

June 18, 2025

CTA-AE News This Month!

Hello Aspiring Educators,

As we close out our term as your CTA-AE Officers, we want to take a moment to reflect on the work we've done together and express our deepest gratitude to every student leader, chapter advisor, and member who helped build power and community within CTA-AE this year.

Throughout our term, we've worked to expand access to leadership development, strengthen connections across campuses, and elevate the voices of aspiring educators in statewide policy spaces. From organizing statewide convenings and advocating for inclusive curriculum, to launching new initiatives rooted in equity and justice, we are proud of what we've accomplished collectively; and we know it couldn't have happened without your dedication and heart.

As we step down, we warmly welcome our incoming officers: **Gabriel Mendoza & Queen Udofo**. Our current President, **Ethan Collier-Moreno**, will be stepping into a new role as Secretary-Treasurer to continue to help our board become the best it can be. We have full confidence that you will carry this work forward with the same vision, care, and courage it requires. CTA-AE is in strong hands, and we are excited to see the future you build.

To our graduating student leaders: congratulations on reaching this milestone! Whether you're stepping into the classroom, graduate school, or new roles in education and advocacy, your commitment to equity in education continues to inspire us. We can't wait to see where your journey takes you; and we know our movement is stronger because of you.

In solidarity and gratitude,

Ethan Collier-Moreno (he/him/él), CTA-AE President 2024-25

Mali Vera Cruzio (she/her/ella), CTA-AE Vice President 2024-25

Isaiah Ophaso (he/him/his), CTA-AE Secretary-Treasurer 2024-25

Election Corner

The June CTA-AE board meeting included two new members taking their oath of office. Sofia Reynoso Sandoval is now officially a CTA-AE State Council representative for the 2025-2026 school year. Jonathan Oyaga, who previously served as the CTA-AE president in addition to several other roles, will be the new Past Officer in charge of elections.

Each of these vacant positions can now be appointed by the incoming 2025-2026 CTA-AE state-wide board.

- Region 1 Director
- Region 3 Director
- Region 4 Director
- REAC Director
- Communications Editor (2)

We are also accepting applications for individuals interested in being considered for the position of California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CCTC) Liaison. Please fill out the [Declaration of Candidacy Form](#) if you would like to be considered.

The CTA-AE state-wide board will also be looking for individuals to join an **elections committee**. Members of this committee would support the work of the Past Officer Jonathan Oyaga in organizing and facilitating elections. This is a great opportunity for members to get involved in an important but less demanding way. If interested, send an email to cta-ae@cta.org.

Communications Team Update

Thank you for a great year, aspiring educators! As this is our last year as your Communications Editors, we just wanted to say thanks for following along with us! We're both moving into new roles, and we leave everything in the very capable hands of Andrea Guevara. We have some exciting things that we started on behind the scenes this year that we hope will come to fruition (along with some other exciting plans currently in the works 🍷).

As always, be sure to follow us on instagram [@cta_aspiringed](#).

In solidarity,
Jennifer Kay Garcia and Tiffany Richey

State Council Update

Hello CTA-AE Members!

It has been a tremendous honor to have served as your State Council Representative for the past two years and I am beyond ecstatic to continue organizing with you all as your incoming CTA-AE President!

BUT before I do, I would like to spotlight some of the amazing work that happened at the 2025 June State Council.

(1) CTA Secretary-Treasurer Erika L. Jones presented the official 2025-2026 CTA Budget, which was adopted by the body. Highlights include New Program Funding for a Women's Leadership Conference and New Educator Member Development Programs and additional program funding for Group Legal Services, Member Engagement Grants, Statewide Conferences, Communication and Research, and further grants for Local President Release and Site-based Organizing Work.

(2) CTA made a number of recommendations for the Assembly and Senate June 2nd, 2026 primary elections and recommendations for the CALPERS Fall 2025 election.

(3) State Council referred to the CTA Board of the Language Acquisition Committee's recommendation that CTA strongly oppose the executive order declaring English as the official language of the United States and, instead, support the recognition of the language diversity and language rights of all residents of our country. *The Board approved the referral.

(4) State Council referred to the CTA Board of Directors NBI #1/25-10: To advocate for funding for Haskell University on behalf of California indigenous peoples who benefit from their programs. *The Board approved the NBI.

(5) State Council referred to the CTA Board of Directors NBI #4/25-18: CTA finds Trump's deportation of political activists inexcusable and an unjustifiable abridgment of the First Amendment. CTA calls on all colleges to cease/desist from cooperating with the Department of Homeland Security raids to deport students for their political views. CTA will write an article on this on the CA Educator. *The Board approved the NBI.

It has been a tremendous honor to serve and organize over the past two years at the State Council. Advocating on your behalf at CTA's policymaking body has been a true privilege. As I shared, my work with CTA-AE is far from over, I remain committed to continuing the fight for all AEs. Our voice will be heard, we will be seen, and we will organize. Sí, SE PUEDE!

In Solidarity,
Gabriel Mendoza Jr.
scta.gmendozajr@gmail.com

Chapter Development Updates

CTA Aspiring Educator Chapters are at the heart of CTA-AE!

If you have questions or want to chat about how to build community in your chapter, join us for our last Virtual Chapter Roundtable meeting of the school year, this Sunday, June 22nd at 6pm.

[Register for the Monthly Chapter Leader Roundtable](#)



As we transition into the new school year, all existing AE Chapters will need to resubmit their Chapter Recognition paperwork. Regardless if you are an established Chapter or just starting out, please check out the instructions below.

There are 5 easy steps to becoming a CTA-AE Chapter:

1. Fill out the Chapter Recognition Form below and at: <https://bit.ly/CTA-AE24ChapterRecognition>;
2. Show proof of official club status on campus;
3. Show proof of elected leadership, ie: Chapter President;
4. Show proof of at least one advisor, ie: faculty in your campus School of Education; and
5. Share your governing documents, ie: Chapter By-Laws – we have samples you can use!

In addition to all the benefits of being a CTA-AE Member, recognized CTA-AE Chapters receive additional benefits.

Please see below for 5 reasons to become a CTA-AE Chapter:

1. Sponsorship to attend CTA-AE's events like our Fall Event or Spring Event and Representative Assembly;
2. CTA-AE gear like t-shirts, tote bags, pens, pencils;
3. Access to scholarships and awards for school through the [CTA Foundation's Scholarship Programs & Awards](#);
4. Opportunity to meet with CTA-AE Chapters across the state and with [NEA Aspiring Educators](#); Members and Chapters across the nation; and
5. Voting rights at CTA-AE's Representative Assembly.

Link to charter chapter: <https://bit.ly/CTA-AE24ChapterRecognition>

If you are a member whose chapter has not yet been recognized or are unsure, feel free to contact cta-ae@cta.org.



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