

## JANUARY 2017 CTA STATE COUNCIL

# STATE COUNCIL UPDATE



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*Dear Members of PVFA, RBTA and CVSTA,*

*Happy New Year!! I hope this Update finds you well and off to a great 2017.*

*At my last Update we were preparing for the November elections. As you know by now, it was a good news, bad news election for us. The good news is that all CTA endorsed propositions passed. Prop 55 passed with an overwhelming 63% of the voters voting YES. Not to be outdone, Prop 58 passed with 78% of the voters voting YES and led all propositions. Make no mistake, this was the direct result of our collective efforts with leadership from CTA. Our field based October 2016 State Council contributed to an immediate 5% increase in polling. I am proud to be a member of an organization like CTA that continually fights for public education.*



*Now the bad news; nationally the election did not come out the way we had hoped. We are now seeing the repercussions of a Trump administration. The last few months since the election have been difficult. But this weekend at State Council, my resolve to continue fighting for public education, social justice and equality for all humans was renewed.*

*Saturday was an inspiring day at State Council where our 800+ State Council Representatives passed a resolution affirming our core beliefs in public education and social justice. I urge you and everyone you know to take the pledge at*

**[www.cta.org/forallstudents](http://www.cta.org/forallstudents)**

In addition CTA has created a *Social Justice Toolkit* for educators. It is available at

**<http://tinyurl.com/ctascjan2017>**

*The Saturday morning session ended with a press conference from the floor of State Council demanding that Trump's nominee for Sect. of Education, Betsy DeVos not be confirmed. It was a powerful scene from the floor and made me grateful to be part of an organization that stands up and fights back.*

*Our voice through our union will be needed more than ever. This is THE time to get involved in your local. You have witnessed the power we have collectively. Let's keep fighting. STAND UP AND FIGHT BACK!!!*

**In Solidarity and Aloha,**

**Jason Y Calizar**

**CTA State Council Representative, District ILA6**

**District I Caucus Update**—Sunday morning Caucus meeting had members writing to their Federal legislators as an extension of last week’s Women’s March. This was part of the 10 Actions in 100 Days that was organized after the march. Please visit the link below for more Actions to be taken in the next 100 Days:

**[www.womensmarch.com/100](http://www.womensmarch.com/100)**

Friedrichs revisited. Although we gained a victory last year in the Friedrichs Supreme Court case, we are facing a similar challenge in a case entitled Janus v. AFSCME. Once again, they are attacking fair share under the guise of “Right to Work”. Make no mistake, this is yet another attack on our profession and what we stand for. The case can be heard by the Supreme Court as early as this fall with a decision rendered by the spring of 2018.

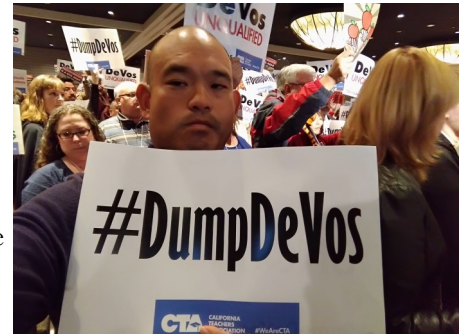
In the November election, private charter school corporations spent \$26 million on school board elections throughout the state. That is more than the amount of money CTA has spent over the last 10 years COMBINED. As I reported in the June of 2016, we are being outspent at a ratio of 40:1.

This will be most evident in the upcoming March school board race in LAUSD which is predicted to be the most expensive school board race in history. The incumbent Steve Zimmer, an ally of public education, is in a contentious fight for his spot against candidates funded by private charter school corporations. Our brothers and sisters in UTLA are mounting a fight on behalf of Steve Zimmer but they need our help with campaigning for Zimmer. Please contact **Erika Jones at [ejones@cta.org](mailto:ejones@cta.org)** if you and/or your local can assist in this important fight. They have the money, but WE have the votes.

**KEEP PUBLIC EDUCATION PUBLIC #DumpDeVos**

On Tuesday, 1/31 the Senate Education Committee will continue its hearing for nominee Betsy DeVos for Sect.of Education. Her ONLY agenda is the privatization of public education through vouchers. Yes, those vouchers we defeated almost 25 years ago here in California. The fight to keep public education public and accessible to ALL is reason #1 as to why I serve as your State Council Representative. NEVER VOUCHERS.

**PLEASE CALL 855-882-6229** to contact your CA Senators Harris and Feinstein to let them know DeVos is unqualified for the position.



**Credentials and Professional Development (CPD) Committee Report:**

As reported in past Updates, CA is facing a serious teacher shortage. CPD chairman, Ryan Ruelas is testifying at the CCTC on recruitment and retention ideas to address this shortage. In my legislative subcommittee we discussed various ways we can address the shortage from increasing salaries, job sharing and providing affordable housing. If you have an innovative idea you want to share with Ryan Ruelas before he testifies in February, please contact him at

**[ryan80ruelas@hotmail.com](mailto:ryan80ruelas@hotmail.com)**

My innovative idea: All Administrators are required to return to the classroom fulltime every five years.

**[January2017 CTA State Council Documents can be accessed at:](http://tinyurl.com/ctascjan2017)**

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