

Mikki Cichocki-Semo, CTA Secretary-Treasurer

CTA Secretary-Treasurer Mikki Cichocki-Semo brings a career dedicated to helping at-risk students and building local education coalitions to her statewide leadership position.

The daughter of two public school teachers, her education roots run deep. A veteran teacher with classroom experience in kindergarten through middle school, she is currently assigned to Youth Services in the San Bernardino City Unified School District. Cichocki-Semo (pronounced “chuh-husky”) believes CTA is a driving force for a quality education for every student. She holds a degree in liberal studies from Cal Poly Pomona, and went to San Bernardino public schools. She came to education after working in business for several years. She has 23 years of education experience and has represented thousands of teachers throughout San Bernardino and Riverside counties on the CTA Board of Directors.

Cichocki-Semo’s duties with Youth Services focus on disciplinary, attendance and child welfare issues for nontraditional students who face shrinking alternative educational programs. She was serving her third three-year term on the CTA Board of Directors when she was elected to the CTA leadership team in spring 2011. Her many duties as secretary-treasurer include ensuring that CTA remains fiscally sound as California schools cope with unprecedented cuts.

In the thick of many past CTA campaigns, she has lobbied in Sacramento often on behalf of students and educators, and her proven commitment to union principles shows. Her critical CTA work includes serving on the union’s Education Change Workgroup and Strategy Committee.

A past president of the San Bernardino Teachers Association, she became a site representative for SBTA during her first year of teaching. She is past chair of the Language Acquisition Committee of the CTA State Council of Education.

Cichocki-Semo led efforts to bring child care to State Council meetings so that members with families could fully participate in the CTA representative process. She also fought to include education support professionals in the union in her leadership roles with CTA’s Membership Enhancement and Membership Enhancement Implementation task forces. She has been very active with the San Bernardino Community Coalition, an education coalition that has promoted literacy training, developed Peer Assistance and Review (PAR) language adopted by CTA chapters across the state, and created Survive and Thrive, a program for veteran teachers who need assistance. This coalition of CTA chapter presidents and school superintendents collaborates on local education issues to find common ground in support of students and public education.

She lives in Riverside with her husband and daughter who attends Riverside Poly High School.

