

January 27, 2020

Dear Carissa,

Good morning! I hope you have a great week ahead of you! Not a ton of information this week, but definitely some important items.

### **Schools & Communities First Initiative**

We all want better schools for our families and our communities. But for too long, corporations have been exploiting property tax loopholes to avoid paying their fair share while pumping up their profits, leaving our schools underfunded. Over the last 40 years, California schools have gone from being the envy of the world to being some of the lowest-funded in the country. We are demanding corporations and wealthy investors pay their fair share so we can reclaim \$12 billion each year for schools, health care, and other vital local services by putting Schools & Communities First on the November ballot. **Let us know if you are interested in helping out in some way.**

Here are two resources if you are looking for more information. Also, please check with your site reps, as we have discussed this several times with them and they also have information. **Site reps - if you still have not submitted your signature pages, please do so. We still need them!**

[CTA.org/TaxFairness](https://cta.org/TaxFairness)

[Video - Robert Reich: Make It Fair - CA Tax Reform](#)

### **Committee Chair Needed**

We are currently in need of a chair for our Human Rights Committee (not to mention still looking for members for many of our committees). Please contact me if you are interested.

### **CA Standards for the Teaching Profession (CSTP)**

[You can find a great interactive chart here](#) that shows all the standards, with links to more details about what this looks like in a classroom, both from the teacher perspective and from the student perspective.

Let's look at Standard 5:

\*Assessing Student for Learning

This is an interesting one, as it includes expectations of what we will do not only in our classrooms, but also with our colleagues and the parents of our students. You are expected to understand and use the available assessments, use the data to inform your instruction (including setting goals and monitoring), discuss assessments with your colleagues, and share data from assessments with parents.

That's a lot, but the good thing is we get at least two PLCs per month, and that's the perfect time to accomplish all of this!

Take a closer look at the interactive chart, and contact me if you want to talk about PLCs and how they can be utilized effectively. You actually have a lot of flexibility with PLCs, and should be tailoring them to your needs as an educator.

### **Contractual Issues Happening Right Now**

[Find the contract here.](#) Here are the things we are working on:

- Grievances need to start at the informal level. This means that you have a conversation with your immediate supervisor, whether face to face or via email, in order to give them the opportunity to remedy the situation. It is important that you actually state, "This is my informal grievance." This will begin the timeline, and will ensure your administrator understands that there is a timeline to follow. Sample grievance forms can be found on our website at [www.mycvta.org](http://www.mycvta.org) under Documents. The Uniform Complaint Form and the Williams Complaint Form can be found there as well.

### **Here are some important dates to keep in mind:**

- **January 27th** - The Great Kindness Challenge begins (see chart from 1/6/2020 email)
- **February 10th** - Holiday Lincoln's Birthday
- **February 12th** - CVTA Rep Council Meeting, CDA Library @ 4:30 p.m.
- **February 13th** - CVUSD School Board Meeting @ WSHS, 5:30 p.m.
- **February 17th** - Holiday Presidents' Day
- **February 26th** - CVTA Eboard Meeting @ CVTA Office, 4:00 p.m.

[Click here to find an archive of our weekly emails.](#)

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Carissa Carrera  
CVTA President

"You can't do it unless you organize."

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