SPECIAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Barbara Schulman, Chairperson
Jennifer Moon, Vice Chairperson
Tyrone Cabell, Board Liaison
Pamela Greenhalgh, Recorder
Isabelle Garcia, Legislative Advocate
Stacy Begin, Consultant
Angela Marese Boyle, Consultant

MAJOR POLICY – Immediate Action

None

MAJOR POLICY – First Reading

None

MAJOR POLICY –Second Reading

None

OTHER ITEMS FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

NONE

REFERRAL TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

None

MATTERS PENDING

None

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. The Committee received a report from legislative advocate, Isabelle Garcia, who highlighted the following SEC bills: Ms. Garcia updated the committee on AB 455 (Medina), (pupil instruction: special education: blind and visually impaired: deaf and hard-of-hearing pupils) a secondary SEC Bill, which failed deadline on 7/12/2013 and secondary SEC Bill SB 368 (Pavley D) (teachers: added authorization in special education), which was Chaptered by Secretary of State—Chapter 717, Statues of 2013.

2. The committee spent much time working on a survey entitled, "CTA Education Survey on Special Education Services", regarding class size, service delivery models, IEPs, etc. Committee voted and moved to take a copy of the "CTA Education Survey on Special Education Services" to share at their morning district caucus meeting. The survey will be posted on www.cta.org/CTASpeEd2013.

3. The committee invited members from AST to make a presentation on the "2% rule". The "2% rule" provides the option for states to develop alternative assessments based on modified academic achievement standards for certain students with disabilities and to use those assessments for AYP purposes subject to numerical limitations.

4. The committee discussed and reviewed four questions from AST to SEC concerning the "2% rule". The research information was forwarded to AST.

5. **CTA Board Report**, Tyrone Cabell attended the Congressional Black Caucus in Washington D.C. While in D.C., he met and lobbied various members of Congress. The NEA/AFT held a workshop concerning parent trigger. The session was led by LaNita Dominic, a teacher from the Adelanto school that was taken

over by parent trigger. Be sure to sign up for CTA Conferences at www.cta.org. There are many grants and scholarships available to members. The GLBT conference will be held November 15-17 at the Rivera Hotel, Palm Springs.

6. **Chair Report,** Barbara Schulman welcomed all returning and new members to the committee. The chair appointed Michael Flores-Castaneda and Joyce Childes as new legislation sub-committee chairs. Also, the chair appointed Troy Liggins and Marylen Haines as the new policy sub-committee co-chairs.

7. **Vice Chair Report,** Jennifer Moon attended the "Adequate Funding for Special Education" coalition meeting in Washington D.C. The main issues of discussion included eliminating unnecessary state performance reporting mandates, IDEA/ESEA related issues, and to call on Congress to halt the automatic cuts to federally mandated special education programs.

8. The Committee received reports from liaisons:
   California Speech, Language and Hearing (CSHA), Trina Brown CSHA is interested in pursuing a workload vs. caseload model in public schools. There is currently a task force working on this issue. Feedback is needed from speech and language pathologists. Please send feedback to Trina at trinabta@gmail.com.
   Organization for Special Educators (CARS+), Alan Rawlins, (www.carsplus.org) reported that the CARS+ convention will be at the Hyatt Regency, February 28-March 1, 2014. Hyatt was once on the "Do Not Patronize" list (hotel is in the process of being sold).
   Advisory Commission on Special Education (ACSE), Kelly Connell Sandler and Rebekah Acord, provided the priorities for ACSE 2013-1014 which include common core, transition and diagnosis. Also, A ACSE is exploring how districts will make sense of the reauthorization of IDEA and ESEA and use it for decision making.
   California School Psychologists Association (CASP), Josie Meza Malik; (www.casponline.org). CASP has a new director, Heidi Holmblad. Her contact information is 916 444 1595. The fall conference will be held November 7-9, 2013. The conference will focus on "Collaborating for Save Students and Healthy Schools".
   Communities of Practice on Secondary Transition (COP), Ed Amundson, announced the COP upcoming Transition Conference which will be held in San Diego, December 2-4, 2013. COP has adopted a position of supporting a standardized high school "Certificate of Completion".