

CTA State Council--October 21-22, 2017
Report from Sarah Robinson, Minority at Large Representative

General Session

One of the most important aspects of this State Council's general session was endorsing statewide candidates for the June 2018 primary election. After vigorous debate, State Council voted to endorse Gavin Newsom for Governor, Ed Hernandez for Lt. Governor, Xavier Becerra for Attorney General, and Tony Thurmond for State Superintendent of Public Instruction. You can read the press release with the rest of the endorsements [here](#).

Several members affected by the devastating fires in Northern California shared the stories of their colleagues and neighbors who've lost their homes and schools. Both the [Santa Rosa Teachers Association](#)



Preparing Our Students
for Their Future

[Association](#) and the Redwood Service Center have set up pages where you can donate to support members in those areas. You can access all of them [here](#).

During the State Council weekend, we were able to donate over \$7,000. Please give whatever you can.

Legislation

We celebrated the Governor's signing of AB1360 which prohibits discriminatory practices in charter school enrollment and provides due process protection for charter school students as well as AB699 which prohibits discrimination and provides protections based on a student's immigration status or religious beliefs. CTA was a co-sponsor of both bills.

There were two bills that State Council voted to support in the current legislative session: AB1488 and SB183. AB1488 (Thurmond) would establish juvenile transition centers in each county to provide services to youth upon their release from juvenile correction facilities and SB183 (Lara) prohibits federal immigration enforcement agents from entering a public school campus to perform and arrest or surveillance without a valid federal warrant.

Political Action

CTA is focused on how to best prepare associations across the state for the upcoming verdict in the *Janus v AFSCME* case which could make the entire public sector 'right to work' in one fell swoop. A decision could come as early as March or April or as late as July. Regardless of the verdict, CTA will continue to work in support of its members and to promote educators' rights to organize and bargain collectively. Given the importance of that task, we spent a lot of time at State Council discussing member engagement and the best practice of local associations throughout the state.

Conferences

CTA conferences are a great way to refine your teaching practice, strengthen your leadership abilities, and to meet other members from around the state and share best practices. CTA offers many grants to pay for attendance including those for first time attendees, ethnic minorities, and members coming from small chapters. Upcoming conferences include:

GLBT Issues, December 8 in San Jose
2018 Issues, January 26 in Las Vegas
New Educator Weekend, February 23 in San Francisco
Equity and Human Rights, March 2 in Torrance
Good Teaching (South), March 16 in Garden Grove



Click [here](#) for conference information, grants, and registration.

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

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

In Solidarity,
Sarah Robinson
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