

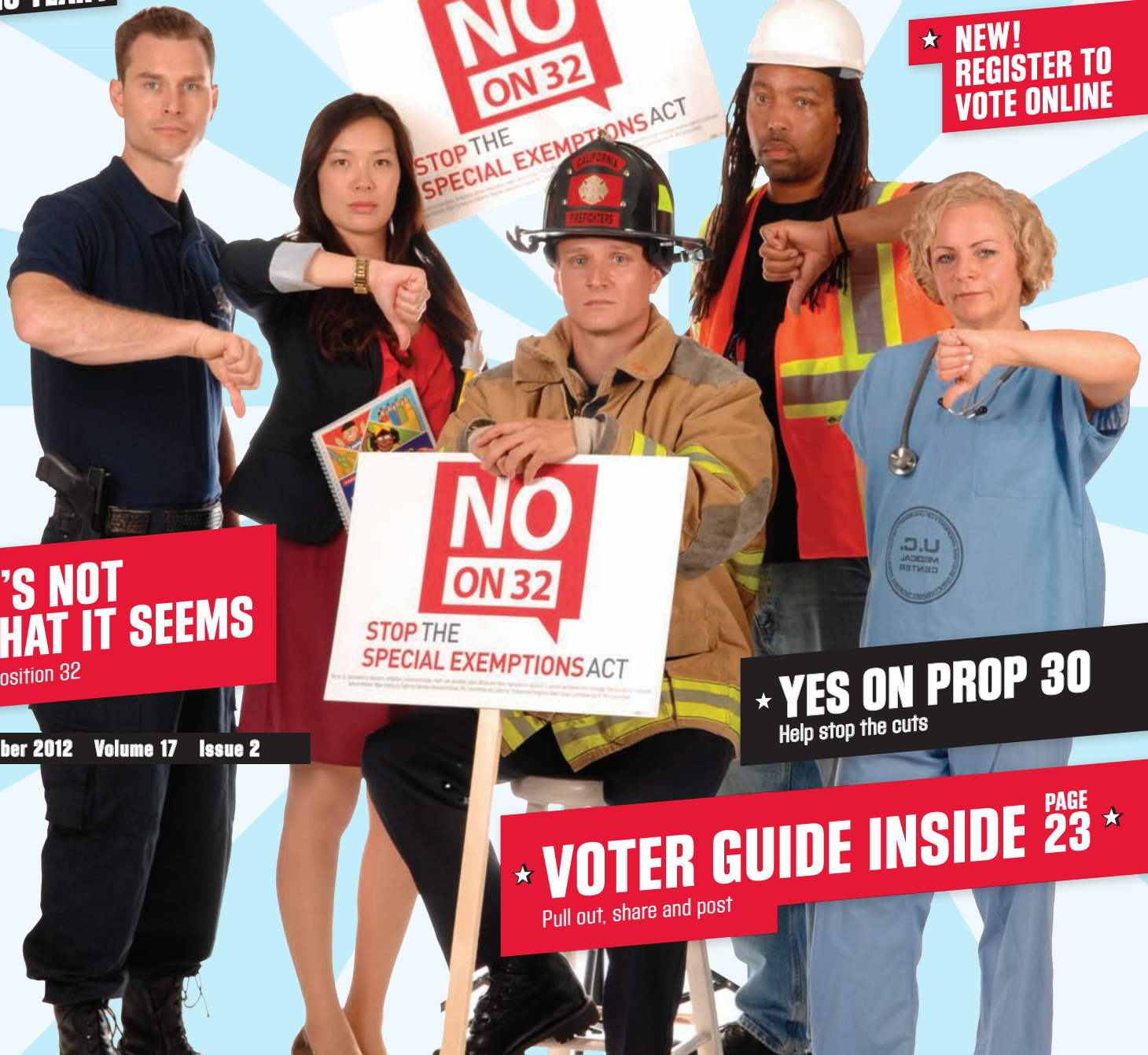
ELECTION ★ SPECIAL

# California EDUCATOR

★ YOUR BALLOT WILL  
LOOK DIFFERENT  
THIS YEAR?

★ FIGHTING FOR  
THE MIDDLE CLASS

★ NEW!  
REGISTER TO  
VOTE ONLINE



★ IT'S NOT  
WHAT IT SEEMS  
Proposition 32

★ YES ON PROP 30  
Help stop the cuts

October 2012 Volume 17 Issue 2

★ VOTER GUIDE INSIDE PAGE 23 ★  
Pull out, share and post

# Online learning for your life<sup>SM</sup>



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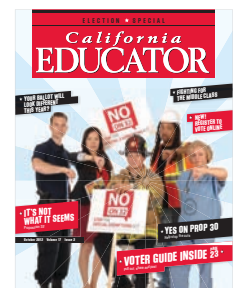
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## ON THE COVER



► James Gonzales, Yvonne Tran, Dan Clarke, Steve Booker and Julie Molitor urge No on 32.



## Why is this election so important?



**THE OLD ADAGE THAT MONEY WON'T BUY HAPPINESS** may be true. But you'd be hard-pressed to prove that to the billionaire businessmen behind Proposition 32. Using their secretive Super PAC, they've dropped another \$4 million into the Prop. 32 campaign, which targets our public schools, our profession, our students and our colleagues in the middle class. Super PACs are definitely changing the political landscape.

An out-of-state committee linked to the Koch brothers, the billionaire oil tycoons, contributed more than \$4 million to the Yes on 32 campaigns – and because the committee doesn't have to disclose its donors, we'll probably never know the true source of the money.

*When you vote, vote for candidates and issues that help our students, our schools and our profession.*

This is just a glimpse of how California politics will be run if Prop. 32 passes, with billionaire business interests pouring unlimited funds into secretive super PACs to promote their agenda and drown out the voice of the middle class – our voice.

We've seen that a lot of money from secret individuals or groups will buy quite a bit of media – produce movies and direct media campaigns that benefit a narrow band of the population, often to the detriment of the majority of us. Millionaires and billionaires are pouring millions into passing Proposition 32. They don't believe in the checks and balances in our democracy, just in the checks they write to bankroll one of the most devious attacks on the middle class that California has ever seen on a ballot. Prop. 32 is just another investment for them.

Big money doesn't care that CTA members are the ones who work to make our schools and students successful. Corporations don't care that it is the middle class that educates, protects and serves our communities.

Just look at what has been accomplished lately through CTA's advocacy. Teachers who were laid off because of California's bruising funding cuts to education will be able to collect unemployment benefits while retraining to fill other teaching positions in California's shortage fields starting Jan. 1, 2014. CTA co-sponsored legislation, SB 1291, allows teachers enrolled in credential preparation programs in hard-to-staff subject areas to qualify for unemployment benefit payments. Under current law, laid-off workers are generally barred from receiving these benefits while enrolled in educational programs.

While the bill is not a solution to the greatest problem facing California's public schools – securing the stable funding that will roll back cuts in staffing, increases in class sizes, and wholesale closings of libraries and enrichment programs – we are making headway. We are working on school improvement that makes a difference, not a quick-fix scheme created by so-called reformers.

That's why we ask for your NO vote on 32 and YES vote on 30. Our ability to advocate is directly linked to our ability to work for school funding. Our detractors know that. And if a skewed media campaign that belittles your work and attacks your character and commitment is what it takes, that's what they will do.

We cannot afford to elect politicians with dangerously misplaced priorities, who blatantly disrespect public school employees, and whose policies would lead to larger class sizes, less instruction time and drastic funding cuts.

Now, more than ever, the temptation might be to go to your classroom and close the door. That is the place we know we are making a difference for kids, for our profession, our state. We know that if even one of our struggling students makes a significant learning gain, then our lives are well spent.

I appreciate the desire to close the doors, do your duty by voting and be done with it. But that will not be enough to counter the money stacking up against us. Fortunately, we have something that they can't buy – we have you and 325,000 other educators in communities all across California. And we are all going to have to get engaged to win this election.

So I encourage you to make your voice heard. First, by casting your ballot, and when you vote, vote for candidates and issues that help our students, our schools and our profession. Second, by sharing your story and encouraging neighbors and friends to vote. Ask them to join you – to join us – in supporting positive education issues that improve schools, and in supporting policymakers who will listen to the people rather than the big corporations.

Together we make a difference.

Together we are an awesome force. We stand together with one single purpose in this election – to elect pro-education candidates, pass Prop. 30 and defeat Prop. 32.

CTA President **Dean E. Vogel**





## TOP TWEET

@swalwellforca15

The Californian worker is no fool and will see Prop 32 is an attempt to roll back workers' rights to the 19th century.

## MOST POPULAR FACEBOOK POST

## CAMPAIGN 2012 NEWS



557 likes 14 comments 115 shares

## MORE TOP TWEETS

@richardroeper

It's become fashionable for some to demonize teachers, but the ones I know are incredibly dedicated.

@naomiaklein

Chicago teachers strike is an amazing example of 'shock resistance' — fighting Rahm's attempt to use a trumped up crisis to bust unions.

## FAVORITE COMMENTS

Mary Loughran Silva | Sept 18

Poverty does make a difference and teachers are not giving up on kids when we state the obvious. It is not humanly possible in the school day to make up for the missing experiences, zero support systems or lack of schema that children living in poverty have to overcome. How can these kids come from behind and somehow end up at the same place as students who come to school well-nourished and supported?

Mark Naison | Sept 12

Can Michelle Rhee lead 50,000 people through the streets of Chicago? Bill Gates? Arne Duncan? Jonah Edelman? Hell no! But Karen Lewis can! And that's the message that needs to go out to teachers around the country! We are not condemned to be passive victims of Corporate Ed Reformers! United, we have the power to fight back and defend our students from policies that will deaden their minds, weaken their bodies and make them hate school!

# PROPOSITION 32

- POWER PLAY DESERVES A 'NO' VOTE  
*The Sacramento Bee* (sacbee.com)
- PROP. 32 A SHAM, DESERVES TO LOSE IN NOV. 6 ELECTION  
*Ventura County Star* (vcstar.com)

Editorials statewide join us in urging YES on 30 and NO on 32. What about CTA's other recommendations? Check "Where We Stand" to learn about Propositions 31, 35 and 40.

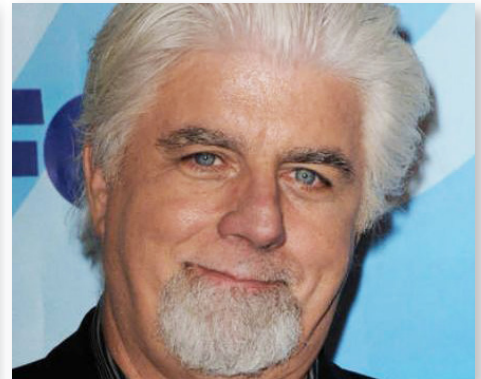
[www.cta.org/campaign](http://www.cta.org/campaign)



## FAMILIES HELP REV KIDS' ENGINES!

Now that the school season is going full speed, parents and guardians can jump on board their kids' learning wagon and help them get ahead with CTA's Family Involvement resources.

[www.cta.org/53ways](http://www.cta.org/53ways)



## BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Grammy-winning singer Michael McDonald of The Doobie Brothers joins CTA and the Cancer Prevention Institute of California in stressing the importance of cancer prevention.

[www.cta.org/breastcancer](http://www.cta.org/breastcancer)

Exempt from Prop 32

- Big Oil Companies
- Insurance Company Executives
- Wall Street Bankers
- Developers
- Hedge Fund Managers

## VIRAL VIDEO

Who is funding Prop. 32? This TV ad points out that the people who are funding Proposition 32 are the same corporate special interests that it exempts. It's not what it seems. [www.VoteNoOn32.org](http://www.VoteNoOn32.org)





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- Teaching Credential\* (10 months)
- Professional Credential (7-24 months)
- MA in Education
  - Clinical Mental Health Counseling (2 years)
  - Counseling (2 years)
  - Curriculum and Instruction (15-24 months)
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  - Higher Education (2 years)
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\* Not eligible for the \$1,000 scholarship.



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### EDITORIAL INFORMATION

*California Educator* is published for the information and edification of CTA members. The editorial philosophy is governed by the policies of CTA. Articles and advertising reflect that philosophy.

Letters to the editor may be sent to [editor@cta.org](mailto:editor@cta.org).

Publication of advertising in the *California Educator* does not indicate CTA approval of the product or of the companies that purchase advertising.

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CTA/NEA membership dues for the fiscal year, Sept. 1–Aug. 31, are \$827, including a \$20 voluntary contribution. Up to \$18.45 of CTA annual dues is designated for CTA/ABC political activities to support state and local candidates and/or initiatives and is not deductible for income tax purposes.

Subscription to the *California Educator* is \$10 per year, available to persons or institutions not eligible for CTA/NEA membership.

*California Educator* (ISSN 1091-6148) is published monthly except January, July and August by:

**CALIFORNIA TEACHERS ASSOCIATION**  
1705 Murchison Dr., Burlingame, CA 94010-4583  
(650) 697-1400; FAX (650) 552-5002  
[editor@cta.org](mailto:editor@cta.org), [www.cta.org](http://www.cta.org)

Postmaster: Send change of address to  
*California Educator*, P.O. Box 4178,  
Burlingame, CA 94011-4178.

Periodicals Postage Paid at Burlingame, CA,  
and additional mailing offices.

# PROPOSITION 32: THE ULTIMATE WOLF IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING

By John Logan



EVERY SO OFTEN IN CALIFORNIA POLITICS, a ballot measure comes along that is so deceptive, so fraudulent, that it almost takes one's breath away. Not only is Prop. 32 (or "Stop Special Interest Money Now," as its big-money funders call it) one such measure, it is a poster child for fraudulent ballot initiatives, the ultimate "wolf in sheep's clothing."

Data compiled by the nonpartisan Center for Investigative Reporting demonstrates that the business interests and billionaires who would benefit most from Prop. 32 already vastly outspend labor unions in the state and spend overwhelmingly on measures promoting their own self-interests.

