

Dear Friends of PTA,

We find ourselves in a unique time, starting our year in the midst of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the challenges inherent in living with the “new normal” of social distancing, mask wearing and the reality of distance learning for our children. Health and safety are at the forefront of decisions made to work, play and educate our children.

California State PTA President Celia Jaffe said, “California children who grow up in poverty, especially disproportionately impacted children of color, are more likely to suffer from chronic diseases and to have increased risk for chronic health conditions into adulthood.” The inequities in our society as a whole have been brought into focus with the disproportionate impact upon our communities of color. As many of our school districts likely move toward distance learning, this will continue to exacerbate the inherent inequalities due to the digital divide, family schedules, especially for our socioeconomically disadvantaged families.

So how can PTA help? Anticipating few parents on campus this year provides many challenges. However, the PTA should continue to serve as the connection between families and our school leaders to help facilitate the communication of best practices and protocols, needs of the school, and needs of the students and families. Your support of PTA helps us get the message out to parents of how vital they are in supporting their children in school activities.

Santa Clara Valley PTA in Santa Clara County exists to do just that. The Sixth District PTA Board chartered the Santa Clara Valley PTA, in 2006, to facilitate supporting PTAs at low-wealth schools. We do that by offering mentoring and training as well as providing monetary gifts and grants to help them. Santa Clara Valley PTA has provided at nearly 20 financial grants to PTA units and PTA councils within Sixth District

We need your support. Please become a member of the Santa Clara Valley PTA.

Please feel free to invite family members, friends, and neighbors to join as well. You don’t have to have a child in school to join the PTA, you just have to care about children and public education. Membership is only \$10 per person, and it is tax deductible. For a downloadable membership form, visit our website at [Join SCV PTA](#); or join online at [Join SCVPTA Online Totem](#).

Thank you!

Laura Raimondi

President, Santa Clara Valley PTA

You're Invited!

Please join us for our first Association Meeting of the year on Wednesday, October 14, 2020 at 11:00 am – 12:30 pm. We'll quickly go through the beginning of the year business such as approving the budget, programs, and goals. Come hear about our history and activities from our founding president and current historian.

We will also be conducting two tax help sessions open to all PTAs within Sixth District. If you know of a unit who can use some help, please have interested people fill out the Tax Help Registration Form at <https://forms.gle/12pzf7GaLiMVfq9U9>.

Date: Wednesday, October 14, 2020
Time: 11:00 am to 12:15 pm – Association Meeting
12:15 pm to 12:30 pm – Tax Help Presentation
12:30 pm to 1:15 pm – Tax Help
1:15 pm to – 2:00 pm – Tax Help
Place: The comfort of your home!

Please register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwtdO2sri8tH9H7DIUwxaLasz0K7FbeMF02>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Let's enjoy the beauty of togetherness via Zoom!

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Tax Help Available for Units!

Units within Sixth District PTA can get help with taxes from our seasoned financial PTA officers on Wednesday, October 14 at either 12:30 pm or 1:15 pm via Zoom. To make an appointment please fill out the form at <https://forms.gle/12pzf7GaLiMVfq9U9>. Don't be shy, come on by (virtually, that is)! Questions? Contact Diane, Sixth District PTA VP of Leadership, at leadership@capta6.org.

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SCV PTA Membership Update

We're working towards reaching our goal of 100 members. Thank you to the wonderful members who have joined Santa Clara Valley PTA this year! We appreciate your support in our mission to strengthen and assist other PTAs to enable them to support their students, parents, and school community. Please visit <https://capta.org/join/member-perks/> to enjoy some niceties of being a member.

Still need to renew your membership? It's easy! Download the membership form at https://scvpta6.org/scvpta_membership_form.pdf to mail in or visit <https://jointotem.com/ca/san-jose/santa-clara-valley-pta> to join online. Questions? Contact Wanna, VP of Membership, at membership@scvpta6.org.

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Looking for a way to be more active in SCVPTA?

Do you have an interest in joining the board? Committees are being formed for membership and for advocacy. Please contact president Laura Raimondi at president@scvpta6.org for more information.

Or...

