

CTA State Council--October 26-28, 2018

Report from Sarah Robinson, Minority at Large Representative



Tony  
Thurmond  
for State Superintendent of  
Public Instruction

The midterm election on November 6 will have a big impact on public education in our state. It is vital that we elect **Tony Thurmond** as the State Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI). Tony has shown a commitment to public education and a willingness to fight for ALL students. Please talk to your friends, family, neighbors, and colleagues and remind them to vote for Tony Thurmond. Keep in mind that the SPI sits on the CalSTRS board and will be able to make decisions that will affect the health of our pension. Click [here](#) to see the CTA recommendations for all statewide offices and ballot propositions.

### General Session

Entering our first State Council in the post-Janus era, there has been a lot of uncertainty about how the Supreme Court decision would affect our association. During the general session, President Eric Heins shared good news with us that CTA's tireless preparation ahead of the verdict has paid dividends. Statewide, we have seen only 800 people drop their membership despite the widespread campaigns of groups like the Freedom Foundation. In fact, this year CTA has signed up over 13,000 new members. Despite the Janus ruling, educators throughout the state are sticking with our union! President Heins described CTA as a place where people feel a part of something bigger than themselves and where they feel they can take collective action on issues that matter to them like gun violence, underfunding of public schools, or the rights of undocumented people.



While some of the post-Janus news was good, there are some difficult times ahead. Both United Teachers Los Angeles (UTLA) and Oakland Education Association (OEA) are preparing for a strike sometime in the next few months. UTLA is currently in fact-finding and OEA will be beginning that process shortly. On Sunday, all State Council delegates wore red to support UTLA and OEA members in their struggle for a fair settlement.



### Committee Reports

Just a few highlights to share from the various committee reports:

- The Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) is proposing changes to future Special Education credentials in several significant areas. These changes are opposed by CTA because they would hurt Special Education students and allow Special Education teachers to be assigned to teach general education students without IEPs. You can voice your opposition to this change by emailing Mary Sandy, Executive Director of the CTC at [msandy@ctc.ca.gov](mailto:msandy@ctc.ca.gov)

- The final CTA guide for implementing Proposition 58 as well as resources for dual language programs can be found [here](#).
- CTA/NEA Retired dues are currently \$450 but will increase to \$550 in September 2019. You can join CTA Retired while you are still working and pay the lump sum to guarantee a lifetime membership and no gap in your member benefits.

Know a colleague who is doing amazing work? Are you implementing new programs and strategies in your classroom? Do you have students who are overcoming challenges? You could be featured in an issue of the *California Educator* magazine. Submit article ideas to [jgoldman@cta.org](mailto:jgoldman@cta.org)

You can access the entire State Council report [here](#).

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



In Solidarity,  
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