Between 2001 and 2011, business interests spent more than \$700 million on initiatives, candidates, and parties, while labor unions contributed well under half that amount — just over \$284 million. Wealthy individuals, including many individual billionaires, bankrolled another \$231 million. Under Prop. 32, neither the spending by business interests nor wealthy individuals would face any meaningful limitations — indeed, they would likely explode — while that of unions would be all but eliminated.

Much of this spending spree was on ballot initiatives designed to provide special breaks for corporations. Prop. 32 would not fix that problem — its many exemptions mean that corporations would still spend a lot of money on campaigns and secret super PACs. The only corporate spending prohibited by Prop. 32 would be direct contributions to candidates and parties. Corporations would still be perfectly free to spend tens of millions of dollars — and more — on ballot measures (which is, for example, what PG&E spent most of its money on) and on independent expenditures to get the politicians they like elected.

Prop. 32 masquerades an attempt at evenhanded campaign finance reform that would reduce the influence of powerful

special interests in Sacramento. Few would argue that this is a laudable goal, but Prop. 32 would not only fail to achieve that goal, its special exemptions would increase the influence of billionaires and wealthy business interests, while silencing the voices of teachers, nurses, firefighters and law enforcement personnel. It is the precise opposite of genuine campaign finance reform, and would turn California politics into Citizens United on steroids.

In a deliberate effort to mislead voters, Prop. 32 promoters say that the measure treats corporations and unions equally. By prohibiting money collected by payroll deduction, Prop. 32 would all but eliminate unions' political voice, but it places no meaningful limitations on spending by wealthy business interests. Unions rely on payroll deduction to raise funds for politics; corporations do not. The measure would prohibit direct donations to candidates and parties from corporate general funds, but this is not how most business interests exercise influence in Sacramento.

Prop. 32's "restrictions" on corporate spending are a meaningless ruse.

Prop. 32 places no restrictions on political spending by billionaires. Two of the top three billionaire spenders in California politics over the past decade are major contributors to the Prop. 32 campaign, and would be exempt from its restrictions. Not content with buying influence in Sacramento for themselves, these super-wealthy individuals are seeking to silence the voices of working Californians.

Prop. 32's principal backer is the ultraconservative Lincoln Club of Orange County. The Lincoln Club was a key player in the Supreme Court's 2010 Citizens United decision, which has opened the floodgates on special interest spending in federal elections. The Lincoln Club welcomed Citizens United as a victory for free speech, but now wants Californians to believe that it supports getting special interests out of Sacramento. Few groups have less credibility when it comes to campaign finance reform.

If Prop. 32 passes in November, right-wing activists will promote a tsunami of ballot initiatives in 2013 at the local level and in 2014 at the state level designed to drive down working conditions in both the public and private sectors. Lacking the ability to oppose these reactionary measures under the new election rules, California's workers could soon face some of the weakest labor standards in the country.

Prop. 32 is not campaign finance reform, but a billionaires' bill of rights, one that would be a game-changer in California politics. When it comes to ballot initiatives, Prop. 32 is the ultimate wolf in sheep's clothing.

*CTA member Professor John Logan is director of labor and employment studies at San Francisco State University.*

**UNDER PROP. 32, NEITHER THE SPENDING BY BUSINESS INTERESTS NOR WEALTHY INDIVIDUALS WOULD FACE ANY MEANINGFUL LIMITATIONS — INDEED, THEY WOULD LIKELY EXPLODE.**

# LETTERS AND COMMENTS



Your letters are welcome! There is a 250-word limit. Signed letters with the writer's name, address and daytime telephone number will be considered for publication. All letters will be edited. Write to [editor@cta.org](mailto:editor@cta.org).

## THIS IS WHAT YOU PUT ON THE COVER?

Dressing for success on a budget? Get grants? With everything that is going on in education, this is what you put on the [September] cover? Sure you're on a budget because you'll never get a pay raise.



And by the way, supplement the lack of funding in your classroom by writing a grant? Time to take a more aggressive attitude toward saving education instead of

placing Band-Aids on everything, starting with school funding.

**Ray Andrzejewski**  
Redlands Teachers Association

## RHEE RETROGRADE INFLUENCE

In the [March] magazine you asked us, "Who is Michelle Rhee?" Judging from the inarticulate vulgarity with which she speaks ("I'm like, 'You know what? I don't give a crap.' Don't get me wrong. Creativity is good and whatever"), she is a retrograde influence on education. Anyone who takes her seriously is conspiring with her to take our students (whom I spend hours dissuading from talking in this uneducated manner) back to the gutter.

**Michael Duffett**  
San Joaquin Delta College  
Teachers Association

## CURSIVE REVISITED

While reading the letters about cursive writing [June/July], I noticed that no one mentioned that most students now use pencils instead of pen. When I was in school, we were required to use pen after elementary school except in math classes. As I age (I'm 62), I find that pencil reflects off the paper and is challenging to read. For tests and writing assignments I require my students to use pen.

If they don't comply (or "forget"), I hand their papers back to them and ask them to redo it.



There is a fair amount of grumbling at first, but they also need to learn to write with pen – whether it's printing or cursive.

**Susan Wexler**  
Irvine Teachers Association,  
Huntington Beach

## ONLINE LEARNING AND FEE

The *Educator* has published great articles on online learning [in February]. One point to emphasize, however: Foundation for Excellence in Education, headed by Jeb Bush ([www.excelined.org](http://www.excelined.org)) is an acronym for FEE, as in for-profit.

It's both a sick joke as well as a well-known fact that Republicans have been trying to privatize, and profitize, every function of government for over 30 years (since the Reagan "Revolution"). Beginning with the air traffic controllers union bust, the Right has continued its relentless campaign.

Education is one of its biggest goals. Please speak out against this. Please protect the few halfway-decent union jobs which are left. Please do not be fooled by the words which make up the acronym FEE, but, rather, the meaning of the acronym itself: FEE. As in everyone pays more, yet gets a poorer result, if education is allowed to become bastardized from a public institution into a private institution.

Please heed this warning, as not enough people are sounding this alarm. You should be among the leaders who are, in fact, doing so. So, please do so.

**Robert D. Krikourian**  
Spouse of Folsom-Cordova Education  
Association member, Debra Krikourian.

## OPPOSED TO DRESS CODE STEREOTYPES

I generally agree with Bill McConnell's opposition to dress codes [in the September *Educator*]. Teachers are professionals and, as such, are perfectly capable of making decisions about how to dress appropriately. Different teachers have different approaches to how they present themselves in the classroom.

For some, like Aimee Downer, dressing professionally might be a significant component of how she constructs the role she plays in the classroom. For McConnell, a more laid-back and casual approach fits his classroom persona better. This may have a lot to do with gender; women have to work harder for others to consider



them authority figures, while men are much more easily afforded this status. Wardrobe choices may be part of how some women cope with this discrimination – choices being the operative word.

My opposition to dress codes is also due to the fact that they tend to be very gendered, presenting different standards for women and men, which buys into and reinforces the gender stereotypes that we work so hard to challenge in the classroom and that feed discrimination against women.

To me, as a queer woman with a non-normative gender identity, the idea that my employer might have a dress code requiring me to wear pantyhose is as laughable as it is oppressive. If there are people who come to work in a thong, then it might be appropriate for an administrator to talk to them about it, but it seems a stretch to develop a dress code in response to the poor choices a very few people might make.

**Beth Peterson**  
Mira Costa College

## ONLINE BULLYING: WHOM TO TRUST?

Regarding the online bullying article in March: Our school has a website that I was unaware of, until some intrepid students decided that my profile needed some "updating."

A new assistant principal, not knowing me, read the profile, full of vulgarities (misspelled) and other indiscretions. I was called out of class, with her ready to write me up. She was hard-pressed to believe that I (1) didn't know about the website, and (2) don't talk that way.

School police were of little help. They "convinced" the Web host to take down the offending post, but nothing was done to the students, or the staffer who taught the students how to bypass the firewall. In fact, even though I was the victim, I was treated more like it was my fault for not knowing about the webpage and making my page more "secure."

I learned a valuable lesson about whom to trust, as well as how effective the school police are in situations that call for real policing.

**William Cinnamon**  
North Hollywood





# Welcome to the *California Educator* Special Election Issue



This election is so important. We have an opportunity to fight attacks on public education, stave off budget cuts and protect the middle class **WHEN YOU VOTE.**

## → THE ISSUES

Have you seen those misleading ads about Prop. 32, funded by secretive corporative interests and Super PACs? The *Washington Post* fact-checker called an American Future Fund ad "over the top" and "erroneous," adding, "There is no excuse for these kinds of ads, which take facts out of context or simply invent them." You'll see the same thing on Prop. 30, and some ads say nasty things about your CTA.

We've worked hard to explain the impact of the ballot measures and to include your colleagues' and local leaders' takes on this election. Inside you'll also find CTA's recommendations on the propositions and candidates, plus the basics of CTA's recommendation process. It's very democratic, and I hope you honor your colleagues' good work by voting for their recommended candidates.

## → REGISTER TO VOTE – ONLINE!

You can now register to vote online at [registertovote.ca.gov](http://registertovote.ca.gov). Registering to vote has never been easier, so make sure you, your family and friends are registered to vote. The last day to register to vote is Oct. 22.

## → THE BALLOT IS DIFFERENT

This is the first year for open primaries – your ballot will look different. Your incumbent may not be listed because of redistricting. You may see two Democrats or two Republicans running for the same seat. Read more about this and find a voter checklist and election information in the Voter Guide, which is in the middle of the magazine. Pull it out and review the information with your friends and family.

