

CTA State Council--June 4-6, 2020

Report from Sarah Robinson, Minority at Large Representative

CTA held its first ever virtual State Council featuring reports and speakers from all parts of the state. We were still able to accomplish the business of our association, even though we weren't gathering together in the ballrooms of the Bonaventure.

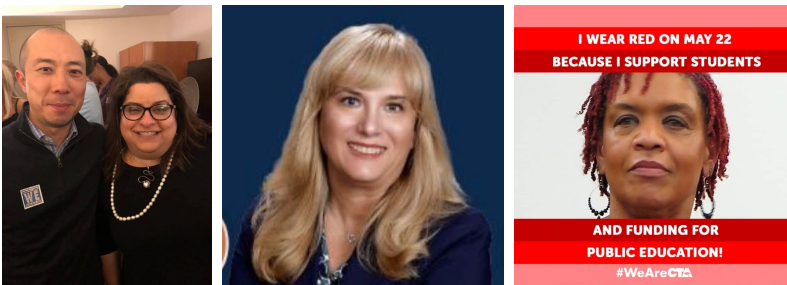
One of the themes that dominated all aspects of our work during this State Council were the protests and calls to action across our state and country after the death of George Floyd. Here is CTA's statement:

As a union of 310,000 educators across California, we have an obligation to act. This is not a time for us to look away. We must grapple with the fact that our schools, our practices, policies and even our own union, are shaped by inequities, bias and institutional racism. Our black students and educators experience schools, the police and this pandemic very differently than our white students and educators. Saying #BlackLivesMatter isn't enough: we need to actively show it in our work toward anti-racism on a personal, structural and institutional level. We are grieving and we are outraged. Together, we must continue the call for justice and to hold powerful people, organizations and each other, accountable. What are you doing to work toward anti-racism every day?

Budget

The 2020-21 CTA budget was approved. The budget does include a scheduled \$17 yearly increase in CTA dues. This increase is based on a rolling three year formula that takes into account salary increases or decreases throughout the state. It also includes a \$1 increase to the funding for the CTA-ABC Committee. These funds will be crucial in supporting CTA-endorsed candidates and initiatives on the November ballot. The Member Engagement grant which had been a pilot program for the past few years has become a permanent program. Funding was also increased for the Ethnic Minority Early Identification Program (EMEID). Virtual conferences this year saved about \$2.1 million that had been previously budgeted. The budget also includes funding for the first ever Special Education Conference to be held in 2021.

Elections



Given our current situation, many associations have delayed their local elections until the start of the new school year. This is also the case with elections for State Council representatives. However we were able to conduct our elections virtually and elected three new CTA Board members: Telly Tse, Shelly Gupton, and Denise Bradford.

NEA-RA

This year's NEA Representative Assembly will also be held virtually July 2-4. The California Caucus meetings will be held on July 2 from 9:00-11:00 am and on July 3 from 10:00-11:00 am. The RA sessions will occur in the afternoon from 12:00-4:00. Delegates should have received their registration information via email.

Legislation

CTA's major focus with regard to legislation is to ensure the passage of the HEROES act to provide critical funding for our schools to reopen in a safe manner. Please take a moment to contact your legislator and ask them to step up and do the right thing for our students and educators by allocating resources to state and local governments. Specifically, the senate should support the \$3 trillion HEROES Act. Call 855-977-1770 to be connected to your representative or take action [here](#).

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns at (805) 431-8383 or at robinson.sarahlou@gmail.com

Wishing you all a peaceful, healthy, and happy summer.

In Solidarity,

Sarah Robinson

CTA State Council Minority at Large Representative

Member, Redondo Beach Teachers Association

Call to Action

Pass a Budget with NO Education Cuts!

Take Action!

Deep cuts to public education will stand in the way of preparing our schools for the safe return of students.

- Call 855-977-1770 to speak to your Legislator

What to Say

Be sure to tell your representative:

- Your name and where you live.
- Ask them to support a budget with no cuts, no educator or school employee layoffs and prioritizes equity by repealing corporate tax credits.

cta.org/covid19budgetcrisis

#WeAreCTA