
STATE COUNCIL REPORT

By Kathleen Sullivan, Ph.D. & Samantha Weiss

Dear Members:

Our March & June State Councils have been canceled but we did participate in a statewide teleconference with the CTA Board. The highlight is that you are all absolutely amazing! Thank you for all you do and continue to do. We are in a marathon and it is critical you take care of yourself and your families. You are so valued by our Association and the families in the communities you serve. We hope you all feel the love.

We are a part of an incredibly large organization. Our local associations work in concert with CTA and NEA. While we sometimes get caught up in the details of our local associations, no time has ever demonstrated more clearly the strength and solidarity of this larger network. These organizations have been working round the clock to help ensure that our local chapters have the support they need to transition to distance learning.

Our leadership and direction comes from CTA and with the guidance provided by the State of California, via Governor Newsom and our State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Tony Thurmond. Districts will individually decide how and when to notify learning communities of school closures, but please rest assured that they will be obligated to follow any and all public health recommendations. South Bay United Teachers is also very lucky to have Executive Director, Sandra Goins, working hard to protect our rights. We are extremely grateful.

It has never been more important that you stay connected with your Association. While the current pandemic is creating unprecedented stressors for us all, we know that our members will stay the course of our outstanding instruction and our caring ways. The foundational element of our associations is the contract, which legally both binds and protects our positions.

Our bargaining committees are in the process of negotiating Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) to serve as our guide through June 2020. Congratulations to those chapters who have already signed MOUs. Unit members shall be informed of updates through our FROM THE TABLE bulletins. Your current contract remains in place though an MOU may temporarily change or clarify some portions of it.

There is a website created by CTA to provide current information on resources during these times, as well as California Department of Education updates. Please visit the [CTA.org](https://www.cta.org) website and click on the COVID-19 Resource Center link.

Sam and I were reminded at State Council that CTA was founded in 1863, the same year that Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation. Since then, we've prevailed through a Civil War, world wars, natural disasters, Supreme Court rulings, and even NO Child Left Behind! WE'VE GOT THIS!

Stay Strong!

-Samantha & Kathleen

