

---

# CTA Liaison News

nea

By CTA Vice President Dean E. Vogel and Secretary-Treasurer Gail Mendes

Volume 17, No. 8

22 June 2010

---

## Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's Budget Would Also Hit IEPs

Members of the Advisory Commission on Special Education heard at their May 27 meeting that Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's updated budget proposal would zero out \$55 million in state funding used to fund AB 3632. That 1984 law provides for the coordination of services to Special Education students and has been covered by the state funding. The Special Educators learned that the governor's decision to "suspend" the funding would force school districts, as "payers of last resort," to cover the costs of providing the services required by these students' Individualized Educational Plans (IEPs).

Members of the Commission also discussed CTA-opposed SB 1051 by Sen. Bob Huff (R-Glendora), which would allow non-medical school personnel to administer Diastat rectally to students having seizures. The measure was ultimately defeated.

In other news, the Commission asked the State Board of Education to hold off making a decision about an alternative to the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE) for Special Education students until the Commission completes its recommendations.

The Special Education Advisory Commission's website is [www.cde.ca.gov/sp/se/as/acse.asp](http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/se/as/acse.asp).

*CTA's Liaison to the Advisory Commission on Special Education is K.C. Walsh.*

## Arts Education Alliance Backs Using Credentialed Teachers for Instruction

The California Alliance for Arts Education measure held its first Policy Council in June.

At the urging of CTA Liaisons, the group agreed to put into its policy framework the mandate that arts instruction to students be provided by credentialed teachers, a key element of CTA policy. The Arts Education Alliance is also urging the state to create credentials for Dance and Theatre Arts for teachers wanting to major in and teach Dance and Drama.

The California Alliance for the Arts web site is [www.artsed411.org](http://www.artsed411.org).

*CTA's Liaison to the California Alliance for Arts Education is Anthony Parreira.*

### Close-up

## State Board of Education Prepares to Act on Common Core Standards

CTA Liaisons work closely with the State Board of Education (SBE), which is the policy-making body of the California Department of Education.

Whether the issue is standards, instructional materials, assessment or accountability, the SBE is the source of K-12 educational policy.

Among other things, the Board adopts regulations that implement legislation. The 11-member body, all of whose members are appointed by the governor, also have the power to grant waivers to Education Code provisions.

Currently, members of the Academic Contents Standards Commission that was created by Senate Bill X5 1 by Sen. President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg (D-Sacramento) are working on the Common Core Standards.

CTA's four representatives on the Commission are Kathy Harris, Robert Ellis, Eleanor Evans and Pat Sabo.

The Commission, which was slated to meet June 17 and June 18 in Sacramento, is expected to propose Common Core Standards in some form designed to bring California's education system in closer synchronization with standards in other states.

The State Board could act upon those proposals as early as July 16, 2010.

The State Board of Education website is [www.cde.ca.gov/be](http://www.cde.ca.gov/be).

*CTA's Liaisons to the State Board of Education are Larry Carlin, Michael Downey, Margie Granado, Pixie Hayward-Schickele, and Gladys Williams.*

## Student Liaison Urges Commission to Oppose State Education Budget Cuts

CTA's Student Liaison to the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CCTC) told panel members that they should join teachers in opposing Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's additional cuts in school funding. At the same time, Areli Dohner-Chavez, the incoming President of Student CTA, urged the Commission to avoid "spending time hearing proposals about limiting teacher rights and to concentrate instead on how there can be a stable, long-term funding solution that encourages the best and brightest to become teachers."

Dohner-Chavez said that funding cutbacks and the resulting "pink slips" are also discouraging many college students from earning teaching credentials. She warned the situation could turn into a teacher shortage in coming years.

The California Commission on Teacher Credentialing's web site is [www.ctc.ca.gov/](http://www.ctc.ca.gov/).

*CTA's Liaisons to the Commission are Harold Acord, Areli Dohner-Chavez, Kathy Harris, and Theresa Montano.*

## Funding Cutbacks are Decimating Community College Student Numbers

Members of the California Community College Board of Governors were told during their May 3-4 meeting that the state budget cuts were having a dire impact on their postsecondary students. They heard that the budget cuts had resulted in the colleges being unfunded for about 200,000 students. The colleges would need an additional \$300 million to fully fund the current student population, not counting the estimated 2% annual growth in the number of enrollees. The Board also heard a first reading on regulations that would establish a policy for course prerequisites, co-requisites, and advisories on recommended preparation.

The Board of Governor's web site is [www.cccco.edu/](http://www.cccco.edu/).

*CTA's Liaisons to the Board are Lynette Nyagah and Ron Norton Reel.*

## Arizona Adult Ed. Elimination Could Impact Enrollments in California

It was reported to the California Council for Adult Education that Arizona's decision to eliminate its Adult Education programs could lead to increased enrollment in California and other nearby states. Members of the Council expressed concerns that given the state's education funding levels, it is not prepared for any influx of new students.

The CCAE web site is [www.ccaestate.org/](http://www.ccaestate.org/).

*CTA's Liaison to the CCAE is Sylvia Oshima.*

## Help Gain \$5.9B for Schools; Block New Version of Anti-Seniority Proposal

Aren't you sick and tired of education funding cuts that are hurting your students? Aren't you equally sick and tired of legislation that seeks to blame teachers for schools' problems? If you are, CTA has a job for you.

Sign on as a **Summer Advocate** and help persuade the Legislature and Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger to approve the Assembly Jobs and Education Budget. The Assembly plan would head off devastating additional budget cuts by providing \$5.9 billion more in school funding than the governor has proposed.

The newest round of proposed cuts the governor's budget contains —another \$4.1 billions worth — would come on top of the \$17 billion in cuts that are harming each and every student in the state.

To make matters worse, Senate President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg has introduced a new "improved" version of a measure that would respond to funding-shortfall-induced layoffs by allowing districts more flexibility in ignoring experience in decisions made at Decile 1-3 schools.

Your efforts this summer will be vital to winning these fights. So send an e-mail that contains your name and zip code to [summeradvocate@cta.org](mailto:summeradvocate@cta.org). Also, if you're a CTA member but not yet on the *Liaison News* e-mail list, e-mail [dbasurto@cta.org](mailto:dbasurto@cta.org). We'll rush you your copy each month free of charge.

(The summaries include statements made at agency meetings and do not necessarily reflect CTA's policies or views.) *The Liaison News* is a publication of the Governmental Relations Division of the California Teachers Association/NEA, 1118 10th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, 916/325-1500, ©copyright 2010.

David A. Sanchez, President  
Dean E. Vogel, Vice-President  
Gail Mendes, Secretary-Treasurer

Carolyn Doggett, Executive Director  
Joe Nuñez, Assoc. Exec. Dir., Govt. Rel.  
Lori Easterling, Manager of Leg. Relations

Scott Day, Mgr., Governmental Relations  
Ken Burt, Liaison Program Coordinator  
Len Feldman, Editor