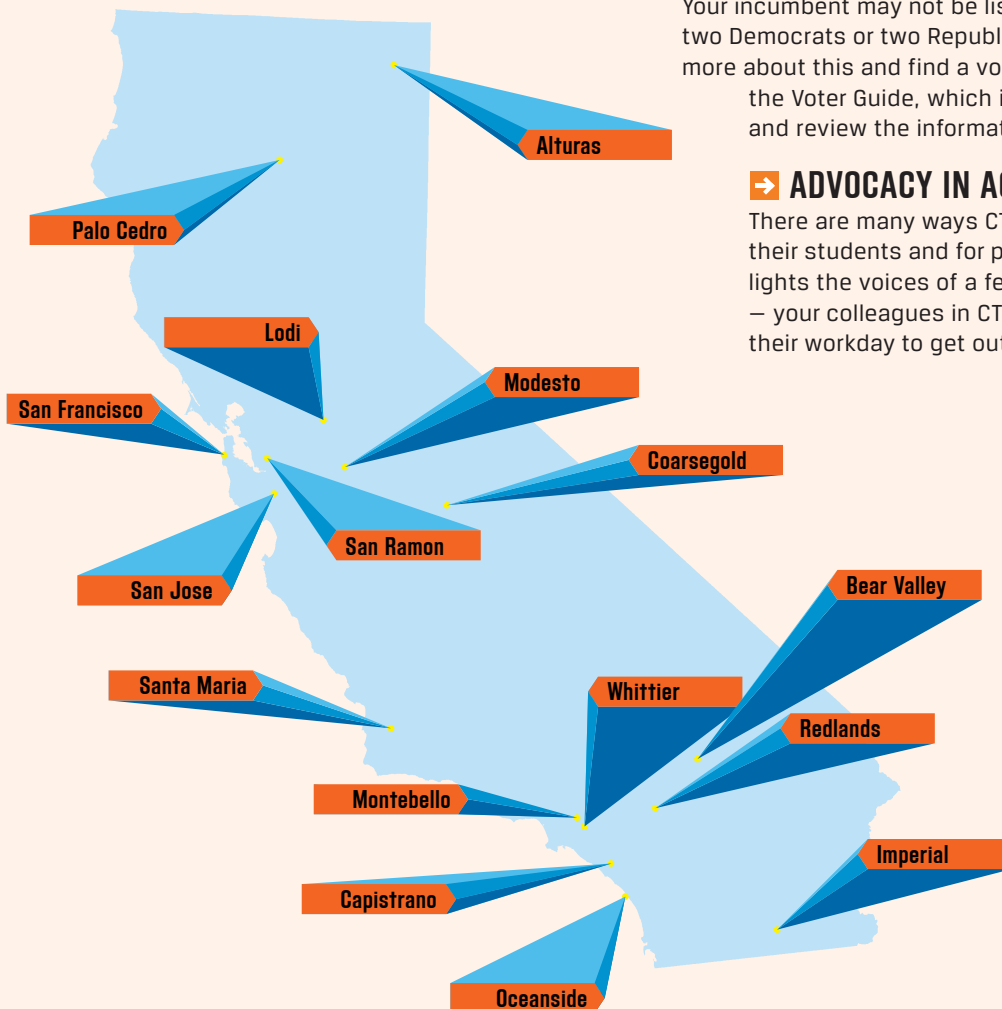
## → ADVOCACY IN ACTION

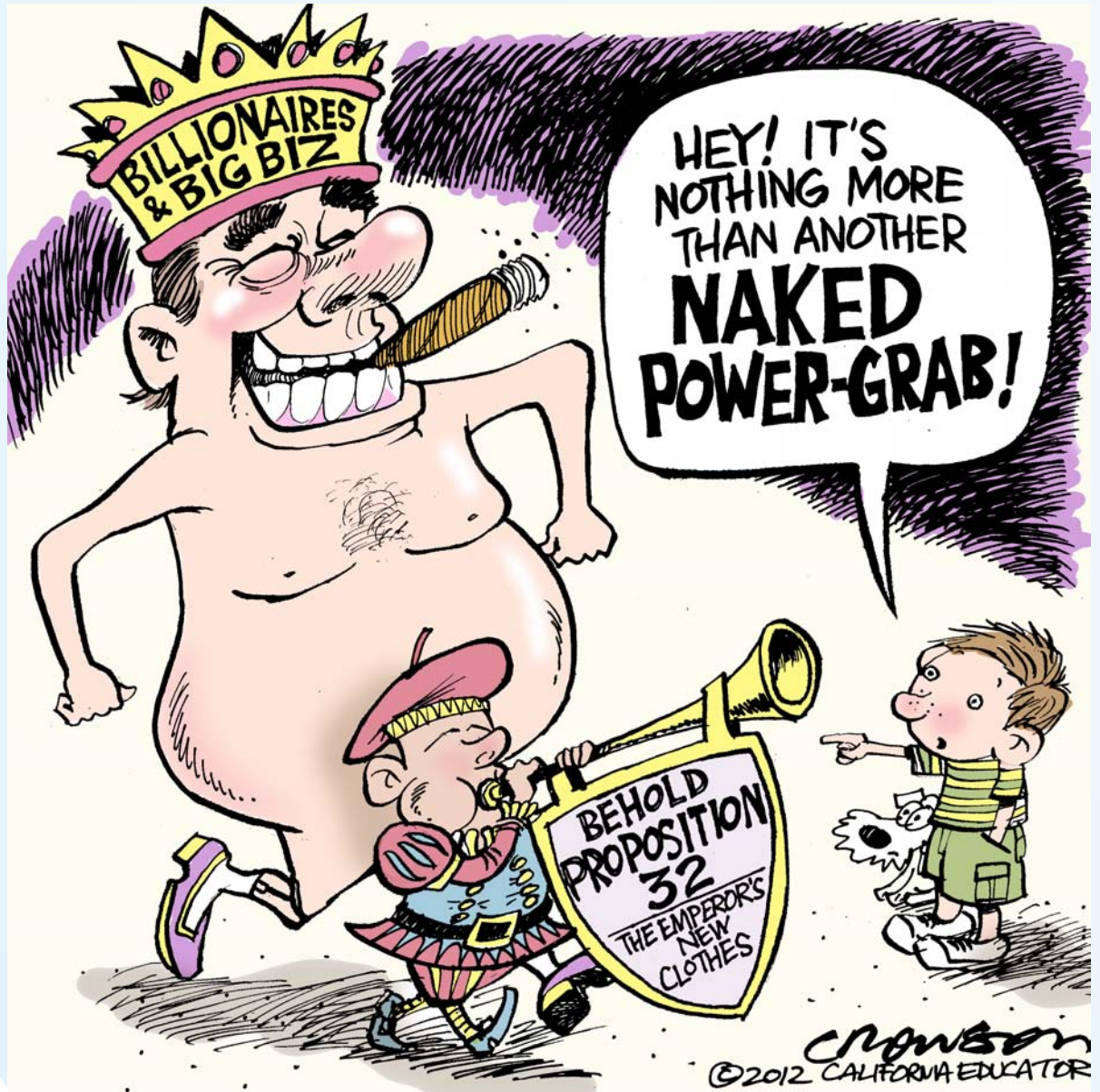
There are many ways CTA members across California advocate for their students and for public schools. This Election Guide highlights the voices of a few of your advocates – see the map at left – your colleagues in CTA who are spending their time outside of their workday to get out the vote.

From juggling new parent responsibilities and campaigning online to phone banking and walking neighborhoods, CTA members across California are outstanding role models.

If you have a chance, you might thank them. Better yet – vote.

*Cynthia Menzel*  
Editor in Chief





Richard Crowson

**VOTE NO ON 32**  
**LEARN FROM OUR EXPERIENCE –  
PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS, NEA AFFILIATES WARN**

By Sherry Posnick-Goodwin  
Photos by Scott Buschman



**"AFTER PAYCHECK DECEPTION** was enacted, politicians put a chokehold on us and there was a further shift toward big business," says Penni Cyr, Idaho Education Association president. "We could not make significant political contributions. We lost education-friendly legislators. That was just the beginning."

Idaho NEA affiliate members learned the hard way that their right to contribute to political causes cannot be taken for granted after their Legislature enacted a Prop. 32-like "paycheck deception" law that legally changed the way the union collects money for IEA's Political Action Committee for Education (PACE). This could happen in California if Proposition 32 is passed by voters in November, and Cyr warns that it will have devastating consequences.

For example, three bad laws were passed by the Idaho Legislature attacking teacher rights after the passage of paycheck deception. One of the laws takes away bargaining rights; another pays teachers based on test scores. And the third, says Cyr, "trades teachers for laptops. It eliminated more than a thousand teaching positions by mandating that every student in the state take two online classes to graduate."

A legal challenge was mounted. The IEA successfully petitioned to get all three laws on the November ballot, and is working hard to get them all repealed. But it has less money to fight with.

"The political playing field is tilted toward big business," says Cyr. "Corporations consistently outspend the teachers union. Our 10,000 IEA members in the classroom try to be the voice for students who don't have a political voice. When you don't have

a balanced system in place, someone loses. And that someone is our students."

Before paycheck deception, IEA members had the right to opt out of making political contributions through their dues, which is also the case in California. The new model created a logistical nightmare for the association. The percentage of members contributing to the association's PAC dropped significantly, because the way to contribute became so confusing. The union waged a legal battle that went to the U.S. Supreme Court and lost.

In Idaho, the Legislature imposed paycheck deception. In California, it is something the voters will decide Nov. 6. Cyr urges CTA members to embrace the "opportunity" to campaign wholeheartedly against the measure aiming to silence the voice of labor, which she wishes IEA had been able to do.



Penni Cyr

"We learned a lot from this experience," says Cyr. "What happened to us reinforced the notion that everything that happens in education is a political decision. We learned it's imperative for teachers to be involved in the political process. You have an opportunity to stop this in California. Learn from our experience. Do what needs to be done. Take every opportunity you have to protect your political voice. Fight as hard as you can to defeat Prop. 32."

Idaho is not the only state that has lost political clout due to "special exemption" acts like Prop. 32.

## UTAH EDUCATION ASSOCIATION



*"Stifles your voice and decreases your influence to fight for kids."*



Sharon Gallagher-Fishbaugh

**"THE LEGISLATURE'S INTENT** was to reduce our ability to raise funds for political purposes, and that was accomplished," says Sharon Gallagher-Fishbaugh, UEA president. "Our PAC money for campaigns and candidates was reduced by about 75 percent. After this happened, the Utah Legislature became much more conservative in terms of education-friendly candidates."

After paycheck deception went into effect in 2002, teacher retirement was the next thing to come under attack by lawmakers, who reduced benefits for new hires and changed the retirement limit from 30 years of service to 35. Then came vouchers for private schools, but that legislation was repealed after a lengthy battle.

Gallagher-Fishbaugh's message for CTA members: "Paycheck deception measures like Prop. 32 have a direct impact on your ability to participate in the political world. It will change how you do business – and not in a positive way. It quiets your voice. It stifles your voice and it decreases the influence you have – as an individual and as an advocacy organization – to fight for our students."





## ALABAMA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

*“Robs your ability to lobby for smaller class size and safe schools.”*



Dot Strickland

**“IT WILL LIMIT YOUR ABILITY** to lobby for things like smaller class size, more textbooks and safer schools,” says Alabama Education Association President Dot Strickland. “We learned we must be vocal eternally and active with legislators. We must be watchful and outspoken. What happened to us renewed our commitment to our profession, which involves organizing, political action and speaking out.”

The Alabama Legislature attempted to end payroll deduction (collecting any dues money via payroll from AEA members), and that attempt is currently under appeal. Meanwhile, the association mobilized and created an alternative method for members to voluntarily deduct dues from their bank account. So far, 92 percent of members have signed up for this in case AEA loses in court.

Stickland’s advice to California teachers: “Talk to every single CTA member and help them understand why it is important to have a strong voice in education. This is nothing more than another effort to rob every educator of the freedom of speech and the right to have a voice in political activities.”



## SOUTH CAROLINA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

*“It’s not about special exemptions, it’s about stripping teachers of rights.”*



Jackie B. Hicks

**“DO NOT LET PROP. 32 PASS,”** warns Jackie B. Hicks, South Carolina Education Association president. “This is an overt attack to strip teachers of influence in their schools, district and at the state level. It will be very detrimental to teachers and students if this happens.”

“The hardest lesson we learned: Do not be complacent in the face of such attacks, and don’t accept their messaging of the intent of this act,” Hicks adds. “It’s not about special exemptions – it’s a ‘strip teachers of political power’ act, and it works. That’s why they are doing it all over the country.”

In South Carolina, union dues have not been allowed to be taken by payroll deduction since 1984, and membership of teachers and classified employees has plummeted, along with political clout.



## WASHINGTON EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

*“It’s crucial to protect your right to be engaged in the democratic process.”*



Mary Lindquist

**“ANTI-UNION, ANTI-PUBLIC EDUCATION FORCES** attacked us on the ballot nearly 20 years ago, and it has taken us a long time to rebuild our collective political voice,” says Washington Education Association President Mary Lindquist.

“Speaking from experience, it’s crucial to protect the right of teachers and school employees to be engaged in the democratic process. Defend your right to advocate for your students, your profession and your families.” The WEA fought the paycheck deception measure approved by voters, but in 2007 the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of the law, which resulted in PAC contributions shrinking by 75 percent within five years.

# IT'S NOT WHAT IT SEEMS



**You have an opportunity to stop this in California. Learn from our experience. Do what needs to be done. Take every opportunity you have to protect your political voice. Fight as hard as you can to defeat Prop. 32.**

**-Penni Cyr**



**NO  
ON 32**

\*\*\*\*\*  
**CAMPAIGN 2012**  
\*\*\*\*\*

## PROPOSITION 32

**"PROPOSITION 32**, the Special Exemptions Act, will prevent educators from using their political voice to improve schools and enhance the teaching profession," says CTA President Dean Vogel. "CTA would be curtailed from being a strong advocate for increasing funding for schools and colleges, reducing class sizes, and preserving salaries and retirement plans for school employees. It would be difficult to protect our right to collectively bargain, oppose anti-education legislation, or take a stand on local school board races and ballot measures. That is why I am asking CTA members to vote no on Prop. 32 and help us on the campaign."

To see how you can get involved, see story on page 38.

Prop. 32 claims to be about stopping special interest money in politics, but it is not what it seems. It's really an attempt to deceive voters into passing a law that would change the rules to benefit wealthy corporate interests – at the expense of middle-class workers and unions.

The measure, sometimes referred to as "paycheck deception," prohibits unions and corporations from using donations from dues money through payroll deductions to support political campaigns or candidates. This would have little impact on corporations, which seldom use payroll deductions for political spending, but would be devastating for unions.

Proposition 32 also bans donations from unions and corporations to political candidates and candidate-controlled committees. However, there are loopholes: It doesn't ban contributions from "limited liability companies" (LLCs), or from limited partnerships or real estate trusts – which represent some of California's biggest political donors. And it doesn't ban contributions to independent expenditure campaigns.

The Special Exemptions Act does nothing to stop corporations from spending billions in profits to influence elections. That's because it exempts secretive Super

PACs (political action committees), which can raise unlimited amounts of money from corporate special interests and billionaire businessmen.

For these reasons, the League of Women Voters and Common Cause have come out against Proposition 32, because they believe it would tilt the scales of power in favor of corporations and silence the voice of labor and the middle class.

Teachers, firefighters, nurses and other middle-class workers join together to raise money for political action – through donations, bake sales, fun runs and other events. Individual corporate executives can write a check for as much as a group of educators can raise.

Corporations already outspend unions 15 to 1 on politics. Proposition 32 would skew the playing field even more, says Vogel. While millionaires and wealthy corporate interests claim the measure is "balanced reform" that removes special interests from politics, nothing is further from the truth.

Prop. 32 is unnecessary, Vogel adds, because current law already protects workers' rights. The U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that no one can be forced to join a union and contribute to political campaigns. Union members can opt out of having dues money spent for political contributions.

"This measure attempts to fix something that doesn't need fixing in order to hide its real intent – to keep educators and unions from speaking out," says Vogel. "Someone has to protect working and middle-class families in California, and that's not going to happen if all the power is in the hands of big corporations and the super-wealthy. We may never match corporations dollar for dollar, but we can make a difference by standing together. This initiative would take away our ability to do that. It would take away our seat at the table."





## Capistrano teachers' commitment extends beyond classroom doors

Photo and story by Bill Guy

"IN THE 35 YEARS I HAVE TAUGHT in the Capistrano Unified School District, I would never have thought that we would be forced to a strike, and I never, ever want that to happen again," says Capistrano Unified Education Association President Vicki Soderberg. "We have to work to ensure that it doesn't," she adds, explaining the urgency of CUEA member participation in the CUSD school board race in the south Orange County district.

In the spring of 2010, over 2,000 CUEA members went out in a three-day strike when the school board rejected a fact-finding report and imposed a punitive contract, in effect trying to dismantle collective bargaining. Seven months later, CUEA members successfully organized a communitywide effort that recalled two sitting board members and elected three candidates who are friendly to public education.

"Two of the three CUEA-endorsed candidates are up for re-election. In all, four out of seven board seats are in play," says Soderberg. "The opposition to education-friendly candidates — with ties to and potential funding from Michelle Rhee's StudentsFirst organization — is taking particular aim at CUEA." If the three opposition candidates should win, CUEA members fear they would join with the two remaining board members who forced the strike, forming a five-person majority.

"A recent telephone poll conducted with local voters revealed that they want to hear from teachers in regard to school board issues," says Soderberg. "They trust us to know what is best for our students and our schools."

CUEA officers and site rep council members are informing and organizing CUEA members — most of whom were out on the picket lines two years ago — to inform the community. Campaign activities include direct mail pieces, phone banks and precinct walks.

"I'm confident that our collective voice will resonate with the voters, just like it did two years ago," says Soderberg, adding "CUEA is a strong organization because our individual members' commitment to excellence in education extends beyond their classroom doors. We realize that the future for students of Capistrano Unified depends on that commitment, now more than ever."



CUEA President Vicki Soderberg (right) visits with site reps Chris Elliott and Bobbi Martin about phone banks and precinct walks.



Courtesy photo

## Central Valley Republican says YES on 30 and NO on 32

By Dina Martin

GAYE LEWIS HAS BEEN "A VOTING REPUBLICAN" all her life, and this is the first time she's been actively involved in an election campaign.

"I love the conversations I've been having," says the president of the Central Unified Teachers Association in Coarsegold, Madera County. "I love explaining where we are coming from and what's at stake."

Lewis is happily surprised that her members understand the importance of this election.





