

# Vote 4 CA Students

## A CALL TO ACTION

*A Message from Your President*

Being a Student CTA member means **you are connected to others like you who are passionate about education**. It gives you the opportunity to **be a positive change in your community**.

Our core values state that we believe in teacher quality, community outreach, diversity, and political action. This is the **time to take action across the state**.

Please stay connected by reading about the propositions and candidates we support in this newsletter and by checking us out on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/studentcta](http://www.facebook.com/studentcta).

Let's **rock the vote** and increase voter registration at our local campuses, and **stay informed** regarding the latest news that impact the educational field.

We are the hope for a better future and we need to stand together to make a difference.

In Unity,  
Areli Dohner-Chavez



### Inside this issue:

Who is Sabo Cat?	2
SCTA on Facebook	2
Register to Vote by Mail	3
Get Informed	3
The Propositions	3
CTA Election 2010	4
Why these Candidates?	4
Why these Initiatives?	4
Fall Leadership	5
Sabo Cat Award	5
The ABCs of School Bullying	6
Chapter Updates	6
Featured Member Benefit	6
Calendar	7
CCTC Report	7



Students Today, Super Educators Tomorrow



*See Page 5 for Details on the Fall Leadership Conference*

## A New Vision for Student CTA

Having a vision and core values helps Student CTA be able to help and inform its members, be a support group, and allow it to grow. So what is ours? At our June Board Meeting, your executive officers worked together in creating just that: this year's new vision and core values.



Vision: Student CTA strives to be a recognized and collaborative organization that inspires and fosters exemplary future leaders in education.

That is our desired goal as a team for our entire organization. We want you to know who we are and how we can help, to encourage you to be the greatest that you can be and lead the way in our field of education.

*(Continued on Page 2)*

I CHOOSE TO TEACH!

A PUBLICATION OF THE STUDENT CALIFORNIA TEACHERS ASSOCIATION



## A New Vision for Student CTA

(Continued from Page 1)

Core Values: Teacher Quality, Political Action; Community Outreach & Diversity

This means that:

- We believe in developing highly qualified skilled and passionate future educators, prepared to address evolving challenges in the profession.
- We believe political action is a way to be proactive and informed, to gain a personal understanding of the issues that concern our profession in order to inspire positive change.
- We believe community service helps future educators develop, foster, and improve the community and create positive relationships.
- We believe in supporting a diverse membership and working together to promote a public education system that values the diversity of our state.

Not only do we want you to be successful, but we want to succeed in following our new vision and core values in order to better help our chapters and members like you. This process involves all of us. Now let's get to work on fulfilling our goal.

\*Kelsey Leachman, Northern Regional Vice President, (CSU Sacramento)



Like us on Facebook

- Share your favorite education resources
- Share photos from chapter events
- Share your concerns, ideas, and feedback about education and SCTA

[www.facebook.com/studentcta](http://www.facebook.com/studentcta)



STUDENT  
CALIFORNIA  
TEACHERS  
ASSOCIATION

### Lesson Plan Share Center

Check out the CTA Lesson Plan Share Center at the CTA website [www.cta.org](http://www.cta.org) (direct link: <http://goo.gl/1toO>) for lesson plans that have been designed by educators, for educators in order to improve student achievement in classrooms across California and beyond.



The black cat came to symbolize organized labor at the end of the 19th century. It stood for workers not trusting their fate to luck, and that organized labor was bad luck for bosses. He was named "Sabo Cat" after serving to fill the International Workers of the World's definition of sabotage and later standing as a symbol for direct action. Today's unions have roots in the labor movement and a commitment to organizing.

The Sabo Cat for the Student California Teachers Association was born in the summer of 2010 to promote the ideals and basics of unionism and political action to its members and to find a fun way to share photos and experiences, much like Flat Stanley, a children's book character that travels the world. He has joined the social media windstorm and now has a Facebook page in which members can share stories and photos, [www.facebook.com/sctasabocat](http://www.facebook.com/sctasabocat).

Sabo Cat sports the SCTA polo shirt and a smart pair of khaki pants.

