

October 7, 2024



Coachella Valley Teachers Association

California Teachers Association

National Education Association

Join our email list!

Join our texting list!



WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9TH

4:00-6:00 PM

LA CAZUELA

52805 CESAR CHAVEZ ST.

COACHELLA, CA 92236

MEET THE TEACHER- ENDORSED CANDIDATES FOR CVUSD SCHOOL BOARD



Altrena Santillanes
Area 2
Thermal



Adrian Rodriguez
Area 4
Mecca



Trinidad Arredondo
Area 1
Coachella

WHY THESE CANDIDATES?

- ✓ Real Transparency
- ✓ Children/Grandchildren in CVUSD schools
- ✓ Safety Focused
- ✓ Student-Centered
- ✓ Improve Our Schools

VOTE FOR CHANGE

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

Paid for by Coachella Valley Teachers Association Fund for Quality Education FPPC# 1271156

Remember to wear your CVTA shirts each Wednesday and also on Bargaining Days!

Good morning! We have an **Organizing Committee Meeting** today on Zoom from 4:00-5:00 pm. Discussion will focus on School Board Elections, so please join us if you can! For more information contact committee chair Rachel Kuland at rkuland@yahoo.com. Link to join the Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85327895427>

There will be a **Human Rights Committee Meeting** on 10/14/24 at Augustine Casino, beginning with an early dinner at 3:45 pm (pay for your own) to meet and discuss plans for the committee, ending with an organized precinct walking event after dinner. For more information contact committee chair Daphne Dixon-Watson at educateus@yahoo.com.

There is a School Board Meeting this Thursday in the District Office Board Room. The closed session portion of the meeting begins at 5:30 pm, and any comments you wish to make at this time must be tied to an agenda item on the Closed Session Agenda. The open session will begin at whatever time the board decides to return from closed session, so unfortunately we cannot give a specific time. The agenda will be posted around 5:30 pm today on the

[CVUSD website](#), and should include an estimated time for open session to begin. Take some time tonight to look over the agenda, and join us at the meeting if you are interested.

CVUSD School Board Elections - We need your help!

Materials have been delivered to nearly all sites (SV and WSHS will receive them today; CC, AE and DO will be delivered when the new order arrives).

- Posters have been provided which can be placed in your car windows (we suggest parking so your front windshield faces where parents drive by for pick-up or drop-off and placing the poster between your sunvisor and the window). These can also be offered to parents for their car windows (by someone not on afterschool duty and outside the gates of the school).
- Postcards have been provided to be used for precinct walking. We are asking that each of you donate an hour after school to walk the neighborhoods around your site (but if you donate 2 total hours, not necessarily in one day, you will get a \$25 gift card). Site Reps have the information for you to do this and should be organizing CVTA Members for this to begin this week if possible, but by next week for sure.

School Board Trustees decide everything that affects your work, such as approving the materials we use to instruct students, deciding where and when improvements are made at sites, who is approved for extra services positions, approving field trips, employee hiring or dismissal, salary and benefits, whether or not to RIF teachers, the level of security measures at each site, approving budgets for every single department and site, and much, much more. If you think this election is not important to us as educators and that you can't make a difference, you are wrong! **We need your help to elect trustees who will put students and employees before their own personal agendas! Reach out to your Site Reps for more information.**

Department Chairs Update (both Elementary and Secondary)

CVTA filed a Demand to Bargain (DTB) over the issue of several sites requiring additional duties for Department Chairs this year. The district denied the DTB, stating that no directives have come from Ed Services to increase the job requirements beyond the usual ones.

What this means is that your site admin is choosing to add responsibilities on his/her own and therefore need to be dealt with individually on this matter. Please let us know if you have been assigned any additional responsibilities other than the usual ones listed below (or technically other than what was expected last year):

- One to two leadership meetings per month, for the purpose of bringing department or grade level concerns to the group and taking information back to your team
- Creating the Agenda for PLCs and submitting the minutes to admin
- Possibly being the lead for fundraisers and/or field trips
- In charge of data for goals developed by the team, if that's what the team decided to do at a PLC

These are general duties that most sites are completing, but several sites have added duties that are new this year and are allegedly required. The new duties should **not** be required. Examples of new duties may be: attending ILT meetings at the DO without extra services pay, mentoring or modeling for your team, presenting PD to staff, and/or attending district PDs. These are not terrible things to do, mind you, but cannot be required without agreement from CVTA Leadership.

Also important to note - PLCs are teacher directed and teacher driven, meaning the team agrees to which items go on the agenda for each PLC. At no time can admin or anyone else require an item to be placed on a PLC agenda unless the team agrees to adding it. PLCs must align to the language in the contract.

Catastrophic Sick Leave Bank - Last day to enroll is October 10th

Don't miss out! Open enrollment is from September 1-30 (extended to October 10th by HR). In order to withdraw from the Sick Leave Bank you need to enroll once and then donate one day each year as needed. If you ever need to use this bank, you get 40 paid days and will then have the option to seek donations for another 40 paid days. Contact Jasmine Persaud in HR to enroll.

Workplace Violence Prevention Plan (WVPP) STILL DOESN'T EXIST??

Read about the WVPP requirements [here](#). You can and should file complaints with OSHA at

(909)383-4321.

You are not expected to accept violence because a student has an IEP or is very young. Violence has no place in our job descriptions. I say this because too many times I have heard that "sped teachers knew what they were getting into when they accepted the job" or "the child is (blank) years old and doesn't know what he/she is doing." Violence is never acceptable, it needs to be reported immediately, and we expect the district to follow the laws put in place to protect employees. We also suggest you contact the nurse hotline and report an injury even if you aren't sure there is one yet. They sometimes show up after the adrenaline has worn off. ([Important numbers and documents can be found here.](#))

Have a great week! We will visit your sites soon to check in. :)

Visit Our Website

Important Dates

- **October 7th:** CVTA Organizing Committee Zoom Mtg. 4:00 pm
- **October 8th:** CVTA Rep Council Mtg. 4:30 pm via Zoom
- **October 10th:** CVUSD School Board Mtg. 5:30 pm @ DO ([Live Stream Link here](#))
- **October 14th:** CVTA Human Rights Committee Mtg. @ Augustine Casino
- **October 14th:** First bargaining day with the district. **Wear a CVTA shirt in support of the team!**
- **October 15th:** Second bargaining day with the district. **Wear a CVTA shirt in support of the team!**
- **October 15th:** CVTA Virtual Office Hours 4:30 pm via Zoom
- **October 22nd:** CVTA Executive Board Meeting 4:30 pm via Zoom
- **October 24th:** CVUSD School Board Mtg. 5:30 pm @ DO ([Live Stream Link here](#))
- **October 28th:** Third bargaining day with the district. **Wear a CVTA shirt in support of the team!**
- **October 30th:** Fourth bargaining day with the district. **Wear a CVTA shirt in support of the team!**



Carissa Carrera
CVTA President

"An injury to one is an injury to all."

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Contact Our Team





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