# San Ramon teachers: 'Hell NO' to blatant power grab

By Mike Myslinski  
Photo by Rick Wathen

"OUR VOICES WILL NEVER be silenced," vows Darren Day, president of the 1,600-member San Ramon Valley Education Association in Contra Costa County. "Educators are raising their voices in our community, and we are being heard in many ways."

Teachers are mobilizing in San Ramon Valley Unified to pass Proposition 30 and defeat the devious Proposition 32. They also want to pass a \$260 million school bond and elect two teacher-backed school board members, parent Mark Jewett and incumbent Greg Marvel.

Members are spreading the word to all worksites, using the chapter website and e-newsletter, along with using social media and local media outreach. Their mobilizing efforts can be seen at [www.srvea.org](http://www.srvea.org).

"The school and community are starting to recognize how much damage Prop. 32 would cause to anyone who fights for students and the teaching profession," says Ann Katzburg, SRVEA vice president.

Katzburg pitched the local "Patch" newspaper (these are online only and can be located in your city at [patch.com](http://patch.com)) to run a passionate campaign opinion col-



SRVEA Representative Council volunteers illustrate the impact of Prop. 32.

umn written by Monte Vista High School English teacher Kimberley Gilles, a 27-year classroom veteran and a past winner of a CTA Human Rights Award.

"Proposition 30 asks Californians to pony up for education and government services," Gilles wrote, in part. "If we want to have adequately funded schools, we have to help make that happen. And not just because we are teachers – but because we are citizens. We have a state economy to sustain and children in our neighborhoods to nurture."

Gilles blasted Prop. 32 in her column as "wildly manipulative" for trying to weaken union spending on politics at a time when corporations already outspend unions on

lobbying 15 to 1. While the Special Exemptions Act gives more power to the wealthy to write their own rules, it masquerades as campaign reform because it would ban unions and corporations from using payroll-deducted funding on politics.

"Sounds evenhanded, right? Wrong! Corporations don't use employee contributions to exercise political clout, they use their profits!" Gilles wrote.

"Do we really want the only organizations that truly represent our rights and interests, CTA and SRVEA, to be silenced? For me the answer is an outraged 'Hell no!' I will do all in my power to educate the electorate about this blatant power grab."

"Proposition 32 is critical. I go to school sites and hold 10-minute meetings. I'm talking to everyone. Our members want to vote no on 32," she said. "Our teachers have seen what happens when the school board makes a financial decision that is going to impact the classroom, so we're actively recruiting education-friendly candidates to run for school board in 2014. But if Prop. 32 passes, we won't be able to do that."

Lewis says the CTA-supported Proposition 30 funding initiative is a tougher sell in some of the more conservative anti-tax Central

Valley school districts and towns. Until recently, Central Unified hasn't been hard hit by budget cuts, though Lewis is concerned about next year's budget – and the years after. Still, she notes, Prop. 30 has received the support of the school district.

Lewis has learned a lot talking about these issues, but there's one lesson that she's particularly taken in: "Sometimes, you feel you don't make a difference, but you know what? We do. We do make a difference."



# Lodi's Jeff Johnston juggles infant triplets and advocacy

By Dina Martin

**JEFF JOHNSTON HAS A LOT TO JUGGLE LATELY.** He's using his Google calendar to ensure he gets out to 50 school sites, collecting voter commitment cards from members of the Lodi Education Association, planning upcoming phone banks, and, oh yes, fathering the triplets born to him and his wife Nanci a few months ago. The babies are doing great, Nanci's gone back to the classroom, and so far, the campaign is going well, too.



Jeff Johnston

Johnston devotes hours to Campaign 2012. In addition to the many site visits he's undertaken, Johnston is counting on LEA members to show up for a Friday night social at a local Mexican restaurant, where he hopes to recruit some for phone banking. Then it's a matter of continuing to get out the word, calling in the commitment cards, and phoning up members who plan to vote Yes on 30 and No on 32.

With all that going on, Johnston sounds disappointed there isn't a local school board race going on this fall.

"I would have liked a school board race so we could have dovetailed it into the campaign," Johnston says. "That way, our members could have seen the tie-in more directly."

Johnston is reminding colleagues about the two school bonds they helped pass in the last 10 years, and the legislation CTA has worked on, and pension benefits that have occurred, and the curbing of the growth of non-unionized charter schools in Lodi. Much that has been achieved by the advocacy of CTA and local chapters could be threatened should Proposition 32 pass.

"People are getting the message," Johnston says.

Lodi teachers are also getting the message about the importance of passing Proposition 30. "We've been on a layoff merry-go-round the last four or five years, and we've had salary cuts. The loss of instruction days is a threat," Johnston says.

He and the LEA are reaching out to the public in the next weeks. They plan to have a booth at a community fair taking place in early October.

"We're going to do voter registration there and explain to parents what it's going to mean if they have to fund 15 more days of day care after instruction days have been cut," he says.



Three new reasons to be an advocate – Jeff Johnston juggles new parenting and advocacy responsibilities.

## Oceanside Superheroes VOTE for students

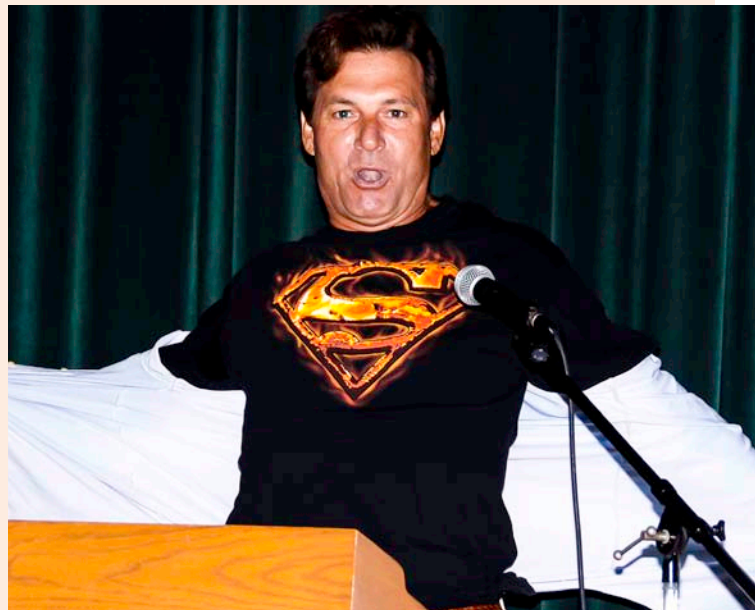


Photo by Bill Guy

**"YOU ALL ARE HEROES,** but, will you be superheroes who help save public education? Be a superheroes and vote YES on Prop 30 and No on Prop 32," said Oceanside Teachers Association President **Terry Hart**. During the OTA back-to-school association meeting he thanked all of the public school employees and school board members for being heroes to students and public education.





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## San Francisco educators mobilize

*It's about the kids and family*

Story and Photo by **Matthew Hardy**



Aaron Hall and Sunny Dawn are getting out the vote.

**MILK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL** third-grade teacher Aaron Hall gets up early these days. With a brand-new baby boy born this summer, he's got his hands full changing diapers, learning to swaddle, and helping his partner navigate all of the joys and surprises of the first few weeks of parenthood.

But there's another reason he's waking up early – to make sure he gets out to school sites before the school day starts.

Aaron took the semester off to help organize San Francisco teachers and paraprofessionals to turn out in record numbers for the November election. And though he's already tired even before the day begins, he knows that with all that is at stake, the sacrifice is worth it.

"This election isn't just about my future, it's about my students and my family as well," says Aaron. "It's not exaggerating to say that if we lose this election, we're just one big domino falling after Wisconsin."

Dennis Kelly, president of the 6,000-member United Educators of San Francisco, gave a similar warning at the UESF campaign kickoff and rally on Sept. 22 – especially about the need to defeat Proposition 32. "The labor movement in California protects more than public education," Kelly said. "If Prop. 32 passes, we will be unable to defend the environment, health care, and the social safety net from the same super PACs that are wreaking havoc across the nation."

## Montebello's Guillermo Sandoval:

*Doing all he can to prevent bad things from happening*

By **Frank Wells**



Guillermo Sandoval

**GUILLERMO SANDOVAL LOVES** being a high school Spanish teacher and enjoys being the Montebello Teachers Association treasurer. He volunteered to be released from his classroom this fall to visit schools and talk with members about Proposition 30 and Proposition 32.

### *What motivated you to get involved in this campaign?*

Both initiatives have huge consequences for teachers and students. If Prop. 30 fails, Montebello is looking at more furlough days and more cuts of over \$13 million. And if 32 passes – that pretty much ends our ability to impact things like class sizes, merit pay, and school funding.

It was tough to start the year out of the classroom and miss the beginning of the school year, but this election is too important not to do all I can.

### *How are members responding?*

Members are aware and see the need to pass 30 and defeat 32. Some members are so stressed out with all they are expected to do with even fewer resources, that it takes some encouragement to get them motivated to campaign. But they really get how important this is and what it means for students if we don't do all we can.

We're up against well-funded corporations that want to silence us and take over the playing field more than they already have. Our students who will pay the price if we fail.

Photo by Terri Molina

Then there is the school board race, where teachers have an opportunity to elect an independent school board that is truly sensitive to the needs of students, and respects teachers' professional rights.

The UESF mobilization for the election began with a pledge card campaign asking members to commit to voting to support schools. UESF members can still fill out a pledge card online at [www.uesf.org](http://www.uesf.org). San Francisco educators are also signing up for ongoing phone banks.

"We've got a big job to do, but I know we can do it," says Aaron.



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## Central Coast communities connect Yes on 30 and No on 32 to student needs

By Frank Wells

**COMMUNITY EVENTS** to advocate for education kicked off in August around California.

Over 100 CTA members and others representing employees in several Central Coast school districts joined students, parents and labor groups in front of Santa Maria High School for a campaign kickoff that emphasized community involvement and the urgent need to both pass Proposition 30 and defeat Proposition 32.

CTA Board member Gayle Bilek, who teaches in Templeton, emphasized how Proposition 32 is connected to Proposition 30, and how it would diminish the ability of educators to impact all other issues affecting public schools. She spoke to the crowd about the millions of dollars each participating district would lose if Proposition 30 fails, and the impact the measure would have on class sizes and teacher layoffs.

**ELECTIVE CLASSES HELP STUDENTS DECIDE WHAT THEY WANT TO DO WITH THE REST OF THEIR LIVES.**

"It's time to take a stand for public education and public safety," said Bilek. "After years of cuts, California's public schools, colleges and universities, and local public safety services are at the breaking point."

The Santa Maria High School band played before the rally, a joyful but sobering reminder of the types of programs that might suffer if schools endure further cuts and need to cut back on electives.

Students from area high schools joined the Santa Maria students and spoke of the importance of passing Proposition 30, stopping school cuts and protecting electives. "Elective classes help students decide what they want to do with the rest of their lives," said SMHS student Kaitlyn Furst. Her school district would lose \$3.6 million if Prop. 30 fails.

Mark Goodman, president of the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District Faculty Association, says their August kickoff was just the beginning of an intensive 10-week effort leading to Election Day.



CTA Board member **Gayle Bilek** links advocacy (Prop. 32) and school funding (Prop. 30). Photo by Rhonda King.

## Redlands forum answers questions



Photos by Bill Guy

**REDLANDS EDUCATION SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS ASSOCIATION (RESPA)** and the Redlands Teachers Association (RTA) sponsored a Campaign 2012 Forum to give area association members and residents an opportunity to ask questions and get answers about campaign issues.

CTA Board member **Don Bridge** and Rialto Education Association members **Joe** and **Wanda Paluba** (above) participate in a text messaging activity on Propositions 30 and 32 during the forum.

**Allen Ritchie** (left), CTA/NEA-Retired president, is a campaign volunteer. He was a member of the Redlands Teachers Association before retiring.





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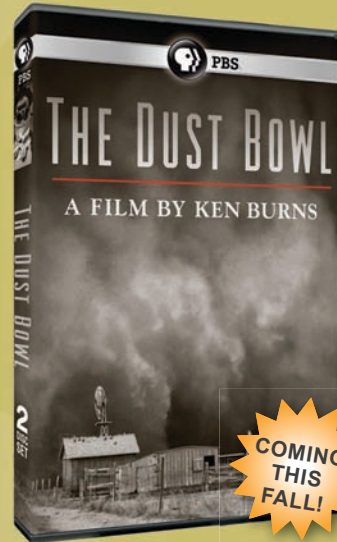


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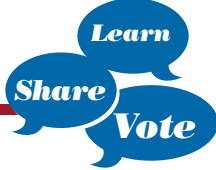
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## Cool Tools



**Voter's Guide** – Help friends and neighbors understand why their vote is important! Includes links to register to vote and find your legislative district. Provides a helpful voter checklist.



**Tell a Friend** – Provides pertinent information to e-mail friends and neighbors about issues that are important to our students and schools.



**Share This** – Features "show and tell" videos that highlight the need for increased school funding.



**Mobile Warrior** – Sign up to receive text messages about 2012 Campaign actions and information.



**Facebook** – A direct link to CTA's Facebook page, where you can ask questions, get answers and share ideas.

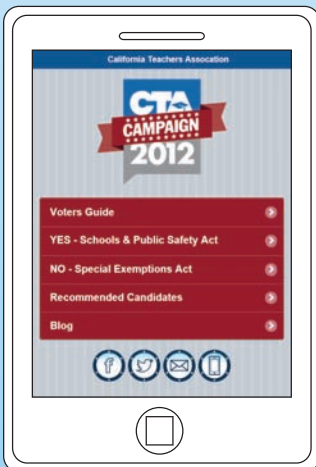


**Twitter** – Find out what's happening right now on issues you value.



**E-mail** – Share CTA's informative and cool videos, websites and photos.

## KNOW ON THE GO



Stay connected and in the know about what's going on for Campaign 2012 by visiting the new CTA Campaign website at [www.cta.org/campaign2012](http://www.cta.org/campaign2012).

We even developed **THIS** simplified mobile-friendly version just for you. It's easy to set up.