Visit page five for information on the First Annual Student CTA Sabo Cat Award.

\*Margaret-Suzanne Bell, Communications Editor (Chaffey College)

# Whether You Are For or Against: GET INFORMED!

We will be voting on several initiatives in the upcoming election. While CTA supports Props 24, 25, 21, 27 and opposes 20, 22, 23, 26 – what is your opinion?

On November 2<sup>nd</sup>, will you be among the many walking up to the election booth and circling in your responses based on lucky numbers, important dates, or even a random pattern? Will you be the person who feels left out of the conversation in your classroom, because you haven't read the facts?

Get informed! Please visit [www.ballotpedia.org](http://www.ballotpedia.org) for more information on the upcoming propositions.

\*Beckah O'Haver, Executive Vice President (CSU Sacramento)

Don't Let Your Classes  
Keep You From Voting!



*Register to  
Vote By Mail*

**Y**ou don't have to worry about getting to your local polling station on Tuesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>. In California, any registered voter can apply to Vote by Mail.

As long as you are registered to vote by October 18<sup>th</sup> and apply for a vote-by-mail ballot by October 26<sup>th</sup>, you can get your Ballot into the local Voter Registrar's Office well before Election Day via your local post office. A great option is that you can chose to vote-by-mail on a per election basis or apply to have permanent vote-by-mail status.

No worrying about having to miss class or work to perform a civic duty.

It's as easy as 1-2-3 to rock your Pro-Education vote this year!

For more information on Vote By Mail, visit the California Secretary of State's website at [http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/elections\\_m.htm](http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/elections_m.htm).

## THE PROPOSITIONS

- 19 - Changes California law to legalize marijuana and allow it to be regulated and taxed.
- 20 - Redistricting of congressional districts.
- 21 - Establishes \$18 annual vehicle license surcharge to help fund state parks and wild-life programs and grants free admission to all state parks to surcharged vehicles.
- 22 - Prohibits the state from taking funds used for transportation or local government projects and services.
- 23 - Repeals AB 32 until unemployment is below 5.5% for four quarters.
- 24 - Repeals recent legislation (tax breaks) that would allow businesses to carry back losses, share tax credits, and use a sales-based income calculation to lower taxable income.
- 25 - Changes legislative vote requirement to pass a budget from two-thirds to a simple majority.
- 26 - Increases legislative vote requirement to two-thirds for state levies and charges. Imposes additional requirement for voters to approve local levies and charges with limited exceptions.
- 27 - Repeals state legislature redistricting law.



## CTA's Election 2010 Recommendations

With public education on the chopping block, never before have we had a need for qualified, education friendly political representatives. CTA makes a point to reach out to candidates before an election for an extensive interview to see where they stand on issues related to public education and the general welfare of our state. Below are the recommendations for the November election.

Governor Edmund G. "Jerry" Brown, Jr.

Lieutenant Governor Gavin Newsom

Attorney General Kamala Harris

Insurance Commissioner Dave Jones

Secretary of State Debra Bowen

State Controller John Chiang

State Treasurer Bill Lockyer

Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson

State Board of Equalization, First District Betty Yee

State Board of Equalization, Second District Chris Parker

State Board of Equalization, Third District Neutral

State Board of Equalization, Fourth District Jerome Horton

## Why These Candidates?

Voting has never been as important as it is this November. In recent years, education has been under attack. With dwindling funding and unrealistic legislation being passed, educators need to be educated on the candidates running for office this election. We have the ability to change the direction of public education in California by voting for candidates that support public education. CTA supports Jerry Brown for Governor and Tom Torlakson for State Superintendent of Public Education. Knowing whom CTA supports is not enough. You should know why CTA chose these candidates.

Jerry Brown supports California educators. He

- will increase jobs for California's future.
- will improve education.
- will protect the environment for long term prosperity.
- supports clean energy jobs plan.
- supports pension reform.
- will fight to protect civil rights.
- will fight to protect working families and consumers.
- will fight for worker's benefits and safety.

Tom Torlakson will:

- protect education funding.
- improve our state's public education system by fighting to improve student nutrition, physical education, give schools funding to close the achievement gap, and reduce the dropout rate.

