

JUNE 2016 CTA STATE COUNCIL

STATE COUNCIL UPDATE



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Representing PVFA, RBTA and CVSTA

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Dear Members of PVFA, RBTA and CVSTA,

Happy June!!! I hope this update finds you at the conclusion of a successful and rewarding school year. I am always amazed at how fast time passes. It has been a year since writing my first State Council Update. And what an exciting year it has been for public education. A year ago we were bracing for what could have been a devastating US Supreme Court decision on Friedrichs. Today we are months away from a Presidential Election that has numerous ramifications for our profession through the appointment of a new Secretary of Education to the appointment of a new Supreme Court Justice. We truly are living in exciting times.

40 to 1

I want to thank all members that signed and/or gathered signatures for the Children's Education and Health Care Protection Act that will appear on the November ballot. Through our collective action, CTA was able to submit 150,000 of the 1 million signatures gathered. This important ballot initiative will extend the Prop 30 taxes on the wealthiest 2% of the state to ensure an important revenue stream. Please have conversations with friends, colleagues, family members and neighbors about the importance of passing this in November. Without this initiative passing, public education will be facing a \$4 billion shortfall.

*Lastly, you may have noticed the 40:1 graphic in the upper right corner. This 40:1 ratio is what stuck with me from the June State Council. In past elections, our opponents have out spent us at a ratio of 2:1 and at times even 4:1. We are facing unprecedented spending by our opponents today at a ratio of **40 to 1**. Your involvement in advocating for public education is needed more than ever. The upcoming November election is a great place to start. Refer to your CTA voter guide to see the list of education friendly candidates endorsed by CTA. **Remember, they may have the money but we have the votes.***

Have a restful and enjoyable summer break!!!

In Solidarity and Aloha,

Jason Y Calizar

CTA State Council Representative, District ILA6

Children's Education and Health Care Protection Act

CTA is devoting the October State Council to a get out the vote campaign to get this important tax extension passed. Make no mistake, we will face a huge shortfall to the tune of \$4 billion if this does not get passed. We simply CANNOT give a tax break to the wealthiest 2% of the state on the backs of our classroom programs and the students we serve.

District I Caucus Report

New Retirees —June always brings about announcements for new retirees. If you know of anyone retiring this year, please reach out to your site rep or the SBUT office to inform them of their retiring. Their membership in CTA/NEA Retired is a valuable asset in our profession. They come with a wealth of knowledge and first hand experience.

The CTA/NEA Retired Brochure is available on my Dropbox (see below).

Teacher Dismissal Panel—A fundamental right of our members in the Dismissal Process is to have a panel made up of an Administrative Law Judge and two (2) teachers. This right is being threatened by the simple fact that there are not enough teachers in the pool to make up a panel. Please consider serving on this important panel. Please contact me directly if you wish to serve and I can put you in touch with CTA to get you trained to serve.

November Election—In addition to our ballot initiative to extend the Prop 30 taxes, there will be 16 other initiatives on the ballot ranging from legalization of marijuana to gun control. CTA has chosen to support the “State Fees on Hospitals. Federal Medi-Cal Matching Funds. Initiative Statutory and Constitutional Amendment”. CTA has taken a position of no recommendation on the remaining 15 ballot initiatives with the rationale being our focus is solely on passage of **Children’s Education and Health Care Protection Act**. Lending our name in support of any other ballot initiative can create a political firestorm that may jeopardize passage of our ballot initiative.

Committee Report from the Credentialing and Professional Development Committee (CPD)

Newly Elected Officers—We bid a farewell to outgoing Chair of CPD, Alicia Hinde and thank her for her seven years of service as Chair of CPD. Newly elected officers in CPD are Ryan Ruelas, Chair; Chandra McPeters, Vice-Chair and Kyle Garrity, Recording Secretary.

Special Education Credentialing—Continuing the discussion(which began approximately a year ago) on proposed changes to the Special Education Credential, we examined three variations of what all seemed to be dual-credentialing (GenEd+SpEd). All three were met with opposition with input from a guest member from the Special Education Committee.

CTA Policy on Implementation of Professional Development:

Inevitably, at the end of the school-year or at the beginning of next year, we will be subject to a bevy of Professional development. Below is CTA Policy regarding implementation of Professional Development,

Educators have different needs and different learning styles as well as teaching styles, and will benefit differently from, and utilize differently, any given professional development offering. Therefore, professional development should be engaged in on a voluntary basis. Each educator shall be the final determiner of the methods which are most effective for him or her, and shall be evaluated on the achievement of individual goals rather than on the utilization of any specific method. Evaluation of any specific professional development program shall focus on the usefulness of the program itself to participating educators rather than on whether the educator chooses to implement a specific method.

State Council Documents—To view State Council documents referenced in the Update, click on the link below to access them:

<http://tinyurl.com/June2016StateCouncil>