## Eric C. Heins, CTA Vice President

More than two decades of advocacy for the education profession at the local, state and national levels has prepared CTA Vice President Eric C. Heins for his new leadership team role.

His passion for union work shows. He believes in connecting core union values with the power of the 325,000-member CTA gained through organizing, negotiating and advocating to create a stronger teaching profession and a stronger union.

Skilled in dealing with the media, Heins has done numerous interviews, TV news shows and editorial board meetings in recent years as part of various CTA campaigns against education cuts, pink slips and larger class sizes, among other battles.

He was elected vice president directly from his position as a member of the CTA Board of Directors, where he served about five years, representing thousands of educators and education support professionals in all of Contra Costa County and most of Alameda County.

A 21-year teaching veteran, his advocacy for at-risk students runs deep. He chaired the CTA Quality Education Investment Act Workgroup, charged with monitoring the progress of the CTA-sponsored QEIA, the landmark 2006 reform law. This program provides nearly \$3 billion for proven intervention reforms at about 500 of our schools of greatest need over eight years.

Heins also chaired the pivotal CTA Teacher Evaluation Workgroup, which adopted new guidelines in spring 2011 stressing that reforms for teacher assessments must focus on strengthening the teaching profession and improving student learning, not punishing educators. He was also an active member of CTA's Elementary and Secondary Education Act Reauthorization Workgroup.

In addition, he represented local Bay Area teachers for six years as a California member of the National Education Association Board of Directors. He is a past president of the Pittsburg Education Association and was bargaining chair for that chapter during its five-day strike in June 2000. He was chair of the CTA Alcosta Service Center Council. He also monitored education issues as CTA's liaison to the State Board of Education, and was on the steering committee of the California Safe Schools Coalition.

Active on many human rights issues, Heins was a cadre trainer for GLBT leadership training and the "Breaking the Silence" workshops. He chaired the CTA Diversity Committee and served on the union's Equity and Human Rights Conference Planning Committee.

He holds a bachelor's in music from Chapman College in Orange County. His master's in language and literacy education and his reading specialist credential are from the University of California at Berkeley. Born in Amsterdam, he speaks fluent Dutch. Heins lives in San Francisco.





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