- achieve lower drop out rates and close the achievement gap by bringing our schools back to the top five in the nation in performance and funding.
- maintain Proposition 98 as a floor for education funding.
- encourage technology as a way to engage students in the classroom and provide a professional support system for teachers and school support staff including classroom aides, bus drivers, secretaries, cooks, maintenance staff, and technology specialist.
- fund the modernization and rehabilitation of older schools.
- lobby members of the State Legislature and other members of CSU and UC Trustees about the harm spending cuts and fee increase are doing to our state's funding.
- enhance Cal Grants as a way to ensure the dream of higher education.

To find out more about the candidates visit:

Jerry Brown  
- <http://www.jerrybrown.org/>

Tom Torlakson  
- <http://www.tomtorlakson.com/>

\* Angelica Alvarado, Ethnic Minority Representative (San Diego State University)  
\* Jenna Taub, Past Officer (Alumni, California State University San Marcos)

Further info on Election 2010 can be found under "Issues & Action" at [www.cta.org](http://www.cta.org)



## Why These Initiatives?

### Yes - Prop. 24 - Tax Fairness Act

Proposition 24 ends nearly \$2 billion in special corporate tax loopholes and will keep the Legislature from making even deeper cuts in public schools, health care and public safety. These loopholes were directed at large corporations and oil companies with no requirement they create jobs in California. It's time to make corporations pay their fair share.

### Yes - Prop. 25 - Passing the Budget On Time Act

Proposition 25 breaks legislative gridlock by allowing a simple majority of legislators to approve the state budget -- just like in 47 other states. Meanwhile, Prop. 25 preserves the two-thirds required to raise taxes. It also holds legislators accountable if they fail to pass the budget on time. For every day the budget is late, lawmakers are docked a day's pay. No budget, no pay - and no paycheck later.

Source: CTA November 2010 Campaign Talking Points



# FALL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE 2010

November 13-14, 2010

CODE NAME: RESCUE SABO CAT

Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to attend **STUDENTS TODAY, SUPER EDUCATORS TOMORROW** in Berkeley, CA to further your training in education leadership and to save Sabo Cat from the evil league of anti-education villains.

DEADLINE TO REGISTER: October 15, 2010

Further details and registration information on this secret mission is available at [www.studentcta.org](http://www.studentcta.org)



Student CTA Presents the First Annual



## SABO CAT AWARD



To be awarded at the Fall Leadership Conference to the SCTA Chapter that shows the most Political Activism for the November Elections. Post your pictures with Sabo Cat and a description of your activities at ...

[www.facebook.com/sctasabocat](http://www.facebook.com/sctasabocat)

### What YOU can do to Make a Difference:

- o ROCK THE **V**OTE
  - o Register students you know and vote yourself!
- o ADVERTISE
  - o Post our Talking Points flyer or create your own flyer and post around campus.
- o POST ON FACEBOOK
  - o Inform your friends about the elections.
- o DO SOMETHING CREATIVE
  - o Get your chapter involved in a fun political action activity or event.

We are the HOPE for a Better FUTURE!

# The ABCs of School Bullying

*Tips for Parents and Teachers from Ken Druck and Jessica Malia*

## Bullying Can Happen Anywhere

Today, bullying is as prevalent as ever, perhaps even more so. The reason behind this is that today's "anywhere" includes not only the playground at lunchtime, but also cyberspace. Before technology such as cell phones and instant messengers, students were able to leave bullies behind when they went home from school each afternoon. But now, bullies can send messages to their victims through text messages on cell phones and instant messages on computers.

Because bullying is so difficult to escape, now is the time to talk to your child about how to handle a bully if faced with one. It's also the time to talk with your child if you suspect s/he is a bully.

## Five Ways to Handle a Bully

- Stay calm and alert. Consider the options and do nothing to escalate the situation.
- Walk away. Fighting isn't worth it. You do not have to prove yourself by fighting.
- Take a non-violent stand. Speak respectfully: "I don't want to fight you."
- Report it to authorities, but discuss with them how you will be protected from retaliation.
- Get away. Find safety or call for help.