## JOIN THE CONVERSATION.

This election cycle, join in the conversation on Facebook and Twitter.



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**Stop Special Exemptions**



Follow us on Twitter  
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2012

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# VOTER GUIDE

Polls don't win elections.  
Votes do.

- \* Your ballot will look different this year – think 7's.
- \* Learn.
- \* Once you've voted, share this Voter Guide with family and friends.
- \* Above all – VOTE!

## → YOUR BALLOT WILL LOOK DIFFERENT THIS YEAR.

Why? This is the first year for open primaries – your ballot will LOOK DIFFERENT. Your incumbent may not be listed because of redistricting. You may see two Democrats or two Republicans running for the same seat.

Recall that Prop. 20 of 2010 upheld the redistricting process and the State Supreme Court referred the Redistricting Commission's plan to a referendum – that is Prop. 40. In all honesty, we were nervous about the redistricting process, but the Citizens Redistricting Commission did a good job.

New this year is your ability to register to vote online. We all have until Oct. 22 to register at [registertovote.ca.gov](http://registertovote.ca.gov). The process is pretty easy. Have your driver's license number ready.

## → VOTER CHECKLIST – THINK 7'S

Mail-In Voters: Mail your ballot within 7 days of receiving it OR a MINIMUM of 7 working days PRIOR to the election. Why? Budget cuts have slowed mail delivery in many places, and you want your vote to count!

If you don't cast your ballot via the mail within those 7 days, WALK your ballot in to any polling place or county election office. For details, contact your county election office or visit [cta.org/elections](http://cta.org/elections).

## → LEARN

All the state Voter Information Guides are to be mailed by Oct. 16, so read yours carefully. Use this *Voter Guide* and the *Information Guide* to make good choices that will support California public schools, enhance teaching and learning, and protect the middle class.

Know that your colleagues consider and recommend to you the candidates and issue positions listed on the next two pages. CTA's recommendation process is outlined on the last page of this *Voter Guide*.

## → SHARE

Vote in advance and make your vote count! Once you've reviewed this *Voter Guide*, leave it at your doctor's office, share it with neighbors or use it as a discussion guide.

## VOTER CHECKLIST BY DATE

### Oct. 8-30

Apply to VOTE BY MAIL at your county election office. ✓

### Oct. 22

LAST DAY to register to vote for the November General Election. (The Voter Registration Form may be submitted online, by mail or in person to the Department of Motor Vehicles or any National Voter Registration Act designated agency.) ✓

### Oct. 30

Last Day for new residents to register to vote. ✓

### Nov. 6

GENERAL ELECTION DAY  
Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. ✓





2012

CTA

# GUIDE TO BALLOT INITIATIVES



## → YES ON PROP. 30

### *Schools and Local Public Safety Protection*

Proposition 30 is the *only* initiative that stops the cuts to education and public safety and helps pay down the state's massive deficit. It temporarily raises income taxes on the wealthiest in California and puts new revenue for schools in a special fund Sacramento politicians can't touch. It provides strict accountability requirements and annual audits to ensure money gets to local schools. Failure to pass Prop. 30 would mean \$6 billion in immediate new cuts to schools and colleges.



## → NO ON PROP. 31

### *Spending Cap*

Proposition 31, put on the ballot primarily by business interests, imposes an artificial spending cap on state programs by placing "pay-as-you-go" restrictions on the state budget, locking school funding into current dismal levels. It grants the governor unilateral authority to cut state programs during fiscal emergencies.



## → NO ON PROP. 32

### *Special Exemptions*

It's not what it seems. This deceptive measure claims to be about stopping special interest money in politics, but it actually prevents educators and other union members from having a voice, while its special exemptions allow Super PACs, corporate special interests and billionaires to spend unlimited amounts on campaigns and politics.



## → YES ON PROP. 35

### *Tougher Penalties for Sex Traffickers*

Proposition 35, sponsored by Californians Against Sexual Exploitation (CASE), increases penalties for human traffickers, requires convicted sex traffickers to register as sex offenders, requires sex offenders to disclose their Internet accounts, and requires criminal fees from traffickers to pay for services to help victims.



## → YES ON PROP. 40

### *State Senate Redistricting*

This is a referendum on the newly drawn Senate district lines adopted by the State Redistricting Commission. A yes vote maintains those lines and stops a misguided attempt by a small group of Senate Republican leaders to have them rescinded.





# CTA'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE NOV. 6 GENERAL ELECTION

## *State Assembly*

AD 02 Wes Chesbro  
AD 04 Mariko Yamada  
AD 07 Roger Dickinson  
AD 08 Ken Cooley  
AD 09 Richard Pan  
AD 10 Michael Allen  
AD 11 Jim Frazier  
AD 13 Susan Eggman  
AD 14 Susan Bonilla  
AD 15 Nancy Skinner  
AD 16 Joan Buchanan  
AD 17 Tom Ammiano  
AD 18 Abel Guillen  
AD 19 Phil Ting  
AD 21 Adam Gray  
AD 22 Kevin Mullin  
AD 24 Rich Gordon  
AD 25 Bob Wieckowski  
AD 27 Nora Campos  
AD 28 Paul Fong  
AD 29 Mark Stone  
AD 30 Luis Alejo  
AD 32 Rudy Salas  
AD 36 Steve Fox  
AD 37 Das Williams  
AD 38 Edward Headington  
AD 39 Richard Alarcón  
AD 40 Russ Warner  
AD 41 Chris Holden  
AD 42 Mark Orozco  
AD 43 Mike Gatto  
AD 45 Bob Blumenfield  
AD 46 Adrin Nazarian  
AD 47 Joe Baca Jr.  
AD 48 Roger Hernández

AD 49 Edwin Chau  
AD 50 Betsy Butler  
AD 52 Norma Torres  
AD 53 John Pérez  
AD 54 Holly Mitchell  
AD 56 Victor Manuel Pérez  
AD 58 Cristina Garcia\*  
AD 59 Reginald Jones-Sawyer  
AD 61 Jose Medina  
AD 62 Steven Bradford  
AD 63 Anthony Rendon  
AD 64 Isadore Hall III  
AD 65 Sharon Quirk-Silva  
AD 66 Al Muratsuchi  
AD 78 Toni Atkins  
AD 79 Shirley Weber  
AD 80 Ben Hueso

## *State Senate*

SD 03 Lois Wolk  
SD 05 Cathleen Galgiani  
SD 09 Loni Hancock  
SD 11 Mark Leno  
SD 13 Sally Lieber  
SD 15 Jim Beall  
SD 17 Bill Monning  
SD 19 Hannah-Beth Jackson  
SD 21 Star Moffatt  
SD 25 Carol Liu  
SD 27 Fran Pavley  
SD 31 Richard Roth  
SD 33 Ricardo Lara  
SD 35 Roderick Wright  
SD 39 Marty Block

*\* Pending State Council  
ratification*

For more information, go to [www.cta.org/campaign2012](http://www.cta.org/campaign2012).





# CTA RECOMMENDATION PROCESS

The basic steps of CTA's recommendation process:



Photo by Jeff Walters

## → CTA'S RECOMMENDATION PROCESS STARTS WITH YOU

CTA's recommendations for all elections are made by CTA members focused on what will best serve California's public education system and the needs of our students. Our process for recommending candidates and positions is rigorous, involving local teachers and education support professionals from throughout California. The Political Involvement Committee (PIC) facilitates and reviews the recommendation process.

It begins with a CTA member committee that conducts in-depth interviews with each candidate, and then makes preliminary recommendations to the CTA Board of Directors. These recommendations are then decided by CTA's top governing body, the 800-member State Council of Education. Candidates must receive 60 percent or more of the vote of State Council members. As always, these are recommendations, and the final decision belongs with you.

## → GET OUT AND VOTE!

CTA President Dean Vogel, Vice President Eric Heins and Secretary-Treasurer Mikki Cichocki encourage you to Get out and Vote! [www.cta.org/vote](http://www.cta.org/vote)







YES  
ON 30

# IS IT TIME TO STOP PLAYING SCROOGE WITH OUR CHILDREN'S EDUCATION?

★ SUPPORT PUBLIC SCHOOLS: VOTE YES ON PROP. 30

By Sherry Posnick-Goodwin  
Photos by Scott Buschman



*Oh! But he was a tight-fisted hand at the grindstone, Scrooge! The cold within him froze his old features, nipped his pointed nose, shrivelled his cheek, stiffened his gait; made his eyes red, his thin lips blue; and spoke out shrewdly in his grating voice.*

—Charles Dickens



**OVERCROWDED CLASSROOMS.** Dilapidated schools. No money for art, music, foreign language, libraries, counselors, sports, textbooks, technology, paper or pencils.

Bah! Humbug!

If Ebenezer Scrooge were alive today, he might utter those words when asked to pay his fair share to support students — especially poor ones — whom he callously referred to as the “the surplus population.”

Our state, alas, has been playing Scrooge to students for decades. Schools are overcrowded, run-down and struggling to provide a well-rounded education to students — especially in low-income communities.

Renewing its commitment to public education might put California on the road to recovery. Studies show we spend \$2,850 per student less than the national average — about \$71,000 less per classroom than the average school in America.

Our schools need new revenue, so CTA joins Gov. Jerry Brown in supporting Prop. 30. It requires the wealthiest California residents to pay a little more in taxes, temporarily, in order to avoid billions in additional cuts to schools and colleges. Prop 30 is the only initiative that protects public education and addresses the state's chronic budget shortfall.

Scrooge, of course, would say it's not his problem: "It's enough for a man to understand his own business and not to interfere with other people's. Mine occupies me constantly."

But shouldn't education be everybody's business? Education is the engine to improve the economy and will fuel the future for California's next generation. So isn't it time for California to stop playing Scrooge and invest in public education instead of making more cuts?

California has an opportunity to mend its miserly ways and rescue public education this November. It won't be easy. But we can work together to pass Proposition 30, which makes billions in new funding available. That money is desperately needed to stop the cuts.

It took three ghosts to transform Scrooge's attitude. So now, with Halloween just around the corner, dear reader, we have three ghosts of our own to behold: The Ghost of Education Past, The Ghost of Education Present, and The Ghost of Education Yet to Come. It is hoped their presence will be a haunting reminder of what we had, what we have already lost, and what we stand to lose if Proposition 30 does not pass.



Chad Dixon is concerned about class size. "As a Republican, I think we need to pass Prop. 30. We can't afford any more cuts. Public education is our future."

**PROP 30  
WILL HELP**

**OPINION** Education has always been a political football, but now we're playing with a flat ball.  
— Pam Baugher





**WITHOUT NEW REVENUE**, an additional \$6 billion in cuts to schools and universities will have to be made – immediately. Our schools cannot afford any more cuts. Proposition 30, called the Schools and Local Public Safety Protection Act, will help provide resources for education and public safety services by:

- Raising income taxes for seven years on the highest earners by 3 percent, with smaller increases on lower incomes. However, individuals making below \$250,000 and families making below \$500,000 will pay no additional income tax. This temporary tax lasts seven years.
- Increasing the sales tax by one quarter of 1 percent for four years. (This rate is still a much smaller rate than existed until July 2011, when the 1 cent sales tax extension expired.)
- Guaranteeing that new revenue will go to education.
- Balancing the budget and helping pay down California's debt, which was built up by years of gimmicks, borrowing and phony solutions.



# The Ghost of Education PAST

*“Who are you?” asked Scrooge.  
“Ask me who I was,” said the spirit.  
“Who were you then?” said Scrooge,  
raising his voice.*

**BELIEVE IT OR NOT,** California’s schools were once the envy of the nation because schools were well funded. In 1972, California ranked 12th nationally in per-pupil spending (as opposed to 47th now). From the 1950s through the mid ’70s, the majority of California’s schools had sports, music, art and vocational education. Even summer school — offering a variety of high-end enrichment classes — was free. The state’s Master Plan for Higher Education, adopted in 1960, mandated that all eligible students would be admitted to college. But things changed in 1978 when voters passed Proposition 13, which slashed property taxes by nearly 60 percent and made it almost impossible to pass new taxes by mandating a two-thirds supermajority to do so. Within a few years, California went from being first to worst in school funding.

Below are some recollections from CTA members at three districts reminiscing about the “good old days.”

## → BAKERSFIELD CITY:

### *Books, after-school sports*

“You used to be able to call down and order 100 books for your classroom, and those books would rotate through school libraries,” recalls Pam Baugher, a teacher in Bakersfield City School District from 1969 to 2009. “When I started teaching, every school had a counselor who was

actually allowed to be a counselor. We took a few field trips every year without any problem. In better times, all of the elementary schools had after-school sports programs open to all students. We had adequate supplies. Rooms were cleaned five days a week. There were lots of electives at the middle school, like shop and home economics. It was fun to be a teacher, and we were creative in our teaching.”

The former president of the Bakersfield Elementary Teachers Association, now retired and a school board member, says “everything changed” for the worse when Proposition 13 passed.

## → POMONA UNIFIED: *A nurse at every school*

“We had everything we needed,” Joyce Miller remembers of teaching elementary school in the district beginning in 1968. “Our cupboards were full of supplies, and we could go into the office and pick up anything else that we needed, such as art supplies. We had art teachers at the elementary schools and counselors at every school. We had a nurse and a nurse’s aide at every school. I had a classroom aide in my room every year.”

Miller, an Associated Pomona Teachers (APT) member, now works for the district offering professional development to school employees in technology.

District librarian and APT member David Bogardus recalls that every secondary school had its own librarian to help teachers develop curriculum and help with research projects for students. There was ample money for library books, field trips and enrichment activities for students, he recalls fondly. He now works at two high schools and, one day a week, at the district office.



## → JOHN SWETT UNIFIED:

### *Free of worries*

“Field trips were funded upon request. The district paid for band uniforms. Teachers and school staff never worried about layoffs, cuts in programs or having to forage for supplies. Each school in had a grounds crew. The district paid for bus transportation to school. There were school nurses. They put lights on the football field,” says Dean Colombo, reminiscing about when he was a student in the ’70s in John Swett Unified School District, serving several Contra Costa County communities.

