

November 18, 2024



Coachella Valley Teachers Association

California Teachers Association

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CVUSD SCHOOL BOARD

- **ALTRENA SANTILLANES, AREA 2**
- **TRINIDAD ARREDONDO, AREA 1**
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THE ONLY CANDIDATES SUPPORTED BY COACHELLA VALLEY TEACHERS

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

Students deserve school board members with integrity.



Los estudiantes se merecen una mesa directiva con miembros íntegros.

mycvta.org

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

Good morning! Just a quick reminder...you may continue to contact your CVTA president with any issues. I continue to work on your behalf as I was elected to do. VP Jeff Kruger is available as well and can be reached at cvtakruger@gmail.com.

CVTA Organizing Committee Meeting Today

The Organizing Committee will meet today at 4pm at the Starbucks on Cesar Chavez St. in Coachella. All CVTA and community members are welcome to attend. We have important work to continue, and your help is appreciated!

CVTA Office Hours Tomorrow

We will hold our monthly Virtual Office Hours on Zoom tomorrow from 4:30-5:00pm. Please join us to share concerns, ask questions, or just to say hi and see what's happening at other sites. Looking forward to hearing from you!

Topic: November Office Hours

Time: Nov 19, 2024 04:30 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87503066645>

Meeting ID: 875 0306 6645

CVUSD School Board Meeting Information

Last week at the school board meeting, a representative from RCOE presented a [budget update](#) which showed that CVUSD needs to make about \$46,000,000 in cuts or they will run out of money next school year. Obviously this was a surprise, since the report was not attached to the board agenda and the district recently reported during negotiations that their numbers in the Unaudited Actuals report were correct and they have money.

CVUSD placed a link on their website with the report but did not share it as they should with CVTA (even some school board members had not seen it before it was presented). The last two District Budget Committee Meetings were cancelled, so at this time we are unable to give you any information other than what is shown in the presentation. CVTA will meet as a board and consult with CTA to better understand this new information which deviates from information shared in negotiations.

Board Trustee Jesus Gonzalez did take the time to place blame for the budget concerns on CVTA (actually, he said, "current union leadership," which we take to mean your president, so it was a continuation of his current libelous and villainous slander attack on President Carrera). He stated that teachers want the money every time there is new money, and if the board won't give it to us we say they are a bad board. If they give it to us, and then they have to make cuts later, we say they are a bad board. What he failed to make clear to anyone watching the meeting is that every time CVTA negotiates a raise, the board also chooses to provide *the same raise* to CSEA and Management, even though neither party negotiated that raise, not to mention that our negotiations are based on the district's own budget. It is astounding that we have school board members who publicly express their divisive resentment for one or more of their employee groups. Comments such as his provide little in the way of establishing a safe and welcoming environment indeed (maybe that's only an expectation for our classrooms?).

The blame can only lie with the school board for a CVTA raise costing nearly three times more than it should. The blame can only lie with the school board for being the sole group responsible for approving expenditures and budgets (link [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)). When contracts regularly exceed the approved amounts, sometimes to the tune of 30-40 million dollars above the approved amount (PV school), that is the responsibility of the school board. CVTA is not to blame, and we will not be bullied into believing so. CVTA does not have any control over the district budget.

This is why it is so important to change the board majority.We need, and deserve, board trustees with the fiscal ability to oversee the district budget and who won't blame others for their own shortcomings. This Friday, November 22nd, there is a follow-up hearing taking place to determine how the votes will be handled in Imperial County. **Expect the current board majority to push for a March or June special election, allowing them to retain their**

positions for longer than their constituents elected them. CVUSD voters who are currently having their votes suppressed by this board deserve a quicker turnaround. We will let you know what happens.

CVTA Shirts

Shirts will be delivered to sites this week. If you have not already paid for your order using Venmo, plan to have the cash available at the time your shirt is delivered.

Workplace Violence Prevention Plan (WVPP)

Read about the WVPP requirements [here](#). You can file complaints with OSHA at (909)383-4321. [Important safety numbers and documents can be found here.](#)

Have a great week!

Visit Our Website

Important Dates

- **November 18th:** CVTA Organizing Committee Meeting
- **November 19th:** CVTA Virtual Office Hours 4:30 pm - 5:00 pm
- **November 20th:** Sixth bargaining day with the district. ~~Wear a CVTA shirt in support of the team!~~ Canceled
- **November 21st:** Seventh bargaining day with the district. ~~Wear a CVTA shirt in support of the team!~~ Canceled
- **November 21st:** CVTA Executive Board Meeting 4:30 pm via Zoom
- **November 25th to 29th:** CVUSD Thanksgiving Break



Carissa Carrera
CVTA President

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

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