

APRIL 2018 CTA STATE COUNCIL

STATE COUNCIL UPDATE



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CALIFORNIA
TEACHERS
ASSOCIATION



Dear Members of PVFA, RBTA and CVSTA,

Spring is in the air. Every spring season I am reminded of the saying, "Hope springs eternal." Perhaps it is because summer is right around the corner but I believe it is because it is at this point in the school year that every classroom teacher has made those important connections with their students. When I find myself bogged down with the day-to-day grind of teaching, I am reminded of why I do this job whenever I step into the classroom full of students.

This job is truly all about relationships. It is about the relationships we build with our students and the relationships we build with each other. This year our belief in the idea that hope springs eternal has never been more important. Since the last Update, the SCOTUS heard arguments on Janus v. AFSCME. Regardless of the outcome of this case, there is absolutely no mistake about who is behind this effort. This case is about the wealthiest 1% in our country wanting to silence our voice. We are the voice for every student we serve; we are the voice for social justice and we are the voice for advocating for safety in our schools.

I truly believe in the power of collective action and the building of relationships to move the needle. The Janus case will only strengthen our resolve to become a stronger union. The idea of a dues-paying member of the union will mean so much more in a post-Janus world. It means that you voluntarily choose to be part of an organization that has provided so much to your profession. It means that you also believe in the idea of collective action and the power of public education.

The best way we can ensure we win this fight is to vote. The upcoming statewide elections are a critical component to our fight. For more information on how you can help in the upcoming elections and information on candidates, please visit

campaign2018cta.org

We have much to do ahead of us, but together we can accomplish great things...

In Solidarity and Aloha,

Jason Y Calizar

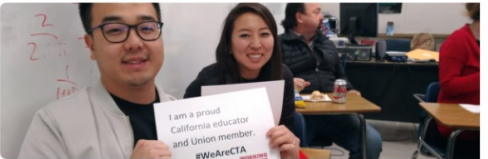
CTA State Council Representative, District ILA6



**CA Lt. Gov. Gavin Newsom addresses
CTA State Council**

District I Caucus Update—Leslie Littman (CTA Director District I) advised of two important groups operating to discredit unions:

1. **Project Veritas**—This group uses hidden cameras and creative editing to put teacher's unions in a negative light. They have been targeting disciplinary hearings attempting to get the union rep to disclose strategies in representing a member and then post the encounter out of context to put unions in a poor light. Please be vigilant about who you speak to regarding any union business.
2. **Union Replacement Groups**—In the wake of the Janus case, there has been a



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rise in such groups advertising that they can replace the work your union does for a fraction of the cost. This is UNTRUE. They have been reaching out to districts to gather member contact information to persuade members to drop their union membership. Please know that your local is the exclusive representative for you and NO entity can replace the work your union does on your behalf. If you are contacted by these entities, please advise your site rep ASAP.



Member Engagement Training—CTA Summer Institute is scheduled for July 29-Aug 1 at UCLA. There will be a new Member Engagement strand added to this year's institute. Locals are advised to send their Member Engagement Chair to this new training. Grants are available through CTA; please visit www.CTAgo.org/grants to apply.

National Day of Action Against Gun Violence in Schools—CTA and NEA are partnering in this National Day of Action on April 20, 2018. The gun violence happening within our schools is unacceptable. CTA is dedicated to ensuring a safe learning environment for its students and the educators working in every school. Please take the pledge and find more information at: cta.org/nomore



Credentials and Professional Development (CPD) Committee Report:

Barbara Murchison from CA Dept of Education, visited with CPD to have dialog around professional development and the push towards professional learning. She took input from real teacher members of CPD about what PD looks like at their site and what changes can be made in order to have PD become a model of learning rather than a conduit for administration. If you have ideas or concerns around PD at your site, please forward them to Barbara at: bmurchison@cde.ca.gov