



December 14, 2020

[Coachella Valley Teachers Association](#)  
[California Teachers Association](#)  
[National Education Association](#)

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## Greetings!

Good morning! This is a short week, with Wednesday being a minimum day (except for our ECE teachers, who still get to leave early due to other contract language). Enjoy the break, get lots of rest, but most importantly follow the guidelines and keep yourself and others safe. We return on January 4th, 2021.

The CVUSD School Board Meeting is tomorrow (Tuesday) 12/15/2020. [You can join the meeting here](#) at 5:30 for Closed Session, and usually around 6:30 for Open Session. This is the first meeting for the newly elected board members.

About 25% of students have selected Hybrid as their choice when it becomes an option. The District continues to push the idea of teachers teaching simultaneously (via Zoom) to students at home and to students physically in classrooms. CVTA does not agree with this approach based on feedback we've received from our membership. Feel free to share your thoughts with us, but you may also want to consider sharing those thoughts with our School Board Trustees. You can [submit comments for the board meeting here](#). Here are their email addresses if you'd prefer to share that way:

- [silvia.paz@cvusd.us](mailto:silvia.paz@cvusd.us)
- [joey.acuna@cvusd.us](mailto:joey.acuna@cvusd.us)
- [blanca.hall@cvusd.us](mailto:blanca.hall@cvusd.us)
- [jesus.gonzalez@cvusd.us](mailto:jesus.gonzalez@cvusd.us)
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- [jocelyn.vargas@cvusd.us](mailto:jocelyn.vargas@cvusd.us)

Cal/OSHA has released some emergency temporary standards due to the COVID-19 pandemic. [You can read those here](#). Most notably is the piece about the District being required to share the data on positive cases if you request it. Take a look at the document if you are interested.

## Mind/Shift Newsletter

I subscribe to this educational newsletter from KQED/npr/PBS that is relevant to current educational issues. This week's newsletter is very interesting, so I thought I'd share some links with you. Just click the link to get to the story. Some topics discussed this week are:

- [How to grade students who don't turn in work or show up](#)
- [5 things we've learned about virtual school during the pandemic](#)
- [How parents can help kids who are scared and anxious during the pandemic](#)
- [Some families hope pandemic can spur change in special education](#)

## PD Opportunities from the CDE

The California Department of Education (CDE) would like to invite you to two upcoming webinars to continue our support for schools, educators, and students during the pandemic and provide training and guidance that help educators address equity and learning gaps.

The webinars will focus on Social Emotional Learning (SEL) and Effective Distance Learning and will be held on December 14 and December 16, 2020.

Both workshops will be available for viewing via Zoom and on CDE Facebook Live.

**SEL Workshop for School Well-Being (Monday, December 14, 2020, 3:00-4:00 p.m.)**

Coordinated in partnership with [Beyond Differences](#) and the [Social Emotional Learning Alliance for California](#), this interactive professional development webinar for educators will provide resources and strategies for building supportive connections with students in the virtual world across K–12 grade levels.

Zoom Registration: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_Zm2y6tkaSz6YhFo344nEdA](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Zm2y6tkaSz6YhFo344nEdA)

CDE Facebook Live: <https://www.facebook.com/caeducation>

**Effective Distance Learning Practices and Home-School Connections (Wednesday, December 16, 2020, 3:30-5 p.m.)**

Coordinated in partnership with leading equity groups the [California Association of Bilingual Education](#), the [Education Trust-West](#), and the [Parent Institute for Quality Education](#), this webinar will highlight evidence-based distance learning strategies that are working for students, with an emphasis on reaching and supporting students who are historically underserved in public schools.

Zoom Registration: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_UchvGNTgRECzcf8RxluhZg](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_UchvGNTgRECzcf8RxluhZg)

CDE Facebook Live: <https://www.facebook.com/caeducation>

**Thank you for everything you do...it does not go unnoticed! Have a fantastic break!**

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## In need of funds for your classroom?



Visit us online at [www.cta.org/ift](http://www.cta.org/ift)

**Empowering our Members**

To date CTA members have funded 408 grant projects totaling more than \$4.7 million. All CTA members are eligible to apply for an Educator grant (up to \$5,000) or an Impact grant (up to \$20,000).

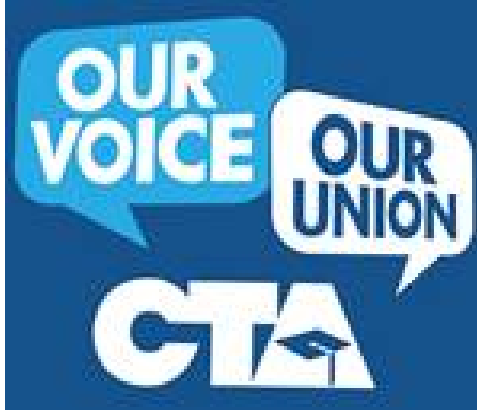
**Grant Application for 2021-2022 Academic Year**  
December 1, 2020 - March 31, 2021

Check out the Do's and Don'ts Funding Guidelines [here](#)

## Important Dates

- **December 14th** - CVTA Eboard Meeting 4:00 pm
- **December 16th** - Minimum Day for all sites...end of workday is 2 hours early
- **December 17th** - CVUSD School Board Meeting 5:30 pm
- **December 17th** - First Day of Winter Break (no school...first day back is January 4, 2021)
- **January 13th** - CVTA Rep Council 4:30 pm





- January 15th-17th - CTA Issues Conference
- January 18th - MLK Holiday

**Carissa Carrera**  
CVTA President

"You can't do it unless you organize."

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