SCHOOL SAFETY/SCHOOL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Linda Chan, Chairperson
Keith Brown, Vice Chairperson
Lorraine Angel, Recording Secretary
Curtis Washington, Board Liaison
Alva Rivera, Co-Consultant
Dave Brown, Co-Consultant
Toni Trigueiro, Legislative Advocate

MAJOR POLICY – Immediate Action (2/3rd Vote Required)

None

MAJOR POLICY – First Reading

To be located on page 285 below Strip Searches

Student Health

CTA believes the physical health of children is a prerequisite to learning. Students should be free from carrying heavy loads which could compromise their physical well-being. Such compromise may lead to loss of educational opportunity.

Rationale: Textbooks and other items that students carry—including computers, cellphones, water bottles, etc.—can weigh as much as 25% of a student's body weight and cause neck, shoulder, and back pain and injuries.

MAJOR POLICY – Second Reading

None

OTHER ITEMS FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

1 NBI 3/14-13

That CTA oppose hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, support legislation imposing a moratorium on fracking in California, and write a letter to the governor expressing our position.

The committee moves to approve this NBI. Current CTA policies support this position (Environmental Safety--CTA believes bargaining unit members and students should be afforded every possible protection to their health and safety, including protection from environmental pollution and hazards [p. 280]; Safe School Environment--CTA believes all educational facilities must be smoke-free and safe from all environmental and chemical hazards [p. 283]). The committee believes that hydraulic fracturing may pose a variety of potential dangers to the environment and educational facilities.

REFERRALS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

None

MATTERS PENDING

None

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- 1. The Committee reviewed four pieces of legislation:
 - a. AB 1643 (Buchanan)—School Attendance Review Boards—No position
 - b. AB 1672 (Holden)—Truancy—No position
 - c. AB 2141 (Hall)—Truancy; referrals for prosecution—No position
 - d. AB 2384 (Bradford)—School Site Councils—Oppose

See the State Legislation Committee report for details.

- Legislative Advocate Toni Trigueiro shared information on the current status of AB 1444
 (Mandatory Kindergarten) and urged the committee members to contact their state senator
 and the governor to urge support for the bill. She also reported on the need to lobby
 legislators regarding two other important bills: AB 215 (Teacher Dismissal) and AB 420
 (Willful Defiance).
- 3. Co-consultant Alva Rivera shared information from the California Department of Public Health regarding the certain cleaning products that can cause or trigger work-related asthma.
- 4. Jacquella Payne, liaison to the California School Nurses Organization, reported on two topics: (1) continuing concerns regarding nurses being required to provide training for insulin administration to unlicensed practitioners; and (2) support for SB 1239, which would require school districts employ at least one school nurse as a supervisor of health.
- 5. The Committee congratulates Linda Chan (chairperson), Keith Brown (vice chairperson), and Lorraine Angel (recording secretary) on their re-elections.

What Is Hydraulic Fracturing?

Hydraulic fracturing is a process used in nine out of 10 natural gas wells in the United States, where millions of gallons of water, sand and chemicals are pumped underground to break apart the rock and release the gas.

Scientists are worried that the chemicals used in fracturing may pose a threat either underground or when waste fluids are handled and sometimes spilled on the surface.

