

MARCH 2017 CTA STATE COUNCIL

# STATE COUNCIL UPDATE



Jason Y Calizar

CTA State Council Representative District ILA6

Contact me at [jcalizar@aol.com](mailto:jcalizar@aol.com) or 310-292-6985

  @calizarcta



Dear Members of PVFA, RBTA and CVSTA,

Happy Spring!!!

*It never ceases to amaze me just how fast time flies. Just last year at the Spring State Council, we were gearing up for the passage of Prop 55 through our signature gathering campaign to qualify it for the November ballot. As you all know by now, we passed that important proposition to extend the taxes on the wealthiest in our state to support public education.*

*As I have mentioned in previous Updates, the fight never ends and the attacks on public education and all it stands for never cease. This has never been more true since President Trump took office less than three months ago. I am thankful to live in the great state of California where its leadership, just a week after Trump took office,*

*passed a resolution reaffirming our core beliefs in public education, equality and social justice for all. State Council had the pleasure of hearing from Senate President pro Tempore, Kevin DeLeon. He reminded us why California is the sixth largest economy in the world. It is because we invest in people through public education.*

*When we passed Prop 55, it was an affirmation of our belief in equity whereby everyone pays their fair share. But more importantly, it displayed the power of collective action. When we work together towards a common goal, we can achieve many great things. Our collective action and solidarity will be the only way we fight and win in a post Trump world. Not convinced, checkout how Trumpcare is doing. Yes, our collective voices made that happen.*

*You will have another opportunity to stand up and fight back on May 1st. CTA is organizing a Statewide Day of Action. Please check with your local leadership on events in your local around this important day of action.*

**In Solidarity and Aloha,**

**Jason Y Calizar**

**CTA State Council Representative, District ILA6**



**CA Senate President pro Tempore, Kevin DeLeon**

**If you believe ALL students deserve a quality public education, join us.**

**Take the pledge at [cta.org/ForAllStudents](http://cta.org/ForAllStudents)**



## **District I Caucus Update**

### **May 1st Statewide Day of Action**

CTA has chosen Monday, May 1st as its Statewide Day of Action. Every local in the state will be participating in this effort. This is a great way for educators to organize at school sites and connect with their community.

For ideas on what you can do in your local chapter visit

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

While you are there, you can take the pledge for public education.

### **Corporate Charter Schools and Vouchers Battle**

As mentioned in the January Update, UTLA is engaged in a fierce battle with corporate charter schools within their (LAUSD) district boundaries. Corporate Charter Schools continually outspend us in school board races across the nation. District I members spent part of Sunday morning assisting UTLA with their letter writing campaign.

Remember, corporate charter schools and vouchers take funding and valuable resources away from traditional public schools but many times do not serve students with the greatest needs (ie: English-learners and/or special education students).

### **Grassroots Lobbyists**

To assist with the fight against charter schools and any attack on public education, CTA has formed a group of grassroots lobbyists that will be in touch with state legislators. Currently, I serve with Sarah Robinson (RBTA) and Julie Shankle (TTA) in communicating with Assemblyman Al Muratsuchi (AD66). We are lobbying for his support of three important pieces of legislation that will make charter schools more transparent, accountable and responsible to their local district. The bills are AB1360, AB1474 and SB808.

If you are interested in this unique opportunity to communicate regularly with your state legislator, please contact me.

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

March is legislation month. In CPD, my legislative subcommittee worked through 11 pieces of proposed legislation. Nearly all of the 11 proposed bills were crafted to address the teacher shortage. We had the pleasure of having Assemblyman Patrick O'Donnell (AD70) visit us in committee on Saturday to clarify his bill (AD170). He is a classroom teacher on leave since being elected to the State Assembly, a former CTA State Council Rep and a strong advocate for public education.

**March 2017 CTA State Council Documents can be accessed at:**

**<http://tinyurl.com/ctascmarch2017>**



**Assemblyman Patrick O'Donnell (AD70)**