



In This Issue:

- March is Arts Education Month!
- Convention registration is OPEN
- Dispelling census myths
- Student board member applications
- New date for LCAP webinar
- College Board parent website
- Why home internet service is more important than ever

Para leer en español, [clic aquí](#).

ARTS EDUCATION MONTH

March is **Arts Education Month**, and we hope to inspire you to spend the next 30 days advocating to get more arts in schools. Why? Because California's Education Code promises visual art, music, dance, theater, and media arts classes to each K-12 student, but **only 12% of schools are in compliance with the law**.

Why is arts education important? Research shows that students who have an arts education get better grades in school (in all subjects), have better attendance, are more likely to go to college, and have better chances for employment once they become adults. In fact, 72% of business leaders – across all industries – say that creativity is the #1 skill they are seeking!

As a PTA leader, you have huge potential to help bring more arts education to students in your school, your district, and statewide. By taking small steps every week, you can actually make a big difference!

Here's where to start:

- Visit the [Arts Education page](#) on the California State PTA website. Here you'll find dozens of things you can do to improve arts education, from the very quick and easy, to the more time-intensive.
- While you're on the website, make a 30-second video about the state of arts education in your community and what can be done to improve it.
- Join the Create CA campaign by signing up [here](#).
- [Subscribe to Creative Connection](#), PTA's arts newsletter.



Over the next month we will send you weekly messages with more ideas for how to advocate for arts in schools, to help inspire you and build momentum – so stay tuned!

CONVENTION REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

Registration is **NOW OPEN** for the 121st annual California State PTA convention in Riverside!

Join thousands of your fellow PTA leaders, members and decision-makers from across the state for three days of learning, networking and fun from **May 15-17** at the Riverside Convention Center.

Our annual convention is THE place to get the training, information and motivation to help you and your PTA positively impact the lives of all children and families. Featuring **nationally renowned speakers, engaging presenters and empowering programs**, this event will give you the tools and resources you need to help your children, school and PTA succeed!

This year **all the convention information you'll need is on our website**. So visit www.capta.org/convention and browse around to see the schedule and learn about the speakers, workshops, events, resolutions, hotels, and of course, registration fees and procedures.

We look forward to seeing you at Convention 2020!!!



DISPELLING CENSUS MYTHS

As the U.S. Census gets underway this month, some of you may be concerned that the personal information you share could adversely affect you or your family.

That's a myth. The Census Bureau is bound by law to protect your personal information and keep it strictly confidential. That includes **every answer to every question**. Here are the facts:

- NO questions are asked about citizenship status.
- Your answers CANNOT be shared with law enforcement, any government agency or any court.
- Your answers CANNOT be used to impact your eligibility for government benefits.

To see a sample Census form, [click here](#).

You should also be aware of potential fraud. The Census Bureau or its employees will **never** ask for your Social Security number, money, donations, your bank or credit card account numbers, or anything on behalf of a political party. If you get a phone call, email or personal visit from someone claiming to be from the Census and they ask for personal, political or financial information, you are encouraged to report it by calling **1-800-923-8282** or your local police department.



NEW DATE FOR LCAP WEBINAR

Our LCAP Webinar, which was originally scheduled in February, has now been officially re-scheduled for April 1!

Attendees will learn about the latest changes to the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF)-Local



Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) template and how they can directly impact their child's education, school, and school district.

Date and time: Wednesday, April 1, from 6:00-7:30 p.m.

To register, click here: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/915038171231087885>

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER APPLICATIONS DUE MARCH 15

If you know a junior or senior who may be interested in serving as a volunteer board member for the 2020-21 school year, ask them to apply **by March 15!**



Students are valuable members of the California State PTA Board of Managers. As full voting members, they share their perspectives on current issues, voice their concerns and provide insights during the meetings they attend. Volunteer service as a member on the board provides students with an opportunity to further develop leadership skills

Student board members must be a high school junior or senior in the 2020-2021 school year. Selected students would serve on the California State PTA Board of Managers from July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021.

[Click here](#) to view the online application.

COLLEGE BOARD PARENT WEBSITE

It's never too early to start thinking about college and helping your child during this planning and application process. Whether you are a parent of a junior wanting to learn more about financial aid options or a parent of a freshman who is interested in the AP programs, the [College Board parent website](#) has resources for everyone:



- Learn about [College Board programs](#) like the PSAT/NMSQT, SAT, or AP to help your teen prepare for college.
- Watch [College Planning Webinars](#) on how to set up your teen for college success
- Review [important dates and deadlines](#) like when to register for upcoming SATs and when AP scores are available.
- Get answers to [frequently asked questions](#) from parents and information on [College Board topics](#) such as SAT practice, fee waivers, and test accommodations.

Visit parents.collegeboard.org for more information and resources to support your child on the journey to college. You can also sign up to receive emails and texts with college info, advice, and reminders.

WHY HOME INTERNET SERVICE IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER

With the Census starting this month and Coronavirus spreading, it's a critical time to have Internet service at home.



Invitations from the Census Bureau are being sent to all U.S. households between March 12 and 24, and **CETF can help your family get connected, so you can get counted!**

Completing the census online is the quickest and easiest of the four options – it means a Census worker will not need to visit your home, you won't need to put any forms in the mail, and you won't have to deal with a possibly lengthy phone call.

With the spread of Coronavirus, schools may close to protect children and teachers. If this happens, students can still **stay in touch with their teachers and continue to learn** with home Internet service. CETF can connect low-income families with numerous affordable options between \$10 and \$23 a month that are more reliable than cell phone plans, which often run out of data before the end of the month.

Your household may be eligible for low-cost offers if it meets **ONE** of the following criteria:

- Child enrolled in the NSLP (National School Lunch Program)
- CalFresh (food stamps) or Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipient
- Medi-Cal or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipient
- Household income under \$40,000/year

To find low-cost internet offers near you, go to www.everyoneon.org/capta and enter your ZIP code.

TAKE ACTION!

See What's New in the PTA Store!



Whether you are shopping for recognition gifts, need items to promote your unit, or just want something fun for yourself – we've got you covered!
– we've got you covered!
[SHOP NOW](#)

Support Arts Education – Make a 30-Second Video!



Tell us about the state of arts education in your community, and what can be done to improve it.
Our children deserve it!
[RECORD HERE](#)

Get the Information You Need from Ed100



Are you confused by educational jargon? Overwhelmed by information? Ed100 can help demystify our education system.
[READ MORE](#)

This email is being sent to all PTA members and leaders, as well as to all California principals and superintendents.

This message was sent to deckman@capta.org by californiastatepta@capta.org
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