

March 29-30, 2014 State Council Report, CTA State Delegate,  
Vince J. Rosato

At present, RIFs are at an all time low, collective bargaining is going well across the State (West Contra Costa got 9% over three years and medical benefits back, for example; and others with many retroactive gains, besides reversals of take-aways). Ethnic Minority CTA program deadline is May 2nd and the NEA Drive for Public Education contest will begin at the May State Council. The impression has been that the Strategic Plan Implementation Group has been on the shelf, but the local presidents and delegates at the Service Center meetings will be ratcheting up the Plan roll out. The local NBI offered by Adriana Saavedra and advanced by State Delegate Rosato was taken up by the Negotiations Committee first reading of MAJOR POLICY for page 216-217, to add to page 217 a new paragraph after second full paragraph: “CTA believes that compensation for school district superintendents should be limited to a base salary no higher than 300% of the average teacher salary in the district in which the superintendent is employed, and all wages paid to the superintendent shall be limited to no higher than 325% of the average teacher salary in the district in which the superintendent is employed.”

In addition, NBI 1/14-4 was presented and APPROVED for immediate action:

“That CTA write policy restricting school district superintendent pay to 300% of the average teacher salary in that district.”

The committee moved to approve the NBI and the delegation approved it. “Excessive compensation of public officials erodes public trust. Income inequality is one of the most challenging issues of our time. Placing an upper limit on superintendent compensation is reasonable and financially prudent.”

Candidate recommendations were approved and a copy will be provided in the NHTA offices at the unit meeting as will be the 2014-15 pocket calendar recommendations. Bill Freeman was

elected to NEA Director, District 10 and Bill Sammons elected to NEA Director, District 12. Princess Moss received CTA recommendation for endorsement for NEA Secretary-Treasurer.

The following excerpts of Council actions provide an overview of the weekend's activity.

#### ASSESSMENT AND TESTING COMMITTEE

page E-1      A. MATTERS PENDING: NBI 6/13-21: Thar CTA investigate the impacts of California participating in Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium in the following areas: 1) costs, 2) impact on student learning, 3) time spent on test preparation and testing, and 4) readiness of districts to implement. If investigation proves not to be beneficial to public education, CRA will see the quick and urgent withdrawl (sic.) from SBAC.

page 2, VJR

#### SPECIAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

pages H-1 and 2      INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. AB 2057 (Bonilla) has an urgency bill to eliminate double-testing of students with special needs.

6. The committee received liaison reports about the Advisory Commission on Special Education (ACSE) holding three more Statewide meetings before November 2014, providing input to the Special Education Task Force. California School Psychologists Association (CSPA) provides trainign and supports for schools psychologists:  
<http://www.casponline.org>

#### POLITICAL INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE

page J-2

MATTERS PENDING

NBI 3/14-4 The CTA pursue and support legislation that would mandate all County Office of Education (COE) Superintendents and COE School Board Trustees be elected positions.

#### INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

The Political Academy Strand of the Summer Institute application deadline for teams of two or more is May 23, 2014. The application is available online and should be returned to Sharyl Caras at [scaras@cta.org](mailto:scaras@cta.org)

#### TEACHER EVALUATION AND ACADEMIC FREEDOM COMMITTEE

page K-1 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

2. Legislative advocate discussed teacher dismissal legislation and the Committee Opposes AB 2084 (Jones), and SB 843 (Correa) and a Watch position on SB 1164 (Liu).

#### EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION COMMITTEE

page L-1 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

CTA is continuing to support and advocate for the passage of AB1444, Mandatory Kindergarten.

#### SCHOOL SAFETY/SCHOOL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

page M-2 Regarding AB 420 and “willful defiance,” interested parties may express professional, operational and observational concerns, opposition or support regarding proposed legislation by hard copy to: Governor Edmund J. Brown, attn: Gareth Elliot, State Capitol Building, 1st Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814 [www.gov.ca.gov](http://www.gov.ca.gov)

#### COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

P-2 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Key testimony and CTA talking points on the Vergara case can be seen at [www.cta.org/vergara](http://www.cta.org/vergara)

Promoting Tom Torlakson for Superintendent for Public Instruction at [www.cta.org/campaign](http://www.cta.org/campaign)

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION COMMITTEE  
page R-2 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS  
Applications are being accepted at  
<http://www2.cde.ca.gov/cfccaspp/surveysave.aspx?pid=63> for  
Instructional Materials Reviewers and Content Review Experts  
for the 2015 Primary English Language Arts/English Language  
Development (ELA/ELD) Instructional Materials Adoption. The  
application period is from April 1-August 1st. Evaluating  
instructional materials for grades K-8 aligned to CCSS for ELA,  
H/SS, Science, and Technical Subjects and California ELA  
Development Standards.

RETIREMENT COMMITTEE  
REFERRALS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

page S-2 1. That CTA research avenues to assist retirees in  
legal action against a district when the district misreports  
information to CALSTRS, resulting in a reduction in the retiree's  
benefit and subsequent repayment of the amount overpaid.

2. That CTA develop, in collaboration with the Retirement  
Committee, a standardized informational packet addressing  
CalSTRS/CalPERS Defined benefits, Social Security Offsets,  
403(b) and 457 education, and disability insurance that could be  
used by locals in educating their members, specifically those  
who are newly hired.

page S-2-3 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS  
5. If your District attempts to prepare for the proposed  
legislative fixes for the CalSTRS by creating a reserve in the  
budget, this is an unreasonable request as any increased  
contributions would not become in effect in the current or next  
fiscal years.

12. Members who have worked with multiple employers

over their career, may want to request a CalSTRS Service Credit Breakdown to verify accuracy of their Annual Progress Report. Members may call 1-800-228-5453 in order to make this request.

The concludes the report of State Delegate Vince J. Rosato, for the CTA State Council of Education, 3/28-3/30/2014..