The high school had four full-time counselors and a full-time school librarian. There were classes in French, German, Spanish and Latin. The district later added AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination), a program to help students “in the middle” succeed in college, says Colombo, now a teacher at John Swett High School.

FROM TOP: School librarian David Bogardus in the school library. Pam Baugher holds a class photo from the past. Dean Colombo shows off awards won by students.





# The Ghost of Education PRESENT

There's still music, but it's constantly threatened with being cut. After-school sports for grades K-6 were greatly reduced. Over the past five years, 108 teaching positions were cut, along with 344 classified positions, so class sizes are larger. Teachers have fewer supplies. Rachel Lenix, a longtime sixth-grade teacher at McKinley Elementary School, says teachers "barter" for paper and pencils they need.

## → POMONA UNIFIED: *Last parenting class standing*

Sixty million has been cut over six years. The school year has decreased by five furlough days. K-3 class-size reduction is gone. Secondary classes have 35 students or more. Half of school counselors were let go; a handful of nurses travel between schools. Two librarians are split between four high schools, with none at the middle schools.

More than 1,000 pink slips have been issued to teachers over the past few years, with 90 handed out last year. Adult education, which provided classes for 17,000 students, had \$11 million cut from a \$12 million program. The community has high unemployment and has staged protests because adults — including parents — need adult education for job training. Of the 20 who taught parenting classes in the adult school, only one teacher remains. Superintendent Richard Martinez says, "Everyone in Pomona Unified is working harder with less," and worries job burnout will happen.

## → JOHN SWETT UNIFIED:

### *How to meet students' needs?*

Since 2007, the district, consisting of four schools, cut \$5 million. One librarian serves four schools, and there are no academic counselors at the high school. (A vice principal serves as a half-time counselor.) The high school eliminated its AVID program for college readiness. The art teacher at the middle school was eliminated, and the high school no longer has French, German or Latin classes. Class size reduction for grades K-3 is gone.

Teaching jobs have been lost. The John Swett Education Association had 130 members in 1996, compared with less than 70 now. The groundskeepers and custodians were decimated. The district hasn't had a school nurse since the 1980s. The high school is under reconstruction, but the district lacks funds to complete the project, although parts of it continue. Students pay to ride the bus. The district imposed five furlough days. The high school band has survived, thanks to volunteers holding more than 20 fundraisers. Residents tried to pass two parcel taxes, but couldn't muster a two-thirds majority.

*"Spirit!" said Scrooge in a broken voice, "remove me from this place."  
"That they are what they are, do not blame me!" said the Ghost.*

**TWENTY BILLION HAS BEEN CUT** from schools in just the last four years. Approximately 40,000 educators have lost their jobs over the past three years in California, including nurses, counselors, librarians and classified employees. That means students are packed into classrooms like sardines. Sports, music, arts and science either have been cut or are on the chopping block. Money for basics such as paper, pencils and books is lacking. Students have been divided into haves and have-nots, since parents in affluent areas are able to raise funds to offset cuts. Furlough days have shortened the school year. Facilities are falling apart, with little funding to fix them. The Master Plan is in tatters: Colleges turn away thousands of qualified applicants and have drastically cut professorships, classes and programs while raising tuition. Here is a look at our once-flourishing districts now floundering.

## → BAKERSFIELD CITY:

### *Bartering for school supplies*

Over the past five years, the district has cut \$29 million, with reductions to truancy and drop-out prevention programs, after-school tutoring, pre-kindergarten classes, and GATE (gifted and talented education) programs, and the elimination of some magnet programs. Middle schools no longer have certificated librarians. Most counselors were cut; teachers say student behavior problems reflect this. Many junior high electives are gone; so are most field trips.



FROM TOP: Rachel Lenix barters for pencils. "It's scary to think students could even have more taken away." Shirley Alvarez. The "last teacher standing" after the Adult School laid off 19 of 20 who teach parenting classes.

# The Ghost of Education YET TO COME



John Swett High School Band students gather after school to practice. The band teacher is Vince Pizullo.

*“Are these the shadows of things that will be, or are they the shadows of things that may be, only?” asked Scrooge.*

**WITHOUT PROPOSITION 30**, our schools and colleges face \$6 billion in cuts this year. There will be more school employee layoffs, larger class sizes, and further loss of programs. College degrees may become something only the wealthy can afford. University of California administrators say they would have to raise tuition as much as 20 percent in January if Prop. 30 fails.

The good news: If Proposition 30 passes, we can put an end to these cuts and put California back on the road to recovery. However, school districts are planning for the worst. Here's a sample of some worst-case scenarios.

## → BAKERSFIELD CITY: *Ballooning class sizes*

The biggest elementary school district in the state could lose about \$12 million from its \$238 million budget if voters reject Proposition 30, so the school board recently approved a resolution supporting the measure. “Passing it will allow us to tread water,” says Pam Baugher, school board trustee. “We would just be able to keep what we have.”

If Prop. 30 loses, there might be additional loss of teachers, more furlough days and even larger class sizes, says Superintendent Rob Arias. Chad Dixon, a fifth-grade teacher at McKinley Elementary School, hopes his classes don't get any bigger. He had 36 students in his class last year, and 30 the year before. He says having such a large class made it more difficult to teach because he spends more time disciplining students.

## → POMONA UNIFIED: *Pink slips...again*

For the district, which has an annual budget of \$245 million, trigger cuts would add \$11.7 million to the district's existing \$19.3 million shortfall. If Proposition 30 loses, there could be additional

furlough days, school closures, and cuts to sports and visual and performing arts. The few remaining school nurses could also be eliminated, despite being the only source of health care for many of the district's low-income students. Class sizes could go up. All cuts, of course, would result in more pink slips.

Vibhuti Sharma has received a pink slip in each of the past five years. “It creates uncertainty for the entire school climate and is terrible for school morale,” she says. “It is harder for the children than it is on the teachers.”

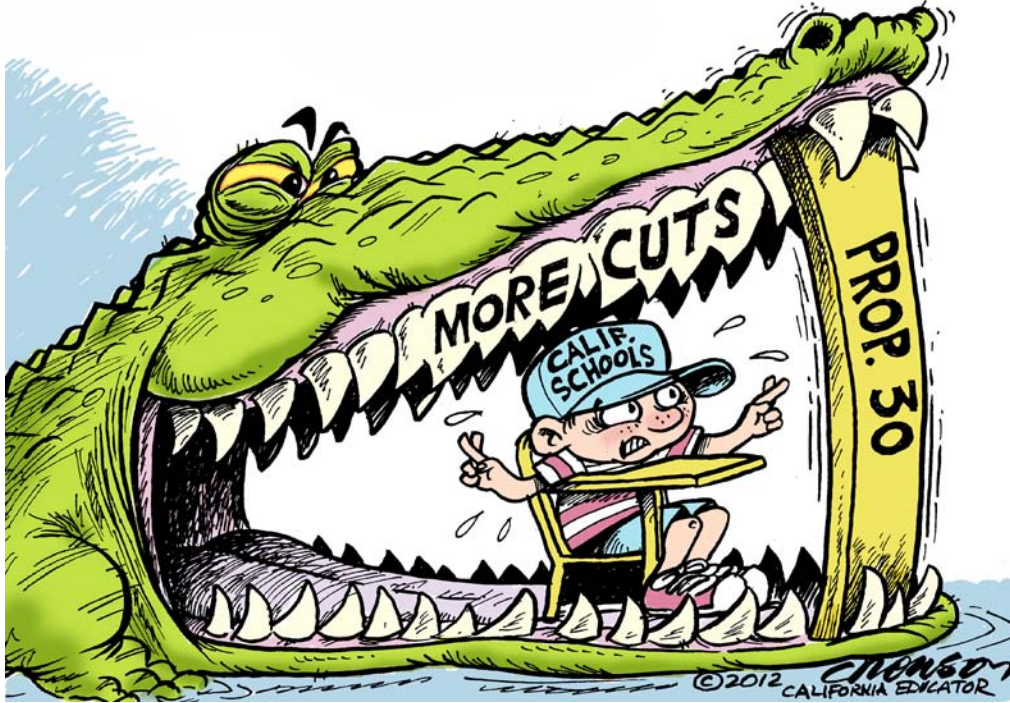
## → JOHN SWETT UNIFIED: *Cut to the bone*

“There's not much to cut these days,” says Superintendent Mike McLaughlin, but trigger cuts would reduce another \$700,000 from the already bare-bones budget. “We will have to cut school days. Everything will be on the table. It will be the worst hurt this district has ever seen. I'm tired of cutting and I hope it doesn't happen.”

Teachers say that the district could cut as much as one month of school, and they envision further layoffs, cuts in programs, increased class sizes, and further construction delays. “Whoever imagined that our schools would be in this kind of condition?” asks JSEA President Michael Kinsley. “Teachers are doing the best they can, but by any measure these kids are getting a second-class education.”

*Charles Dickens wrote A Christmas Carol in 1843. His message still brings hope today: By remembering the past and reflecting on the present, we have the power to change the future. Please join CTA and Gov. Brown in helping to pass Proposition 30. To see what you can do, turn to page 38.* 🎓





Richard Crowson



**Vibhuti Sharma** received five pink slips in five years. "Kids and parents look forward to teachers coming back. Telling them you're not going to be here is terrible for morale."

## PLAYING SCROOGE HAS HURT OUR SCHOOLS

**OUR SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES** have been cut by more than \$20 billion over the past four years, and more than 40,000 educators have been issued pink slips, including teachers, nurses, counselors, librarians, classroom aides, janitors and other vital school employees. The results:

- California has the largest class sizes and the worst ratios of nurses and counselors per student in the country.
- California ranks 47th in the nation in per-student funding.
- In some districts, school libraries have closed, the school calendar has been shortened due to furlough days, and there have been cutbacks in in sports, art, music, science, PE, after-school programs and career technical education classes.
- Tuition hikes make college, supposedly accessible for all under California's Master Plan, an impossible dream for many students.



## Confessions of a campus campaign activist

*Rio Hondo professor loves to phone-bank*

By Dina Martin

**MARTHA CARREON, A HUMANITIES PROFESSOR** at Rio Hondo College, is passionate about the importance of voting. She is also a die-hard phone-banker, and you will undoubtedly find her on the phone, talking to would-be voters about the importance of voting. She shares some of her thoughts on making a difference.

### *Why phone banking?*

Phone banking reaches those who are not sure how they are going to vote. One has a chance to enlighten them. If we are passionate about our beliefs and issues, the passion will show through as we talk to people. Sincerity is a plus in phone banking, and people sense it. Don't just read a paper to the person on the other side — connect with them.

Our issues will make a difference in our lives and our economy. Our students will be the leaders in our community. We need to nurture their enthusiasm and encourage them to participate.



Martha Carreon

They can then see that their participation [in campaigns and elections] made a difference.

### *What have you done in previous campaigns?*

During our board elections, I found it fun to talk to the people who make a difference in the outcome of our board. I always personalize the conversation, apologize for calling, identify myself and then give the spiel about the candidate.

I especially like to do it in Spanish because there are a lot of people out there who feel more comfortable in their native tongue. It's important to me to tell them that I am not just calling for their vote, but for the vote of anyone in the household who can vote — to encourage their whole family to vote. In other words, I emphasize the importance of voting and what difference it makes to them.

**I ESPECIALLY LIKE TO DO IT IN SPANISH BECAUSE THERE ARE A LOT OF PEOPLE OUT THERE WHO FEEL MORE COMFORTABLE IN THEIR NATIVE TONGUE.**

### *Do you have any special techniques you'd like to share?*

The technique I use is unique. I do not want to dial the phones. So — and this really works — I have two people dialing while I just talk. When one phone was ringing, I was already finished with the other, and so on. I never dialed, and everyone wanted to work with me. We go through the list quickly and have very good responses. I guess that is why it's fun.

### *What about this fall?*

This fall I'm working with students on our campus. I'm the "Latinos for Voting" club adviser. The main goal is to register students to vote and to educate them about the issues. Three dynamic students are trained on how to register other students. They are recruiting other students to help. It will be great to work with them — and it'll be fun.

## Your Vote Is Your Voice Student CTA gets out the millennial vote



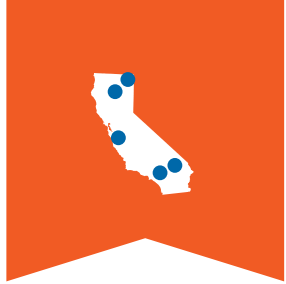
**STUDENT CTA (SCTA) IS ENGAGING THE MILLENNIAL GENERATION** by making voting fun and exciting. Check out the event "Your Vote Is Your Voice," which encourages students to register to vote before the Oct. 22 deadline, on the SCTA Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/studentcta/events](http://www.facebook.com/studentcta/events)).

SCTA leaders understand their millennial generation is the largest in history; currently about 4.5 million young people turn 18 each year. When they are all old enough to vote, they will make up 40 percent of the electorate. As a generation, millennials tend to be socially progressive and have been negatively impacted by cuts to education and lack of jobs.

Millennials have been targeted by those who wish to suppress voter turnout. Voter suppression laws, which target people of color, the poor and college students, have passed in 19 states in the past year. SCTA members understand that voting can help prevent that from happening here in California. "Rights are not something to sit back and admire. We must protect them, or we give them away," says SCTA President John Belleci, a student at CSU Fullerton.

The SCTA Fall Conference (Oct. 27-28) will focus on the importance of having a voice, union values, advocacy, community, and Propositions 30 and 32. They are mobilizing plans for what SCTA can do on campuses to get out the vote during the last week of Campaign 2012.





# San Jose Teacher concerned about working/learning conditions

Story and photo by **Mike Myslinski**

**IT'S FAIR TO SAY THAT** veteran eighth-grade science teacher and enthusiastic labor activist Kevin Thompson keeps the "union" in Union Middle School, where he works in San Jose.

Right now, union work means campaign work, so Thompson joined the ranks of CTA



Kevin Thompson

members across the state who are talking about Propositions 30 and 32 right up until Election Day.

"Somebody has to stand up," Thompson says of why he volunteers. "I am a classroom teacher reaching out to colleagues.

