is more important than ever, to help better understand the impact the pandemic has had on student learning.

Statewide student testing is underway, and just as learning is different this school year, the tests are also different.

[Click here](#) to read about spring assessments in more detail on the California State PTA blog.

## TAKE ACTION!



See our mental health awareness resources in the Resource Library

**BROWSE NOW**



Don't miss the final Advocacy Webinar of the 2020-21 term: Wednesday, June 2

**REGISTER NOW**



School reopening webinar recording now available to watch on [capta.org](https://capta.org)

**WATCH NOW**

