Robert Varela Rodriguez is serving his second year of a two-year term on the Board as the CTA-NEA Coordinating Director, a term that expires on June 25, 2018.

As the CTA-NEA Coordinating Director, he has statewide responsibilities on the Board, representing the numerous California educators serving on the NEA Board. A passionate educator and longtime union activist, his 12 years of teaching have included working at the elementary, middle school, special day class and resource specialist levels.

Rodriguez has represented California on the National Education Association Board of Directors for five years, and was the NEA Hispanic Caucus Pacific Region Director, as well as serving on the NEA Budget Committee.

He served for two years as president of the San Bernardino Teachers Association, and three years as vice president. He also served for seven years as a delegate to the CTA State Council of Education.

“Teaching is a passion,” he says. “I always knew I wanted to be a teacher. My passion for learning and reading made teaching a natural fit for me. Teaching students with special needs is extremely rewarding. I feel accomplished each time I help a child learn how to read.”

He holds a master’s degree in education from CSU-San Bernardino.

Rodriguez lives in Riverside.