

STATE COUNCIL REPORT
OCTOBER 22-24, 2020, MEETING HIGHLIGHTS
JANET AMBE
AVUTA STATE COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

State Council of Education is CTA's top policy making body which consists of around 800 delegates from school districts throughout California. We elect CTA officers, board of directors, help set CTA policy, develop legislation and make recommendations in general elections. We are also assigned to and work in various committees. I'm on the Political Involvement Committee. We meet four times a year.

We last met virtually from October 22-24. More than 700 educators attended. The emphasis was the final push to win in all CTA endorsed areas of the election. The major items that were on the agenda follow:

- CTA President Toby Boyd urged all for a YES ON PROP. 15 vote and to say NO to bullying, racism, to anti-LGBTQ+ policies and school privatization. He encouraged all to engage in phone banking opportunities, particularly to endorse a YES on Prop. 15 vote, throughout election day.
- CTA's voting recommendations: YES on 15 (as of this date, it did not pass), YES on 16 (did not pass), NO on Prop. 20 (desired CTA outcome), NO on Prop. 22 (not desired CTA outcome), and YES on Prop.25 (not desired CTA outcome).
- President Boyd noted the importance for districts to adhere to CTA's policy #OnlyWhenItsSafe while making decisions about reopening schools during COVID.
- State Council approves Ethnic Study Curriculum Policy; however, Gov. Newsom vetoed the most recent effort to make ethnic studies a permanent part of the CA high school experience. CTA legislative advocates will follow the guidance of an expanded ethnic studies policy and continue working for legislation with elected leaders.
- Breast Cancer Awareness month was honored in a presentation. President Boyd asked all to pause and remember those who have been affected by COVID-19, as well.
- Available CTA Scholarships & Grants: **LGBTQ+ - Safety in Schools Scholarship Program in Honor of Guy DeRosa: Application deadline May 17, 2021; CTA Scholarships - Application deadline Jan. 29, 2021; Human Rights Awards -Application deadline Jan. 11, 2021; Cesar E. Chavez Memorial Education Awards Program - Deadline March 5, 2021; Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Scholarship - Application deadline Feb. 12, 2021; John Swett for Media Excellence - Nomination deadline April 2, 2021.**
- CTA members affected by CA wildfires, go to CTA.Org site, disaster fund.
- State Council will reconvene in January, 2021.