



State PTA Convention Registration

Coming February 1, 2010

By Chris Low, VP Programs & Convention

I would like to take this opportunity to invite all of you to attend the 2010 California State PTA Convention. It will take place from April 29 – May 2, 2010. This year's location will be the Sacramento Convention Center.

If you have never attended Convention before please be aware that this is a legitimate PTA expense. This **NOT** a vacation or a fun-trip. It is, however, a wonderful opportunity to get training, interact with your fellow PTA members, and improve your leadership skills. The ultimate goal of Convention is to help you make your PTA unit/council stronger and more responsive to your parent community's needs. Voting delegates to convention also help determine State PTA policies and positions on issues that effect Children. I urge you to ask your unit/council to approve sending you to the Convention. Please note that the Basic Training classes will be offered on Thursday afternoon, April 29 and are **FREE** with your convention registration.

The preferred method of registration will be on-line. There will still be fax and mail options available, but all registrations will be handled by the individual. Early-bird registration will take place February 1 – March 31, 2010 with special reduced fees for early-birds. Fees are increased April 1 – 16 Your name badge and workshop tickets **will not** be mailed, but will be ready upon your arrival to convention. After that, all registrations will need to be on-site. Be sure to bring the following items to the registration booth on your arrival: 1) Mailed badge and workshop tickets, if received prior to convention 2) Current membership card 3) Bar-coded confirmation letter 4) Students must bring a signed Parent/Guardian Approval and Consent to Treatment Form available online at www.capta.org. Anyone who does not have a membership card will need to pay the non-member registration differential. Hotel reservations will be accepted beginning February 1, 2010. Reservations must have a name on them, but the name may be changed later. All reservations will be handled through the Sacramento Convention and Visitor's Bureau (SCVB). Rooms will be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis. Not all hotels are within easy walking distance of the Convention Center so make your reservations as early as possible.

Please note that registrations will not be considered complete without the MANDATORY \$25 District Convention Fee. This helps 32nd District fund a Hospitality Suite which is open to all Convention delegates from our District at the Hyatt Regency. The Hospitality Suite is the central meeting place for all District delegates to meet, socialize, and exchange information gathered from conference sessions. It is our source of coffee, snacks and comradeship. On Saturday night, May 1, 32nd District has organized a District dinner. The cost is \$27 and includes tax and tip. This dinner is optional. I would like to urge you to attend as the dinner is another wonderful opportunity to interact with your fellow PTA delegates and discuss programs you might want to consider for your unit/council. **Please make your check out to 32nd District PTA, c/o Chris Low 4265 Spaulding Street, Antioch, CA 94531.**

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me. This whole procedure can seem a little daunting at first but the benefits to be gained from Convention are well worth the effort.

I hope to see all of you in Sacramento.

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