

December 15, 2025



Coachella Valley Teachers Association

California Teachers Association

National Education Association

Join our email list!

Join our texting list!

Good morning!

This will be the last CVTA email of 2025, which is hard to believe! We hope each of you enjoys your well-earned break, and we will see you back on January 5, 2026. Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

On Friday, you may leave with the students and begin your break. If you have assigned duty that afternoon, however, you are required to complete that and then may leave.

I continue to be out on FMLA leave but remain available to respond to texts, calls, and emails. You can also reach out to the other CVTA Board Members, if needed.

CVTA Bargaining Team Update

Please watch for an update this evening. Our team meets with the district for the second time this school-year.

CVTA Office Hours

We have office hours on Tuesday from 4:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Please join us if you'd like to discuss anything!

Join Zoom Meeting - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81831236670>

Meeting ID: 818 3123 6670

CVUSD School Board Meeting

Last week the School Board held its organizational meeting and the last meeting of 2025. They elected new officers: Trustee Thomas Torte is President, Trustee Valerie Garcia is Vice-President, and Trustee Trinidad Arredondo is Clerk. We look forward to the new leadership.

The board voted to increase their stipends by 500%(with Trustees Garcia and Vargas voting no). That is not a joke. They were receiving \$400 per month and will now receive \$2,000 per month in addition to fully paid benefits for themselves and their families. It may not seem like much on the surface, but it does amount to a 500% raise to themselves while they continue to look for cuts and decrease the services available to students.

Prior to the board meeting, the Facilities Committee Meeting was held, chaired by Trustee Jesus Gonzalez. During the meeting, Gonzalez stated that the concerns brought up about the mold and asbestos at JK and other health and safety issues were politically motivated

and dismissed them as non-issues. When we discuss concerns related to the health and safety of students and staff, it is about well-being and not about politics. It's shameful that Gonzalez continues to dismiss these concerns and other trustees on the committee sit by and do/say nothing.

Retirement


If you are thinking about retiring in the next few years, consider signing up for one of the local CalSTRS sessions listed on the flyer below. Those are group sessions and are not intended for those of you wanting to retire this year. For a personalized appointment, you can call the same number listed on the flyer, and options will be provided for the various meeting types.

Grievances

If you need to file a grievance, [begin here by completing the form](#) so our Grievance Chair, Ethan Lubin, can guide you. You can also reach him at grievancescvta@gmail.com.

Have a great week!

Visit Our Website



Seasonal Group Sessions
Palm Desert CTA
75084 Gerald Ford Drive, Palm Desert, CA 92211

Explore your CalSTRS benefits and services with the help of a CalSTRS benefits specialist in a group setting with fellow educators.

CalSTRS and Your Retirement
(Estimates provided)
Wednesday, November, 12, 2025
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Registration opens: October 1, 2025

CalSTRS and Your Retirement
(Estimates provided)
Wednesday, January 14, 2026
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Registration opens: December 3, 2025

CalSTRS and Your Retirement
(Estimates provided)
Wednesday, March 11, 2026
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Registration opens: January 28, 2026

CalSTRS and Your Retirement
(Estimates provided)
Wednesday, May 13, 2026
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Registration opens: April 1, 2026

INTERACT with fellow educators in a small to large group setting	LEARN more about your benefits and prepare for your	REGISTER 800-228-5453, option 3
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Important Dates

- December 15th: Bargaining...Remember to support your team!
- December 16th: CVTA Virtual Office Hours (4:30-5:00 pm)

- December 18th: E-board Mtg. (4:30 pm via Zoom)
- December 22nd - January 2: Winter Break!
- January 5th: Return from Winter Break
- January 15th: Bargaining...Remember to support your team!



Carissa Carrera
CVTA President

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

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Coachella Valley Teachers Association

cvtaprez@gmail.com

PO Box 39

Coachella, CA 92236

Phone: (760) 619-9236

Contact Our Team



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

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