



CTA State Council--January 27-29, 2017
Report from Sarah Robinson, Minority at Large Representative

General Session

In our general sessions, we discussed the current political climate and what actions CTA will take to continue to support our members and our profession. At the close of Saturday's session, state council members participated in a press conference calling for the Senate not to confirm the incredibly unqualified Betsy DeVos as Secretary of Education. You can access video from the event

[here](#).

State Council members also overwhelmingly supported the passage of a resolution of unity, resolve, and resilience. This resolution is a call to action to protect public education for all of California's children. CTA has created a [toolkit](#) where you can find the resolution and materials to help support you as you fight for your students and maintain a safe zone for all students in your classroom There is a lot of work ahead of us, but CTA is ready to **STAND UP AND FIGHT BACK!**



Committees

On the positive side, the Political Involvement Committee (PIC) reported on the successful passage of both Propositions 55 and 58. Proposition 58 passed in all 58 of California's counties! In these uncertain political times, it is empowering to know that our state supports public education.



PIC also gave information about an extremely important School Board race in the LA Unified School District. Steve Zimmer, a supporter of public education, is facing challengers supported by corporations and for-profit charter schools who are poised to spend more money on this election than any other school board election in our country's history. If you or anyone in your chapter is able to support our

colleagues in UTLA in this critical fight, contact Erika Jones at ejones@cta.org

The Assessment and Testing Committee gave a report clarifying that there will be no science CST given this year. Instead, schools will be giving the CAST pilot test in 5th grade, 8th grade, and one high school grade as assigned by the CDE.

<http://www.caaspp.org/administration/about/science/>

On the Civil Rights in Education (CRE) Committee, we will be watching some upcoming legislation about single gender academies and passed a motion to support World Hijab Day on February 1st.

Informational Items

The President of the Yuba City Teachers Association expressed thanks on behalf of her members for all of the support they received from associations throughout the state. They raised over \$150,000 in donations for their hardship fund. She shared that the average member had a \$2,500 deduction from their paycheck in November due to the seven day strike. The agreement they were able to reach included an 11% pay raise over two years, additional professional development and prep time, and a role in the LCAP process. Due to their organizing, they were able to defeat three incumbents in the November election and replace them with candidates who are committed to a positive working relationship with the association.

You can access the full state council report and other documents [here](#).

On a personal note, attending my first CTA state council was an amazing experience. To see so many educators representing students across our state come together with a single purpose was quite awe-inspiring. CTA state council is truly democracy in action and I feel lucky to be able to participate in the process.

Feel free to contact me with any questions you may have at (805) 431-8383 or robinson.sarahlou@gmail.com

In Solidarity,
Sarah Robinson
CTA State Council Minority at Large Representative
Member, Redondo Beach Teachers Association