## Five Ways to Prevent Bullying

- Conversely, parents often do not learn that their children are bullying other kids until they get a phone call from school or another

child's parents. If you suspect that your child is picking on others, here are some ways to intervene:

- Notice if your child lacks empathy, dominates others, is selfish or refuses to accept responsibility. This could be a warning sign of bullying tendencies.
- If your child ever engages in bullying acts, s/he should apologize to the victims and undo any damage, such as replacing stolen or destroyed property.
- Make sure your child doesn't hang out with other bullies who may be influencing his/her behavior. If s/he does, encourage new friendships.
- Help your child understand that physical or emotional abuse is never acceptable.
- Talk to your child, other parents, and teachers about what is going on. The more you know about your child's everyday activities, the better you can prevent at-risk behavior.

When parents talk to their children about how to handle bullying, they are better equipping their children to handle volatile situations on their own. By discussing problems before they escalate, conflicts can be resolved and school life can work for everyone.

*Ken Druck is author of [How to Talk to Your Kids About School Violence](#) and founder of the "Families Helping Families" program. Jessica Malia writes on education and educational media.*

The original article can be found at <http://www.nea.org/tools/14837.htm>.

For further information on preventing

bullying and violence visit Teaching Tolerance at <http://www.tolerance.org>.



## Check out this Member

*TSA offers discounts on products and services around California on entertainment,*

<http://www.tsaspecialservices.com>

### Best Buys of the Month!

**Six Flags Magic Mountain**  
General (Over 48")

**TSA Price:** \$25.00 **Save:** \$27.49\*

**SeaWorld San Diego 2 Days of Fun**

Adult (Ages 10+)

**TSA Price:** \$56.50 **Save:** \$10.00\* + Extra Visit

### Knott's Berry Farm

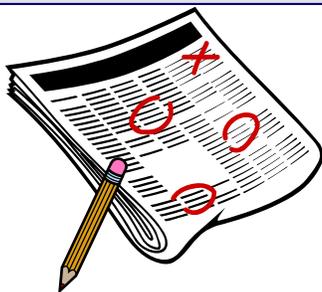
Regular Admission (Ages 12+)

**TSA Price:** \$28.99 **Save:** \$22.50\*

\*Savings reflect after processing fee of \$2.50 per adult/general admission ticket

*\*~\*Thank you Martha Schauer, from CSU San Bernardino for sharing this resource!~\**

# CHAPTER UPDATES



Chapters, if you don't send us articles and photos of the great and wonderful things that you are all up to, we won't have anything to celebrate and share in this newsletter.

Please send your articles, press releases, photos, etc. to Margaret-Suzanne Bell, Communications Editor at

[scta.communications@gmail.com](mailto:scta.communications@gmail.com).

# Mark Your Calendars!

## October 2010

1-3	Region 2 Leadership Conference (Nevada)
2	<b>CBEST and RICA</b>
15-17	Region 1 Leadership Conference (Asilomar)
<b>18</b>	<b>DEADLINE TO REGISTER TO VOTE</b>
22-24	CTA State Council/Student CTA Executive Board Meeting (Los Angeles)

## November 2010

<b>2</b>	<b>ELECTION DAY</b>
5-7	NEA-SP Connections Conference (Orlando, FL)
6	<b>CSET</b>
11	Veterans Day Holiday
<b>13-14</b>	<b>Student CTA Fall Leadership Conference (Berkeley, CA)</b>
25-26	Thanksgiving Recess

## December 2010

4	<b>CBEST and RICA</b>
4	Student CTA Executive Board Meeting (Burlingame) <i>Winter Recess from Dec. 22, 2010 thru Jan. 3, 2011</i>

## January 2011

8	<b>CSET</b>
14-16	Issues Conference: Unity and Advocacy in Public Education (Las Vegas, NV)
17	Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
21-23	Good Teaching Conference (San Jose)
28-30	Region 3 Leadership Conference (TBD)

For further  
2010-2011  
events, visit  
[www.studentcta.org](http://www.studentcta.org)  
and click on "Events  
Calendar"