The nominating committee will be elected at our October association meeting and will be looking for candidates to fill the slate for the 2021-2020 year. Please contact Marcie, Parliamentarian, at parliamentarian@scvpta6.org with your nomination or indication of your willingness to serve.



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PTA Units & Councils - Grants available to local PTAs!

Do you know a PTA Unit or Council that could benefit from a Grant to help their PTA support their community? Santa Clara Valley PTA is now offering grants to PTAs in the area served by Sixth District PTA (Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, and Monterey counties) to help with funding for their PTA projects during the coming school year.

Projects should align with PTA's purposes and could be for parent education, membership drive, officer training, hospitality, MyPTEZ financial software for PTAs, or Covid-related online meeting tool costs. For more information or to apply, click here [Santa Clara Valley PTA Grant Application](#).

Feel free to reach out if you have any questions. You may also contact us at grants@scvpta6.org or president@scvpta6.org.

Thank you, SCV PTA Scholarship Committee

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CENSUS DEADLINE EXTENDED TO OCT 31.

A judge has ordered the Census Bureau to continue counting people for a few more weeks, so if you and your family haven't yet been counted, please fill out the simple form right away, at 2020census.gov. And please remind relatives, friends, neighbors, and others you talk with! It's important, and it's safe and secure for everyone.

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November Election:

Please pay attention to your **ENTIRE** ballot! Don't miss:

- Local school district measures such as school bonds and parcel taxes;
- Local and county elections;
- TWELVE Statewide Propositions – please take the time to study them.

Watch your local news for info about Candidate Forums, etc.

Please **REGISTER, INFORM YOURSELF, and VOTE!!!** Vote early!

California State PTA **supports** two of the propositions:



Proposition 15: California Schools and Local Funding Act.

This initiative would increase funding for K-12 public schools, community colleges and local governments by requiring that commercial and industrial real property be taxed based on current market value. It protects all

homeowners and renters by maintaining tax protections for ALL residential property.

<https://capta.org/focus-areas/advocacy/state-ballot-measures/split-roll-initiative/>



Proposition 16: Repeal Proposition 209 - Restore Affirmative Action.

This constitutional amendment, placed on the ballot by the legislature, asks the voters to permit the use of race, gender, and ethnic diversity as factors (but not decisive factors) in education including college admissions, government hiring, and government contracting.

<https://capta.org/focus-areas/advocacy/state-ballot-measures/proposition-16/>

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Vaping and Flavored Tobacco

Last school year, Palo Alto PTA Council brought forward a Convention Resolution entitled [E-Cigarettes/Vaping, Flavored Tobacco Products and Youth Health](#). It was adopted at the Statewide Annual Meeting in June. But Palo Alto Council, like most PTAs, is now focused on all the complexities of distance learning and school reopening. So, the Santa Clara Valley PTA Exec Board is working on the possibility of bringing all or part of that resolution to National PTA. National has a resolution on vaping, but we believe it can usefully be strengthened. We will discuss this work at our Association Meeting, and may require a vote at that time.

Questions or need more information? Contact Erwin, VP of Advocacy, at advocacy@scvpta6.org.

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Resources

CAPTA Discover Together campaign with Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) at <https://capta.org/discover-together/>

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2020-2021 Proposed Goals:

- Growing our Membership with unaffiliated community members to reach up to 100 members
- Sharing Pearls of Wisdom – Program ideas and PTA basics to navigate COVID-19
- Advocacy on behalf of children, families, schools in the counties of Sixth District

Our 2020-2021 Officers:

President	Laura Raimondi
Executive VP	Diane Foote
1 st VP of Membership	Wanna Kapoor
2 nd VP of Communication	Naomi Higaki
3 rd VP of Advocacy	Erwin Morton
Secretary	Susan Canty
Treasurer	Tami Borba
Auditor	Dinah Showman
Parliamentarian	Marcie Brown
Historian	Wendy Akers-Ghose

Visit SCV PTA online at <https://scvpta6.org/> for more information about our PTA.

Email President Laura Raimondi at president@scvpta6.org or VP of Communications Naomi Higaki at communications@scvpta6.org if you have questions, comments or concerns. ###