



September 18, 2023

Join our mailing list!

Dear Carissa,  
Good morning!

Last Wednesday several members of the CVTA Executive Board attended CVUSD's State of the District event. One of last year's student school board trustees spoke about her experience, Trustee Joey Acuña spoke about starting up the foundation again, and Superintendent Dr. Valentino shared where we've been and where we are going in CVUSD. It was very motivating! There are many good things happening in CVUSD, and we need to keep heading in that direction.

We have negotiations this week on Thursday. Your team has been working diligently since the last session in order to be prepared to meet again with the district. Please remember to wear your CVTA shirts, and send photos if you can to Rebecca Kay at [cvtarebecca@gmail.com](mailto:cvtarebecca@gmail.com).

**CVTA Virtual Office Hours** - Tuesday 9/19/23 from 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm  
This week we will hold our second Virtual Office Hours of the school year. Please join at any time from 4:30 to 5:30 pm to share concern, questions, etc.

Topic: September Office Hours  
Time: Sep 19, 2023 04:30 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81131923123>

Meeting ID: 811 3192 3123

One tap mobile  
+16692192599,,81131923123# US (San Jose)  
+12133388477,,81131923123# US (Los Angeles)

**Catastrophic Sick Leave Bank - Open Enrollment September only!**  
The month of September is the time you can join the Catastrophic Sick Leave Bank. Use School Stream Form "Catastrophic Sick Leave Enrollment - Certificated."

**Disability Insurance**  
(Keeping this info here for your use as the site visits are taking place.)  
The Standard will be visiting sites in the near future during an open enrollment campaign...no medical questions asked. Everyone can be covered. [Please use this comparison sheet](#) to compare The Standards' offerings to whichever other company you may be looking at for coverage.

**CVTA Site Representation**  
You can see who your site reps are on our website at <https://www.mycvta.org/about>. We still need site reps at: DO, MA, and VDS (one more needed).

**CVTA Social Events**  
We have 4 tickets to give away for the October 13th Firebirds Home Game...soon we will share how CVTA Members can enter to win a ticket! We are also working on our Back to School Social.

### Important to Know

I'd like to focus again on unprofessional conduct. I am hearing this being used by HR more frequently than ever before. It's important to pay attention to how you email, speak, and/or interact with others. The following School Board policy is often cited:

## Policy 4118: Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action

The Governing Board expects all employees to perform their jobs satisfactorily, exhibit professional and appropriate conduct, and serve as positive role models both at school and in the community. A certificated employee may be disciplined for conduct or performance in accordance with law, the applicable collective bargaining agreement, Board policy, and administrative regulation.

### CVTA Member Spotlight [\(Nominate someone here\)](#)

This week we recognize **Lily Zamora at Westside Elementary**. Lily was nominated by colleague Melanie Cabanting and the other staff at WS. Here is what they had to say about her:

Lily is a veteran teacher at Westside, and is always willing to lend a helping hand or try something new. Westside's families adore Ms. Zamora, because they see her heart is for their children. She builds a community of acceptance and family in her classroom, which the students carry with them forever. Her colleagues value her experience and enthusiasm for the profession. Westside is blessed beyond measure to have Lily Zamora as a Dragon!

Congratulations to Lily Zamora at WS!

Wishing you another great week!

(CalPERS link [here](#) for the flyer below. The CalSTRS link is the flyer itself.)



*Virtual*  
**RETIREMENT WORKSHOP**

**Description**  
You're never too young or old to learn about your CalSTRS benefits, programs, and services. There will be materials and discussion of the CalSTRS retirement benefit formula, options, Defined Benefit Supplemental program, survivor benefits, legislative changes, and Social Security Offsets.

**Topics Include**

- STRS – Overview of The System and How It Works
- Social Security – Effects on CalSTRS Members

**Time**  
All workshops are from 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

**Space**  
Registration is limited to 300 participants for each workshop. If you get a message that the workshop is full, please select a different date.

**2023**

- Monday, September 11, 2023
- Monday, September 18, 2023
- Tuesday, October 10, 2023
- Thursday, October 12, 2023
- Tuesday, November 7, 2023
- Tuesday, December 5, 2023
- Thursday, December 7, 2023

**2024**

- Tuesday, January 16, 2024
- Thursday, February 1, 2024
- Thursday, February 8, 2024
- Tuesday, March 5, 2024
- Tuesday, March 12, 2024
- Thursday, April 4, 2024

**OUR VOICE OUR UNION**

**CTA nea**

Presented via WebEX

**webex**  
by CISCO

CalPERS Members  
Wednesday,  
November 8, 2023

**REGISTER HERE**

To cancel your registration, please contact: Gina Domenici at [gdomenici@cta.org](mailto:gdomenici@cta.org)



# CVTA...

**It's time to begin  
organizing!**

Please join us for our first Organizing Committee Meeting. We need your input to create goals for this year!

**When:** Tuesday, September 19,  
4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Where:** Starbucks  
50150 Cesar Chavez Street, Coachella

Individually, we are one drop. Together, we are an ocean. - Ryunosuke Satoro

Please contact Rachel Kuiland,  
CVTA Organizing Chair, for more  
information at [rkuiland@yahoo.com](mailto:rkuiland@yahoo.com)



[Visit Our Website](#)

## Important Dates

- **September 19th** - CVTA Virtual Office Hours 4:30-5:30 pm, Zoom link posted above
- **September 19th** - Organizing Committee Meeting at Starbucks in Coachella, 4:00-5:00 p.m. with Rachel Kuiland
- **September 21st** - Bargaining - wear your CVTA shirt



- **September 26th** - CVTA Executive Board Meeting 4:30 pm, Zoom
- **September 28th** - CVUSD School Board Meeting @ DO ([Live Stream Link here](#)) ([Submit public comments here](#))



**Carissa Carrera**  
CVTA President

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

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### Coachella Valley Teachers Association

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