

## OCTOBER 2017 CTA STATE COUNCIL

# STATE COUNCIL UPDATE



**Jason Y Calizar**

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*Dear Members of PVFA, RBTA and CVSTA,*

*Happy Fall!!!*

*Over the past 12 months, I have never been prouder to be a member of CTA and the work we have been able to accomplish together. Flashback to a year ago where we passed Prop 55; to our most recent successes in passing legislation requiring strict accountability for charter schools. The work we do together ensures that public education remains public.*

*I wish I could report that the attacks on what we do on behalf of public education have subsided but sadly the Supreme Court of the U.S. agreed to hear Janus v. AFSCME which threatens "fair share". The Janus case is a copy-cat case of Friedrichs and funded by the wealthiest corporate interests that wish to dismantle public education. But unlike the Friedrichs case, the SCOTUS has a full bench of justices and CTA is anticipating a 5-4 decision in June 2018 where we will lose collection of agency fees.*

*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. **Your membership matters** on everything that affects public education from compensation, to mandated testing, to our retirement. ALL the gains we enjoy today in our profession are a direct result of our collective action through unionism.*

*In the coming weeks, your local association leadership will be reaching out with a variety of member engagement actions. Please take a moment to reflect on what our job would look like without all the protections and advancements earned through union membership.*

**YOUR MEMBERSHIP MATTERS!!!**

**In Solidarity and Aloha,**

**Jason Y Calizar**

**CTA State Council Representative, District ILA6**



**(L-R) Eric Heins, President; Teresa Montoya, Vice President; David Goldberg, Sect.-Treasurer**



## **District I Caucus Update**

### **Member Engagement**

Our member engagement started two years ago with the Friedrichs case and continues today. As part of our member engagement strategy, State Council Reps spent time writing postcards to new CTA members welcoming them to the profession and explaining the importance of membership.

Member engagement will be a recurring theme this year. Our local site reps are our best ambassadors for engaging members and helping them understand the value of membership. Do you know your site rep? If you do, please reach out to them if only to say hello. If you do not know your site rep, inquire with colleagues to find out who represents you at your site.



**Writing welcome postcards to new CTA members.**

### **2018 Election Endorsements**

State Council endorsed the following candidates for state offices in the 2018 election:

Governor: Gavin Newsom

Lt. Governor: Ed Hernandez

Attorney General: Xavier Becerra

Supt. Public Instruction: Tony Thurmond

For a complete list of endorsements, see October Council Report available at the link below.

### **Fire Relief for Northern CA Members**

CTA members shared stories of devastation fellow members are experiencing as a result of wild fires in Northern CA. Over the weekend, CTA State Council raised over \$7000 to provide much needed relief for our brothers and sisters. Much more help is needed. Please visit [cta.org/firesupport](http://cta.org/firesupport) to donate.



**CTA members share stories from the devastating wild fires in Northern California.**

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

October Council is a light council for most committees and CPD was no different. The only action taken this council was postponement of legislative action taken in June 2017 to eliminate unnecessary testing to enter the teaching profession. CPD will be pursuing alternative avenues to accomplish this goal.

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

**<http://tinyurl.com/ctascoct2017>**