



## CTA Virtual State Council

June 2021

Report from Sarah Robinson, At Large Representative

This meeting was again held virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Committee meetings were spread out over the week of May 31-June 4, culminating with our General Session on Saturday, June 5. Hopefully this will be our last virtual State Council meeting and we will be able to return to in-person meetings for the October Council.



State Council voted to elect Taunya Jaco to the CTA Board of Directors representing District G.

The CTA budget for 2021-22 was adopted by State Council.

During the General Session, State Council members were treated to two fantastic presentations. One by the Pacific Asian American Caucus and one by SOGIIAC. Both presentations reminded us that we must love and protect all members of our communities and embrace what makes us different and special.



### Summer Institute--Home Edition

This year's Summer Institute will be offered to members free of charge and will be conducted virtually from July 26-29. This year's focus will be preparing all of us for the unique issues and challenges we will all face as we prepare for the new school year. Did you also know that you can also earn professional growth credits to advance on the salary schedule by attending CTA conferences? Click [here](#) for registration information.

### Retirement

As many of you can imagine, retirement has been a hot topic this year given the difficulties navigating the virtual teaching environment. Many districts offered retirement incentives leading members who were perhaps a few years from retirement to finish off their careers this year. Before you head off into the sunset, be sure to join CTA/NEA Retired as a lifetime member to continue to receive the benefits of membership and to have your voice heard in our association. Click [here](#) to join. Congratulations to all of our retirees on finishing your public education careers. We all thank you for your dedication!



The Retirement Committee also presented some data from a report from the CalSTRS board.

- There are currently 975,000 members and beneficiaries in the CalSTRS system.
- We have over 400 retired members at the age of 100 years or over. More than 350 of them are female.
- The oldest current CalSTRS beneficiary is 109 years old.
- We lost 568 CalSTRS beneficiaries due to complications from COVID-19.

As always, the committee reminds all members that it is important to check your CalSTRS report on an annual basis at [www.mycalstrs.com](http://www.mycalstrs.com)

### Political Action

State Council approved the request of the Political Action Committee to take an oppose position on the recall of Governor Gavin Newsom. Up to \$2 million from the Initiative Fund was approved to take positions on items on the Fall 2021 ballot.

### Committee Reports

You can access the full report [here](#).

- The Professional Rights and Responsibilities Committee brought forth new CTA policy language for a first reading surrounding restorative discipline. (page H-1)
- The Civil Rights in Education Committee brought forth new CTA policy language for a first reading surrounding community schools and the school to prison pipeline. (pages I-1 and I-2)
- The Communications Committee brought forth new CTA policy language for a first reading dealing with local association's use of social media. (page J-1)
- The Curriculum and Instruction Committee presented new policy language surrounding technology use and access that was approved by State Council. (page L-1)

This year has presented challenges like no other in public education. Regardless of the situation around us, CTA members worked tirelessly this year to teach and support their students, their families, and their colleagues. I am truly in awe of what we accomplished. I wish you a summer of rest, relaxation, and quality time with loved ones.

Feel free to contact me with any questions at [robinson.sarahlou@gmail.com](mailto:robinson.sarahlou@gmail.com) or at (805) 431-8383.

In solidarity,

Sarah Robinson  
Redondo Beach Teachers Association  
At-Large Representative  
Bay Valley Service Center