



CTA State Council--October 25-27, 2019 Report from Sarah Robinson, Minority at Large Representative

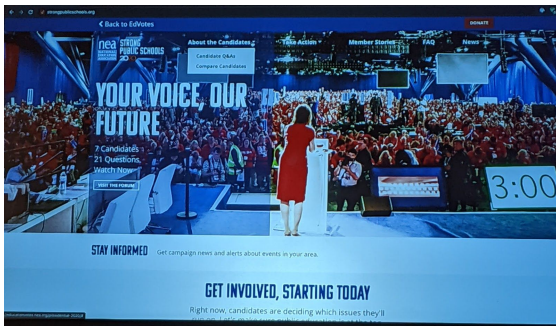


This was the first State Council for our new Executive Officers: President Toby Boyd, Vice President David Goldberg, and Secretary-Treasurer Leslie Littman. They also presented our new Executive Director, Joe Boyd, who will officially begin his position on November 1.



This State Council officially kicked off our campaign to gather signatures for the Schools and Communities First Initiative. This initiative ensures that our schools and communities have the resources to educate all our kids and the services to support all our families. It closes commercial property tax loopholes benefiting a fraction of corporations and wealthy investors, *without affecting homeowners or renters*, and reclaims \$12 billion every year to fund world-class schools and strengthen local economies to benefit all Californians. Together, we need 1.6 million signatures total in

order to have enough valid signatures to be on the 2020 ballot. The California Teachers Association is committed to gathering 150,000 signatures. Check with your association leadership about how you can help gather signatures and click [here](#) to learn more about the Schools and Communities First Initiative.



NEA President Lily Eskelsen García talked about the importance of our involvement in selecting a new President next November. NEA has created a website that allows members to compare candidates, ask questions, and get involved. The goal is to make sure that whoever our next President is, public education is one of their top priorities. Visit strongpublicschools.org to check it out.

Legislation

CTA celebrated the signing of AB1505 and AB1507 by Governor Newsom. As President Boyd stated, “This is the first time in 27 years we’ve had any significant regulation on the charter school industry in California. This will go a long way in changing the landscape of public education in our state and putting control back into the hands of those closest to students.” The signing of these bills marked the end of seven months of hard work by CTA members in which they visited elected legislators at the State Capitol and in their district offices—more than 225 visits with Assembly Members and 175 visits with state Senators—to share their charter school experiences and urge lawmakers to support the CTA-sponsored legislation.

Disaster Relief

If you have been personally affected by the recent wildfires throughout or state, remember that the CTA Disaster Relief fund is here to help you. Click [here](#) for more information or to apply for a grant.

To access the full State Council report, click [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
CTA State Council Minority at Large Representative
Member, Redondo Beach Teachers Association