

August 25, 2025



Coachella Valley Teachers Association

California Teachers Association

National Education Association

Join our email list!

Join our texting list!

Good morning!

Please sign up on the interest list! Are you interested in working with your union to ensure that all school sites are safe spaces where everyone is welcome? We are looking into the work we can do, voluntarily and outside our workdays, to make sure that staff, students, families, and community members know that they will be safe when they visit our schools. If you are interested in learning more about how you can get involved, [please sign up here](#). (This is for information only, not a commitment, yet.) Please share this link with anyone else who may be interested (other staff, parents, community members...).

CTA endorses The Standard for disability insurance and life insurance Your site will soon be visited by American Fidelity reps, and we want to ensure you fully understand your options. The Standard is only available for CTA members, and that means something. Before you sign up with AF, please take the time to see what's available through The Standard. One noticeable difference is that The Standard life insurance includes a cancer benefit, while you'd have to purchase a separate policy from AF! Another significant difference is that if you ever have an issue with your policy through The Standard, CTA will support you in handling the issue. See what else The Standard has to offer [here](#).

Important Information for this week:

- **August Paycheck:** Remember that this check should not have any deductions other than taxes, so it will be slightly larger than the rest of your checks. We suggest that you take the time to look at each paystub throughout the year when you receive it. You may be surprised to know that many people have no idea which deductions are taken, when, and why, or even how much sick time they have available or if they received the correct amount. It is important that you catch any errors right away so they can be handled swiftly.
- **Bargaining Survey:** It closes this Friday afternoon! Please make sure you have submitted your suggestions [here](#).
- **Class Size:** We are aware of several classes that are over the limit by more than two students. This is not allowed at any level, and needs to be remedied immediately. (TK is not allowed to have even the two over!) Please have your reps notify us if this is still happening at your site.
- **Duty Schedules:** Several sites have received a duty schedule that has not been agreed upon by site reps. Please notify us if this is the case at your site. **Reps are obligated to represent members** to ensure the duty schedule is equitable and reasonable, and should not simply rubber stamp whatever the administrator wants.

- **Site Discipline Plan:** Was it presented to you prior to student arrival? Do you know which situations warrant a teacher response, which are for admin to handle, and how to contact someone if needed regarding student discipline? All of this should be in your site plan. Let us know if it didn't happen!
- **Late Buses:** We are aware that bussing has been a major issue so far this school year, whether they aren't picking up the students they should or they are late, and not just a little bit. The number one concern is always student and staff safety, so in this heat make sure everyone is allowed to wait in an area that is either cooled or at least shaded. Work with your admin on this if needed. Secondly, your bus duty time no matter which level you teach is 15 minutes. We've heard of educators staying with students for over an hour in the first three days of school! Please be sure you are keeping track of this, and communicating this to your reps and admin. Let us know as well, as we may need to file a grievance.
- **Inclement Weather:** You are not responsible for giving up your prep or lunch time in order to house the students indoors. I know many of you volunteer to do so, but being told there is no other option than to give up your prep is not okay. You have a right to a 30 minute duty free lunch (the law!) and a duty free prep period every day (fought for and won by your CVTA bargaining teams). Remember there is no contractual language guaranteeing you will be paid if you give up lunch or prep time, so make sure to get it in writing if that is what you are promised, or there will be no recourse later.
- **Reinstatement List:** There are still 38 people on the list to be rehired, mostly elementary but also some secondary and nurses. We will continue to keep a close eye on class sizes and new vacancies. **Please remember that if you take on extra students and/or sub on your prep/sell your prep to cover a class without an assigned teacher, there is a good chance you are taking someone's opportunity to return to work.**

Have a great week! On Friday 8/29/25 you may leave with the students (or immediately after fulfilling any scheduled duty time) because it is the day before a holiday weekend. Enjoy!

Visit Our Website

Important Dates

- **August 26th:** CVTA Eboard Meeting 4:30 pm
- **August 29th:** Bargaining Survey closes
- **September 1st:** Catastrophic Sick Leave Bank open enrollment begins
- **September 1st:** Labor Day Holiday (brought to you by unions!!)
- **September 6th:** Low Desert Leadership Training and First Rep Council Meeting
- **September 11th:** CVUSD School Board Meeting, 5:30 pm, [Zoom Link](#)
- **September 16th:** CVTA Virtual Office Hours 4:30-5:00 pm (link added soon)
- **September 17th:** Deadline to balance classes
- **September 23rd:** CVTA Eboard Meeting 4:30 pm
- **September 25th:** CVUSD School Board Meeting, 5:30 pm, [Zoom Link](#)
- **September 30th:** Deadline for Admin to share Site Budgets
- **September 30th:** Catastrophic Sick Leave Bank open enrollment ends



Carissa Carrera
CVTA President

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

CONFIDENTIALITY: This communication and any documents, files, or previous-mail messages attached to it constitute an electronic communication within the scope of the Electronic Communication Privacy Act, 18 USCA 2510. This communication may contain non-public, confidential, or legally privileged information intended for the sole use of the designated recipient(s). The unlawful interception, use or disclosure of such information is strictly prohibited under 18 USCA 2511 and any applicable laws. If you are not the intended recipient of this communication, you are hereby notified to destroy all copies of this e-mail message and to contact the sender.

[Coachella Valley Teachers Association](#)

Contact Our Team

cvtaprez@gmail.com

PO Box 39

Coachella, CA 92236

Phone: (760) 619-9236



Coachella Valley Teachers Association | PO Box 39 | Coachella, CA 92236 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!