CTA staff members can go out and talk to teachers, but it's a lot different when teachers talk to teachers. It's a good idea. The mood in the room changes."

His teaching roots and dedication run deep. A former Santa Clara County Teacher of the Year, Thompson grew up in and around public education. His parents enjoyed long teaching careers — his mother worked for 10 years in his own Union Elementary School District, and his father retired after 38 years in the Mountain View-Los Altos High School District.

A past president of the 225-member Union District Educators Association, and the current UDEA bargaining team chairperson, Thompson sees the damage from cuts in higher class sizes and staffing reductions. He takes his campaign work personally.

"I'm a union guy because I believe in what we do, and I believe that we need to be protected," he says. "My working conditions are my kids' learning conditions. This fight isn't about more money for me — it's really about a better education for the kids that I teach. The only thing that will get me out of my classroom to volunteer is something as important as No on 32 and Yes on 30."



drive a couple hundred miles to reach them. "If I can help any of our teachers to understand the importance of this election and of voting, I'm good with that," she says.

colleagues. "Once people hear the issues, they understand. I haven't spoken to one person who didn't get it," she says. The Shasta Secondary Education Association member was honored for her good work when she received CTA's Ted Bass Teacher-in-Politics Award in 2006.

**Karen Siegel** (left), a retired music teacher in Alturas, has been traveling the highways and byways of Modoc and Siskiyou Counties talking to teachers, a handful at a time. They don't always agree with her and the conversations can get lively, but her colleagues appreciate that she takes time to

## Talk about being committed to the cause!

Story by **Dina Martin**

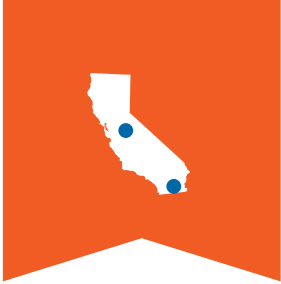
**Peggy Colwell** (right), a special education teacher at Foothill High School in Palo Cedro, has been politically involved since she was 10. Although she lives and works in a conservative area, she hasn't run into any problems talking about the election issues with



## Rim of the World: Good food, good conversation, good company

**RIM OF THE WORLD TEACHERS ASSOCIATION** sponsored a back-to-school barbecue where discussions centered on working with like-minded groups, school funding (Prop. 30), the ability to advocate for schools (Prop. 32) and getting out the vote (Nov. 6). Cooking up conversation is Scott Hird, Bear Valley Teachers Association president, and California School Employees Association member Joyce Iliff.





# Working with the community to save public schools

*Modesto teachers stage neighborhood walk with administrators, parents*

By **Dina Martin**

IT'S ONLY MID-SEPTEMBER, but Kerry Castellani says she cannot keep enough "No on 32, Yes on 30" window clings on hand for members. The strategy committee chair for her chapter says the clings and the yard signs are going fast.

And members of the Modesto Teachers Association aren't stopping there. On their Oct. 5 furlough day, they are staging a massive walk through Modesto neighborhoods to reach out to local voters. Joining them will be administrators, trustees, parents and community members.

"We have well over 200 teachers signed up to walk 130 precincts," Castellani says.

The day will begin with a breakfast and news conference before the walkers fan out into the neighborhoods to distribute campaign fliers.

"We don't always agree with the school district," Castellani says, "but we do agree on Prop. 30. Our district will lose \$13.2 million if Proposition 30 doesn't pass."

Modesto Unified has been hard hit with budget cuts over the past few years. Teachers are now taking seven furlough days, including five instruction days. A \$13 million cut in 2009-10 resulted in the layoffs of 65 teachers, loss of sports and academic coaches, closure of school libraries and booming class sizes. Castellani teaches in the International Baccalaureate program at Modesto High School, where she has 39 students in an English class and 40 in her Theory of Knowledge course.

Wherever she visits, Castellani focuses the discussion on what has already happened in Modesto schools, and then veers into what could happen if Prop. 30 fails to pass.

"It would be ugly," she says. "People realize they don't want this to get worse."



Kerry Castellani

## "Professors at La Verne are wonderful!"

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- CTEL
- Education Counseling/PPS
- School Psychology/PPS
- Special Education: Mild/Moderate
- Reading and Language Arts
- Child Life Specialist
- New Learning Technology

### Bachelors

- Liberal Studies
- Child Development

### Masters

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- School Counseling
- School Psychology
- Special Education
- Reading
- Special Emphasis
- Child Life
- Child Development

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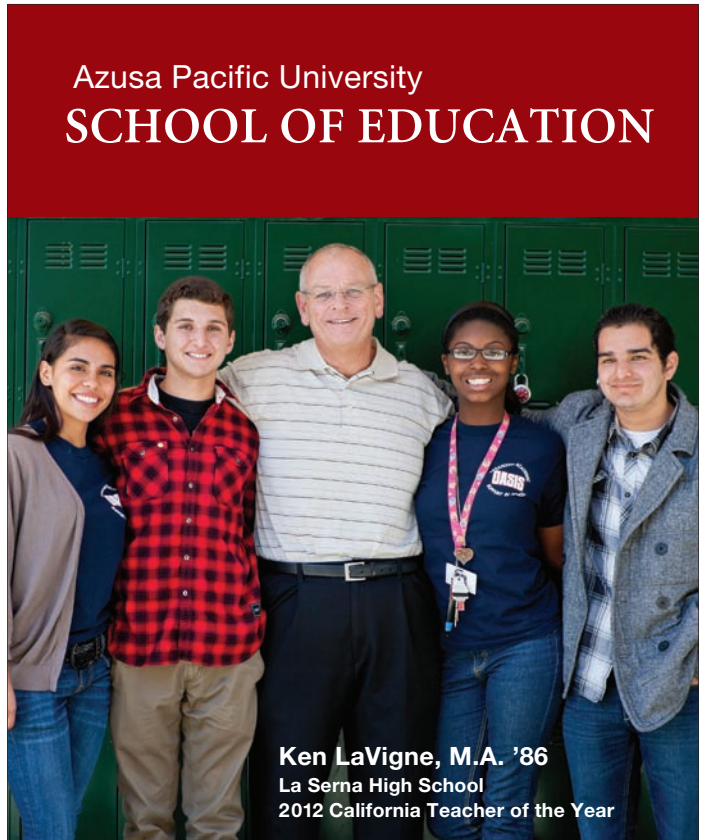
**Cynthia Noriega**  
B.S. Child Development 2012  
Head Start/Preschool Teacher  
Plaza de la Raza





## Imperial – Working with parents to pass Prop 30

**PARENTS WORK WITH CTA MEMBERS** to get out the vote and to encourage a Yes vote on 30 and a No vote on 32. Here Jessemina Nix, Kat Tijerina-Valencia and Kelly Sanchez, all parent coalition partners, work with the Imperial Teachers Association from the Ben Hulse Elementary Parent Teachers Organization.



**Ken LaVigne, M.A. '86**  
La Serna High School  
2012 California Teacher of the Year

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# WHAT YOU CAN DO FOR THE UPCOMING ELECTION

By Sherry Posnick-Goodwin

**YES ON 30, NO ON 32.** Madeline Shapiro repeats this phrase to educate others about the upcoming election.

“At my 88-year-old mother’s birthday celebration, I told my family ‘Yes on 30, No on 32.’ At the airport, I talked to a fellow passenger who literally wrote a note to himself, ‘Yes on 30, No on 32.’ At the doctor’s office, I spoke to the doctor and his staff.”

Shapiro is among hundreds of CTA members volunteering to work on the campaign full time this fall. But you don’t need a full-time commitment to make a difference, says Shapiro, an East Whittier Education Association member and a member of CTA’s Political Involvement Committee and the CTA/ABC Committee (Association for Better Citizenship, CTA’s political action committee).

“There is so much CTA members can do, and every little bit helps,” says Shapiro. “To start, take the time to become familiar with the Schools and Local Public Safety Protec-

tion Act (Proposition 30) and the Special Exemptions Act (Proposition 32), which can be done at the CTA website, [www.cta.org/campaign2012](http://www.cta.org/campaign2012).”

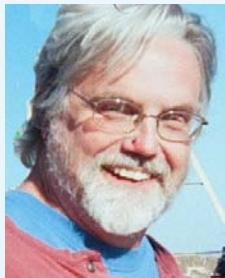


Madeline Shapiro

Voters are influenced by friends, family and community groups. Lawn signs, public opinion polls, and even a conversation in the next restaurant booth affect how people cast their ballot in an election, according to a recent UC Davis study.

“People still respect and admire the teachers in their own community, despite the anti-public school propaganda in the media,” says Shapiro. “You have a powerful and valued voice within your circle of family, friends, students and their parents, and in the organizations that you belong to. Use your voice to spread the message wherever you go.”

Here are ideas from some other CTA members for spreading the message: YES on 30, NO on 32.



**ANDY MERRIFIELD**, *California Faculty Association vice president for Northern California and CSU Sonoma chapter president*

**INDIVIDUALS:** Contact your chapter leaders and ask who is working on the campaign. Or contact central labor councils in your part of the state. Volunteer to work at a phone bank or walk precincts. Write op-ed pieces to local newspapers. Write letters to the editor.

**CHAPTERS:** Reach out to local association members and community members with e-mail, texting and robo calls to remind people to vote, solicit help in the campaign and recommend how to vote. If locals don’t have their own phone banks, they can work with other labor groups.

**THERE’S NO TIME?** Your colleagues they will have less time in their lives if we are unsuccessful. Their workload might go through the roof because others will lose their jobs. Or they might have lots of time because they may be looking for a new job themselves.



**YEN NGUYEN**, *Student CTA communications chair, UC Davis*

**USE TECHNOLOGY:** Tweet, post on Facebook, and use whatever form of social media you’re familiar with to inform, educate and inspire your members and followers to vote. Post facts about the propositions as your status updates, write on your friends’ walls to see how they’re voting, and share different pages and groups so that everyone you’re friends with will be able to read up on the facts. If you come across blogs with anti-union sentiments, post a response!

**GET OUT THE VOTE:** Hold voter registration drives. It’s easy and fast. Follow up with those you register to make sure they vote. Appeal to young people: In 2010, only 45 percent of 18- to 24-year-olds who were eligible to vote registered.

**SEEK OUT STUDENTS:** Get Student CTA members nearby involved. Help us help you!

SEE RESOURCES PAGE 22



**JOLENE TRIPP**, *Redlands Education Support Professionals Association president*

**WOW WITH A WEBSITE:** Our website really gets the word out ([www.redlandseesp.org](http://www.redlandseesp.org)). We took information from the CTA website and made it more specific to our classified members with links for how to get involved, talking points, quick facts, etc. It's a great resource for RESPA members and others.

**INVOLVE THE COMMUNITY:** Together, we are stronger. We held a political forum and invited the mayor, school board members, the president of the local firefighters association, the Chamber of Commerce, and the local PTA, plus the whole community, to join us. We made the forum interactive, so members of the audience could text their questions to panelists. We are planning precinct walking with Redlands city employees and other stakeholders. We are sending newsletters stuffed with information. We're an association on fire!

**TELL THE TRUTH:** Prop. 32 may look nice on the surface, but it's really about corporations stopping the voice of unions and silencing the middle class. We can't let that happen!



**PATRICK RIGGS**, *Eureka Teachers Association president*

**SET AN EXAMPLE:** Educate your friends and family members. Get five people to commit to voting "Yes on 30, No on 32." Encourage your colleagues at work to become involved in the campaign. Volunteer to do grassroots political work in support of local efforts to pass 30 and defeat 32.

**BE VOCAL:** Campaign out loud and in public so fellow teachers and community members know exactly what we believe and why. Reach out to other organizations to build strong political alliances. ETA has strong relationships with our local Central Labor Council, the California Nurses Association, and our county Democratic Central Committee. We are making phone calls, writing letters, posting on Facebook, walking precincts and doing whatever it takes to win.

**THE STAKES ARE HIGH:** We can just about kiss due process rights, collective bargaining, grievance procedures, job security and a whole host of other hard-won rights goodbye if Prop. 32 passes. If Prop. 30 fails, additional cuts will take a big bite out of our students' educational futures. We can't let that happen!



**HATTIE McFRAZIER**, *United Teachers Los Angeles, CTA/ABC Committee member*

**SPREAD THE WORD:** Educate registered voters in churches, club meetings and other social events about important facts regarding the propositions and how they will affect them and their children's future.

**TALK TO PARENTS:** Encourage parental involvement at local PTA meetings, town hall meetings and rallies. Share how our children need us now. They are our future. This can't wait.

**MAKE A DIFFERENCE:** The choices we make today will affect us the rest of our lives. We must get involved or we will face a dim future. It is up to us. If not us, then who?



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# Education Decisions: Obama vs. Romney

BASED ON THE CANDIDATES' RECORDS and considering the future of our schools and our jobs, the National Education Association and your CTA recommend Barack Obama for president. While we don't agree with President Obama on all education issues, we are working with him, and we *can* work with him. The choice is clear when you compare the candidates. Read for yourself.

To find more information, go to [www.nea.org](http://www.nea.org).

## Federal candidates

Where do President Obama and Governor Romney stand on education issues? You can [click here](#) to find out (you'll have to log in).

Education decisions made at the federal level impact California classrooms, too. To read about the candidates recommended by CTA members in congressional races, [click here](#) (you'll have to log in).

CTA members: Don't have a password to log in to the members-only area yet? [Click here](#) to register.

### HIGHER EDUCATION

The president has consistently promoted affordable access to higher education for all students. He signed into law legislation that provides \$36 billion over 10 years to increase the maximum Pell Grant award and \$2 billion for community colleges. He fought student loan interest rate hikes.

The governor has continually supported policies to cut funding to higher education and would support increasing the number of for-profit higher education institutions. His education plan calls for cuts in federal funding for colleges because "it helped fuel the problem." He plans to roll back student-protection regulations in the student loan industry that curb fraud and abuse.

### TEACHERS UNIONS

The president also knows that educators are a crucial part of building and sustaining education reform and fully supports collective bargaining rights. The president fully supports workers' rights to form unions and opposes so-called "right-to-work" legislation.

