

ADVOCACY INSIDER

December 23, 2020

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MORE MONEY FOR SCHOOLS NEXT YEAR? LET'S SEE.

The headlines say that California schools will get billions of dollars of new funding next year under Prop. 98, which guarantees schools about 40% of the state budget. The Legislative analyst report in November estimated the minimum Proposition 98 guarantee will increase by more than \$13 billion for the current year, 2020–21. This is because tax receipts were higher than anticipated.

This is great news, but it is only part of the financial picture.

To read more on this issue, [click here](#) to see Budget Advocate Carol Kocivar's article on the California State PTA blog.



WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN EDUCATION?

Education is primarily a state and local responsibility in the United States. Despite only providing 10% of the funding for schools in California, the Federal government still plays an important role. From historic Supreme Court decisions to programs such as Head Start and the National School Lunch Program, national programs and policies impact the education and welfare of many of our most vulnerable students.

[Click here](#) to read Legislative Advocate Derby Pattengill's informative article about the role of the federal government in education on the California State PTA blog.

Director of Legislation
Shereen Walter and
President Celia Jaffe
in DC for the National
PTA Legislation
Conference in March



LEG CON REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

California State PTA is excited to announce that we will be holding an all-virtual Legislation Conference on **February 8-9, 2021**. All PTA members are invited – the conference is open to anyone interested in improving the lives of children and families in their community and across the state. We hope you will join us for this new and exciting format!

During the conference, themed "**A Path to Equity**," you will hear from legislators and experts focusing on how legislation and the state budget link to equity, access and opportunity for all of California's children. There will be opportunities to meet and network with other advocates from across the state in virtual themed breakout rooms. Our pre-conference materials will provide you with the knowledge and power to schedule, plan and execute a meeting with your legislator.



Here is a sneak peek at some of our fabulous confirmed speakers:

- **Michael Essien** - Principal of Martin Luther King, Jr. Academic Alternative Middle School who along with his dedicated staff helped move a troubled urban middle school toward success. For a glimpse of what he and his staff have done, please check out this article from Ed100.
- Leaders of the African American, Latino, API, Jewish, Women's and LGBTQ Caucuses - to talk to us about how they set their priorities as it relates to children and families and how they are thinking about opportunity, access and equity!
- On the state budget, we have perennial favorites **Kevin Gordon**, Capitol Advisors Group and **Jeff Bell**, California Department of Finance, joined by **Chris Hoene** from the California Budget and Policy Center to talk to us about the budget. **John Fensterwald** from EdSource will moderate this panel to help us understand how the state budget impacts equity.

Please join us for this exciting event. The cost is \$50 per person, and Spanish-language interpreters will be present for most sessions. For the registration link and further information, visit the [Leg Con page](#) on the California State PTA website.

DON'T MISS THE NEXT ADVOCACY WEBINAR

Join California State PTA Director of Legislation Shereen Walter and members of the Legislation Team on **Wednesday, January 6, 2021** from 7:00-8:00 p.m. for the monthly webinar in which they discuss the latest legislation affecting families and children and their recent advocacy efforts.

Registration link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/31940121174953740>

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 (631) 992-3221 to hear the discussion. Use attendee PIN number 300-067-555. (**Note:** you cannot use this phone number to hear the webinar unless you are registered and logged in.)



TAKE ACTION!

Apply For a Senior Scholarship by Feb. 1



If you know a student who might be interested in applying for one of our two senior scholarships, act fast, because the application deadline is February 1!

[LEARN MORE](#)

The Art of Everything Leadership Conversations



Join Dr. Gary Waddell, guest presenters, leaders, and arts educators in a lively webinar series focused on the key elements of artful leadership and changing the equation for children and youth on the margins.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

Host Your Own PTA STEAM Experience



Building science literacy is important. One way to engage families in discovery is by hosting a PTA STEAM Experience – either in person or virtually – using our new toolkit.

[LEARN MORE](#)

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