## REPORT: California Commission on Teacher Credentialing AUGUST 5, 2010 - SACRAMENTO, CA

CTA Liaisons Present: Ms. Kathy Harris, Mr. Ken Burt, and Courtney Ziani, CTA Student Liaison

**Part 1- Overview of Meeting:** I, Courtney Ziani, attended the meeting of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing in Sacramento on August 5, 2010 as CTA's Student Liaison. Under the gracious tutelage of Areli Dohner-Chavez, Chance Carrico, Kathy Harris, and Ken Burt, I now feel well-prepared to speak to the Commission and to represent my fellow future educators across the State – thank you! A detailed agenda can be found at: <http://ow.ly/2zqZ>

**Item A.** Meeting topic overview:

**Topic 1:** Special Education Credentials; proposed amendments. STUDENT IMPACT: One of the more controversial proposed changes would require prospective speech-language special education teachers dual-accreditation: special education credential AND National Speech-Language-Hearing Association approval.

**Topic 2:** Testing companies contracted with CCTC. STUDENT IMPACT: CBEST / CSET / RICA / CTEL will implement computer-based testing. Sounds like great news, but despite what logic may lead you to believe, testing fees will **increase!** Aside from the environmental advantages, moving to computer-based testing provides: On-demand testing taking – anytime, at any computer testing center; High test-taker identity security, including fingerprinting; Less distraction working in cubicles; Candidates preference is computer composition, versus pen and paper; Unofficial scores for multiple-choice test portions are available immediately.

**Topic 3:** Initial teacher preparation program approval. STUDENT IMPACT: Stockton's Humphreys College applied for multiple and single-subject teacher preparation program accreditation. The Commission APPROVED their initial application and now the COA (Committee on Accreditation) will take over the application process from here.

**Topic 4:** Non-governmental & community-based organizations awarding credentials. STUDENT IMPACT: For-profit businesses, such as *I Teach Texas*, will soon be able to offer teacher-training programs. Risks include: Creating a "credential mill" devaluing the profession and creating a teacher surplus.

**Topic 5:** English Language Learner Authorizations Advisory Panel recommendations. STUDENT IMPACT: ELL coursework and/or testing will change based on the Panel's recommendations. But, current ELD authorizations will be "grandfathered" – meaning credentialed or currently matriculated prospective teachers are NOT subject to new testing or coursework.

**Part 2 - Recommendation for future meetings and action items:** The language "Teacher-Leaders" (requiring additional certifications, etc.) is to watch out for!

**Part 3 - Next Meeting:** September 30 & October 1, 2010 at Commission Offices, 1900 Capitol Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95811  
For any questions regarding the CCTC, email [cctc.scta@hotmail.com](mailto:cctc.scta@hotmail.com).

\*Courtney Woods-Ziani, CCTC Liaison (San Diego State University)

Be a  
★ Star ★

## Get the Recognition You Deserve!

Student CTA knows that you have beneficial, educational, and inspirational stories about you and your chapter.

Articles up to 300 words long (2-3 paragraphs) in DOC TXT or PDF format must be emailed to:

Margaret-Suzanne Bell, Communications Editor, at [scta.communications@gmail.com](mailto:scta.communications@gmail.com).

Submit articles about:

- Chapter Events and Accomplishments
- Personal Accomplishments
- Current Education Events and Issues
- A member emulating the principles of Student CTA, CTA, and NEA
- Articles about Professional Development, Community Outreach, and/or Political Advocacy

**Deadline for the December 2010 issue is  
Friday, November 12th at 5 PM.**



Find us on  
**Facebook**

[www.facebook.com/studentcta](http://www.facebook.com/studentcta)

### *Our Vision*

*Student CTA Strives to be  
a recognized and collaborative  
organization that inspires and  
fosters exemplary future leaders  
in education.*