The governor said he likes federal legislation that "reins in national teachers unions." According to the *Washington Post*, Romney is taking aim at teachers unions, charging that Obama is "unable to stand up to union bosses" whose "cause in life is preventing parents from having a meaningful choice or children from having a real chance."





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# BLAZING A VIRTUAL CAMPAIGN TRAIL

By Sherry Posnick-Goodwin  
Photo by Scott Buschman



LynnAnne Lange was recognized nationally for her cyber-advocacy.

**SO WHAT'S COOKING** in LynnAnne Lange's kitchen? It's not dinner.

This South East High School marching band teacher has the drill down pat: After arriving home from work, she plops down at her kitchen table, opens her laptop and sizzles on the Internet, where she advocates on behalf of public education. Lately, it's all about the upcoming November election.

She types [www.cta.org](http://www.cta.org) and clicks on "Campaign 2012" in the upper right corner of the screen. She's already been informed via the website about voting YES on Proposition 30 (it provides new revenue for schools) and NO on Proposition 32

(it silences the voice of teachers), so she clicks on "E-mail a Friend."

She e-mails lots of friends so they can make informed decisions about the ballot initiatives.

**I guess I'm more powerful than I thought.**

She's thrilled she can "cut and paste" various phrases on the site instead of struggling to find the right words herself. Next she goes on Facebook and sends "400 of her closest friends" an e-mail asking them to vote "Yes on 30, No on 32" and provides a link to the CTA website. She's done in 20 minutes and then starts preparing dinner.

"CTA makes this so easy," says Lange, a United Teachers Los Angeles member, who received an award for being one of the top 50 NEA cyber-lobbyists of 2011. "This is quick and easy. It's something I can do at home as an overworked teacher and single mom."

## ON CYBER-ADVOCATING FOR CTA:

I work long hours as a music teacher, and I can't be out there pounding the pavement. But this is something that I can do from my kitchen table. I can sleep at night knowing I am assisting in the political process and helping to educate voters not to be taken in by the lies of Prop. 32. It is deceptive and written in such a way that people can innocently vote the wrong way.

## ON CYBER-ADVOCATING FOR NEA:

All I did was respond to NEA's e-mail newsletters, which have a link that allows you to send e-mails to all your elected officials on various topics. I picked out the topics that were closest to my heart, regarding the arts, special education, protecting public employee pensions, and not cutting funds for education. This morning I sent out 10 e-mails to officials who represent me in the House of Representatives and the Senate. It took just minutes.

## ON WINNING THE NEA CYBER ADVOCATE AWARD:

I was really surprised to be recognized for this. I didn't realize it was a big thing; I thought they sent awards to everybody who e-mailed legislators. My daughter was surprised because I am not technologically advanced. I guess I'm more powerful than I thought.

## ON TEACHER EMPOWERMENT:

Being politically active is critical now, and we've been complacent much too long. We have to take back our country. It doesn't take much time to be a cyber-advocate. It's so easy that everyone can do it. And I do get answers. Sometimes they look like form letters, and sometimes they are written responses from local officials. I strongly encourage other educators to take pride in having a voice in politics and to get involved in the political process.



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**Morgan Appel, Director of Education at: (858) 534-9273 or [mappel@ucsd.edu](mailto:mappel@ucsd.edu)**

[extension.ucsd.edu/education](http://extension.ucsd.edu/education)

FA12-2022

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## OCTOBER 5-7 CONFERENCE

### Region II Leadership Conference *Grand Sierra Resort, Reno, Nevada*

The conference enhances the advocacy skills of leaders and members to promote public education. Training sessions include leadership development, and internal and external communications. Find out more: [www.cta.org/conferences](http://www.cta.org/conferences)

## OCTOBER 15 APPLICATION DEADLINE

### NEA Foundation grants

The NEA Foundation awards grants to educators and education support professionals three times a year. The deadline for the next review period is Oct. 15. Student Achievement Grants support work that improves academic achievement. Learning and Leadership Grants support high-quality professional development activities. The NEA Foundation has awarded more than \$7 million in grants over the past decade to educators and ESP members. The NEA website lists dozens of other grants and awards available to teachers and students. Find out more: [neafoundation.org](http://neafoundation.org) and [www.nea.org/grants/grantsawardsandmore.html](http://www.nea.org/grants/grantsawardsandmore.html)



## NOVEMBER 6 ELECTION

### Presidential election

The stakes have never been higher for public education in California. Support students, schools and communities by voting **Yes on Proposition 30** and **No on Proposition 32**. Find out more: [www.cta.org/campaign2012](http://www.cta.org/campaign2012)



## JANUARY 4 NOMINATION DEADLINE

### CTA Human Rights Awards

CTA Human Rights Awards are given annually to CTA members, chapters and Service Center Councils to promote programs that advance and protect human and civil rights. Any active CTA member, chapter, caucus or Service Center Council may submit a nomination. The nomination form will be available on the CTA website. Nominations must be submitted by Jan. 4, 2013. Awards will be presented March 2 at the CTA Equity and Human Rights Conference. Find out more: [www.cta.org/professional-development/awards](http://www.cta.org/professional-development/awards)

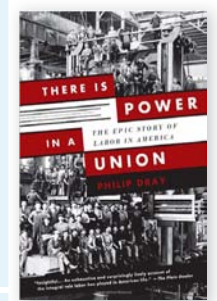


# OCTOBER 12-14 CONFERENCE

## CCA Fall Conference

*DoubleTree San Jose Airport, San Jose*

The 2012 Community College Association Fall Conference features Philip Dray Doubleday, author of *There is Power in a Union: The Epic Tale of Labor in America*. Workshop topics include preparing for bargaining and bargaining basics, budget analysis, verbal skills, building relationships, strategic planning, bargaining for part-time faculty and evaluating health benefits using CTA software. Find out more: [www.cca4me.org](http://www.cca4me.org)



# NOVEMBER 1 OPT-OUT DEADLINE

## Voluntary dues contribution

Thanks to voluntary contributions by CTA members this past year, the CTA Foundation for Teaching and Learning awarded more than \$350,000 in scholarships and grants, and CTA continued to fight against budget cuts and attacks on educators and public schools. New members are automatically enrolled in the default annual contribution of \$5 for the CTA Foundation and \$15 for advocacy efforts. Members may change their allocation or opt out. New members have 30 days from the date of enrollment; previously enrolled members may change their contribution during the window from Aug. 1 to Nov. 1. Find out more: [www.cta.org/about-cta/voluntary-contribution](http://www.cta.org/about-cta/voluntary-contribution)

# NOVEMBER 2-3 CONFERENCE

## AMAE 2012 State Conference

*Fresno Airport Holiday Inn*

"Educating Students for a World of Opportunities." The 46th annual conference of the Association of Mexican American Educators will feature workshops on Integrating Culture and Fine Arts Into Learning; Parents as Partners; Incorporating Technology; Academic Strategies; Policy and Legislation; Creating Partnerships and Accessing Community Resources; Accessing Resources in Higher Education; and El Fuego Nuevo. The keynote speaker is Dr. Pete C. Menjares. Find out more: Call Johnny Baltierra at (559) 978-5798 or e-mail [johnnyb101@comcast.net](mailto:johnnyb101@comcast.net).

# NOVEMBER 11-17 EVENT

## American Education Week

Distressed that 25 percent of the country's World War I draftees were illiterate, NEA and the American Legion launched American Education Week in 1921. Find out more: [www.nea.org/aew](http://www.nea.org/aew)

# NOVEMBER 16-18 CONFERENCE

## High Desert SCC Fall Leadership Conference

*New Tropicana Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada*

Celebrating more than 20 years of advocacy and member education by CTA's High Desert Service Center Council, this conference meets critical needs of locals and leaders. Service takes many forms, such as participating on a bargaining team, political action committee, rep council, or executive board. The sessions will help you better serve your members and provide you with the most current information to do the best job possible. Find out more: [www.cta.org/conferences](http://www.cta.org/conferences)

# JANUARY 11-13 CONFERENCE

## GLBT Conference

*Riviera Hotel, Palm Springs*

CTA's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Issues Advisory Committee (GLBTIAC) presents the annual CTA conference addressing GLBT issues. The conference is open to all CTA members and will serve as a forum to discuss a variety of subjects affecting the entire membership and California's youth. Workshops are organized in three strands addressing the needs of CTA members, students, and the community. Apply for incentive grants (deadline Nov. 4). Find out more: [www.cta.org/conferences](http://www.cta.org/conferences)

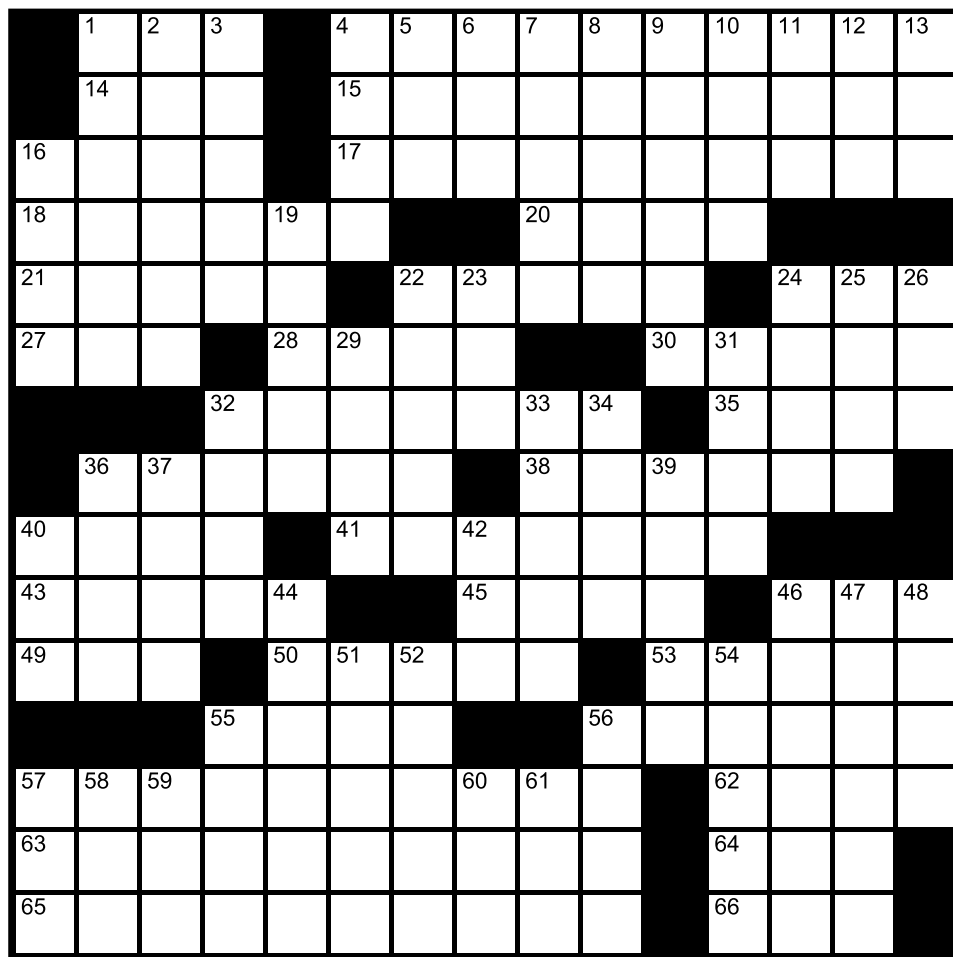
### CROSSWORD SOLUTION:

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P	R	O	T	E	C	T	I	O	N	A	C	T
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# WHO'S GAME?

By Craig Hamilton

This feature was suggested by CTA members. Find the solution on page 45. Enjoy!



## ACROSS

1. Fresno to Bakersfield dir.
4. Gave blood to
14. Start of a title of a highly recommended work
15. Part 2 of title: 2 words
16. Payment to get out of jail
17. Slugs and snails, in a biology class
18. Take into custody
20. Gets it wrong
21. Proponent of the highly recommended work
22. Emma Stone film of 2010
24. "Gone With the Wind" studio
27. First word of 24 Across's motto
28. "Billy \_\_\_\_\_" (Melville novel)
30. Part 3 of title
32. Drawbacks
35. Kennel cry
36. Part 4 of title
38. Part 5 of title
40. Sp. Miss
41. It may hold a service
43. "The Planets" composer
45. Shakespearian king
46. Place to enter a PIN
49. Eco-friendly org.
50. Emperor \_\_\_\_\_ Selassie
53. Malia's sister
55. Alternatives to CT scans
56. Subs (for)
57. "Fargo," "Palo Alto" or "Cedar Rapids"
62. Put in a hole
63. Part 6 of title
64. End of title
65. It keeps a space capsule from burning up
66. Your, of yore

## DOWN

1. Rubbernecker
2. Cooks eggs, in a way
3. Conger catcher
4. USAF noncom
5. Sony rival
6. Sounds of satisfaction
7. Students take them in class
8. Apologetic
9. Like an ikebana arrangement
10. Snail mail agcy.
11. \_\_\_\_\_ Paulo, Brazil
12. Finish
13. Orthodontist's deg.
16. Southern California?
19. Woman with multiple personalities
22. Draw out
23. Spots
24. Dr. exam
25. Oldman or Coleman
26. Civil rights leader, for short
29. Segment of a school course
31. Follow orders
32. Degrees held by many CEOs
33. Cosmetician Lauder
34. Cake maker \_\_\_\_\_ Lee
36. With 47 Down, another name for the highly recommended work
37. CTA affiliate led by Warren Fletcher
39. Language of Iran
40. That girl
42. Everything
44. "\_\_\_\_\_ Company" (TV sitcom)
46. In and of itself
47. See 36 Down
48. Numerous
51. Letter after gee
52. Question asked at the Last Supper
54. Up, in baseball
55. Barack's opponent
56. Transmit
57. Speedometer meas.
58. What comes out of a mine
59. U.S. broadcaster overseas
60. Make a knot
61. "ur sooooo funny"



**SCHEDULED COURSES:**  
NEW! Scheduled Classes coming to your area soon.

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