## Student CTA

### 2010-2011 Executive Board Officers

<b>President</b>	Areli Dohner-Chavez (CSU Stanislaus) <a href="mailto:scta.president@gmail.com">scta.president@gmail.com</a>
<b>Executive Vice President</b>	Rebecca "Beckah" O'Haver (CSU Sacramento) <a href="mailto:scta.vicepresident@gmail.com">scta.vicepresident@gmail.com</a>
<b>Secretary-Treasurer</b>	Tyson Rath (San Diego State University) <a href="mailto:scta.secretarytreasurer@gmail.com">scta.secretarytreasurer@gmail.com</a>
<b>Communications Editor</b>	Margaret-Suzanne Bell (Chaffey College) <a href="mailto:scta.communications@gmail.com">scta.communications@gmail.com</a>
<b>Northern Regional Vice Presidents</b>	Jennifer Bailey (CSU Stanislaus) <a href="mailto:scta.jenniferbailey@gmail.com">scta.jenniferbailey@gmail.com</a>  Kelsey Leachman (CSU Sacramento) <a href="mailto:scta.kelseyleachman@gmail.com">scta.kelseyleachman@gmail.com</a>
<b>Southern Regional Vice Presidents</b>	Kristina Hohmann (CSU Fullerton) <a href="mailto:scta.kristinahohmann@gmail.com">scta.kristinahohmann@gmail.com</a>  Samantha Pullen (San Diego State University) <a href="mailto:scta.samanthapullen@gmail.com">scta.samanthapullen@gmail.com</a>
<b>Ethnic Minority Representatives</b>	Angelica Alvarado (San Diego State University) <a href="mailto:alvarado.scta@gmail.com">alvarado.scta@gmail.com</a>  Hoang "Yen" Nguyen (UC Davis) <a href="mailto:yennnguyen@ucdavis.edu">yennnguyen@ucdavis.edu</a>
<b>CCTC Liaison</b>	Courtney Woods-Ziani (San Diego State University) <a href="mailto:cctc.scta@hotmail.com">cctc.scta@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Past Officer</b>	Jenna Taub (CSU San Marcos Alumni) <a href="mailto:jtaub.scta@gmail.com">jtaub.scta@gmail.com</a>
<b>State Council Representatives</b>	Rachel Gonzalez (Chabot College) <a href="mailto:rgonzalez.scta@gmail.com">rgonzalez.scta@gmail.com</a>  Chris Pancoast (Diablo Valley College) <a href="mailto:chris.statecouncilrep.scta@gmail.com">chris.statecouncilrep.scta@gmail.com</a>  Carmen Reyes (Mt. San Antonio College) <a href="mailto:reyes.carmen0917@gmail.com">reyes.carmen0917@gmail.com</a>
<b>NEA-SP Resolutions Committee Member</b>	Chance Carrico (CSU Stanislaus) <a href="mailto:sctarep@gmail.com">sctarep@gmail.com</a>
<b>NEA-SP Advisory Committee on Membership Member</b>	John Belleci (CSU Fullerton) <a href="mailto:johnniebats@aol.com">johnniebats@aol.com</a>
<b>CTA Board Liaison</b>	Theresa Montaño <a href="mailto:tmontano@cta.org">tmontano@cta.org</a>
<b>NEA Board Liaison</b>	Gilda Bloom <a href="mailto:gmbloom@sfsu.edu">gmbloom@sfsu.edu</a>
<b>NEA Student Program Chair</b>	Tommie Leaders <a href="mailto:tleaders@nea.org">tleaders@nea.org</a>
<b>Consultant</b>	Gail Watts (650) 552-5346 <a href="mailto:gwatts@cta.org">gwatts@cta.org</a>
<b>Student CTA Office</b>	Annette Barroso CTA Human Rights Dept. P.O. Box 921 Burlingame, CA 94011 (650) 552-5345 (650) 552-5018/FAX <a href="mailto:abarroso@cta.org">abarroso@cta.org</a>

### Staff of the October 2010 "I Choose to Teach" Newsletter

Editor: Margaret-Suzanne Bell, Communications Editor. Article Contributors: Angelica, Alvarado, Areli Dohner-Chavez, Kelsey Leachman, Rebecca O'Haver, Jenna Taub, and Courtney Woods-Ziani. *Special thanks to Gail Watts and Annette Barroso for their careful layout and grammar checking.*