

On the ballot

Measures highlight campaign plan

There are two very important initiatives on the November ballot, the Children's Education and Health Care Protection Act (CEHCP), which is the extension of the Prop 30 tax on high wage earners, and the Education for a Global Economy (EdGE), which would repeal and amend prop-

osition 227 of 1998 and would provide services for ALL students in the state of California that would put them on the path to becoming bilingual. CTA members will be asked to work in support of these initiatives as well as targeted races in the State As-

sembly and Senate, Congress and Presidential campaigns. The CTA Board approved a Campaign Plan at their May 17 meeting. Information on the Campaign Plan will be shared at State Council, Service Center Councils and in local rep meetings.



Field work surprises

CSO staff Ed Sibby got a welcome surprise when covering an Alliance To Reclaim Our Schools walk-in event in Lake Elsinore in early May.

A teacher and participant from Temescal Canyon High School (TCHS) approached and said, "Mr. Sibby! It's great to see you at our rally!"

Heather Hernandez, a former A.P. history student and currently teaching Academic Essentials at TCHS, is an active member of the Lake Elsinore Teachers Association (LETA).

The chapter captured the zeitgeist of May 4th with a Star Wars theme that brought attention to the district's need for new technology. It was a successful day and a reminder that working in the field often brings pleasant surprises!



(Above) CSO Staff Ed Sibby and former-student-turned-teacher Heather Hernandez reunite at a rally for more technology in the Lake Elsinore Unified School District; (Right) LETA members make it clear that the District's lack of technology has a Dark Side.



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A CSO publication

Why should you care whether the U.S. Senate confirms a Supreme Court nominee now?

It may seem like little more than noise out of Washington, D.C., but the current battle to get the U.S. Senate to do its job by considering a new high court nominee has important implications for every student, every educator, every school, and every union member in our nation.

In the years ahead, the U.S. Supreme Court may rule on issues including the rights of teachers to due process and a fair hearing when charges are leveled. It could rule on the rights of schools to be fully funded in order to provide a high quality education to every student. Imagine what would have happened had a 5-4 majority (including the late Justice Scalia) ruled against labor on fair share fees in *Friedrichs v. CTA*.

So, we all have a great deal riding on the outcome of this conflict.

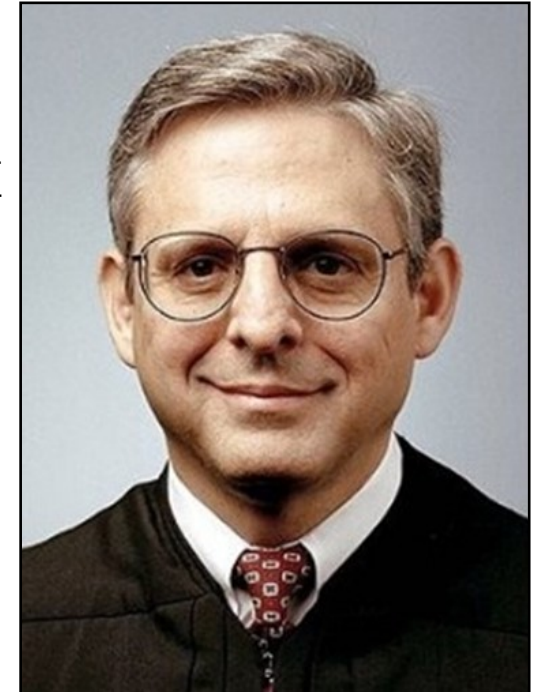
Pres. Barack Obama has done his job by nominating a highly qualified jurist to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Now it's time for U.S. Senators to do theirs.

The president has nominated an eminently qualified judge with impeccable credentials and a mastery of the law. Judge Merrick Garland deserves a fair hearing in the Senate, which has the responsibility of vetting the president's choice and voting for or against him.

Send a strong message to the U.S. Senate on Social Media:

•Senators should just do their jobs, instead of playing political



Pres. Obama's Nominee: Circuit Court Chief Judge Merrick Garland

games and delaying action on a Supreme Court nomination. @USSenate #doyourjob

•There is consensus among Americans that Republican Senators should not refuse to consider any nominee. @USSenate #doyourjob

•Supreme Court nominees deserve a fair hearing and an up-or-down vote. Both parties have always provided that courtesy to nominees. @USSenate #doyourjob

The Constitution is clear on how the nomination process works. @USSenate #doyourjob

GOP Presidential Candidate Donald Trump says he would choose one of the following 11 anti-labor jurists as his appointee to the U.S. Supreme Court: Steven Colloton of Iowa, Allison Eid of Colorado, Raymond Gruender of Missouri, Thomas Hardiman of Pennsylvania, Raymond Kethledge of Michigan, Joan Larsen of Michigan, Thomas Lee of Utah, William Pryor of Alabama, David Stras of Minnesota, Diane Sykes of Wisconsin and Don Willett of Texas.

CSO Members Lead Battle Against Racism

Aim to Have Union Members, Educators Recognize Impact of Bias on Students

More than 40 participants – ranging from CTA members to staff for lawmakers – took part in a May 13 forum at CTA’s Natomas office designed to help educators shrink the “discipline gap” that has seen disproportionate numbers of children of color facing suspension or expulsion.

Among the alternative methods of discipline delved into at the forum is “restorative justice,” which requires students to take responsibility for their actions and make appropriate restitution for misbehaviors.

CSO has been at the cutting edge of training its own members, educators, and CTA leaders about the dire effects of both conscious and “unconscious bias” – through which even well-meaning persons can wind up treating adults and children from different backgrounds in ways that may be harmful.

CTA President Eric Heins welcomes more than 40 teachers, administrators, state department of education and legislative staff to the Closing the School Discipline Gap Forum held May 13 in Natomas. He stressed the importance of finding alternative ways of maintaining classroom order without suspensions that traditionally have hit young men and women of color hardest.



CSO Member Lisa Adams, a Human Rights Consultant, facilitated the May Forum on the Discipline Gap that highlighted the work by CTA members, staff, academicians, and civil rights attorneys to ensure all children are treated fairly.



Overview of the Forum
view of the importance of health to educational achievement and importance of both to the health of our communities.
Examples of positive discipline in California where CTA chapters and districts are working together to reduce disproportionality among students of color. Successes and Challenges.
Discussion of restorative practices with Ali Cooper and Stella Levy of Restorative Schools Vision Project (RSVP).
Discussion of approaches that the Ed Coalition members and community advocates can work together to implement appropriate disciplinary policies and reduce disproportionality.



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Harold Acord, a teacher and president of the Moreno Valley Teachers Association, flanked by (from l.) Dr. Judy White, superintendent of the Moreno Valley Unified School District, and Ann Adler, CTA staff to the chapter, talks about the cooperative work the district and chapter are doing to eliminate the “discipline gap.”



Michelle Johnson, a Bakersfield teacher who is president of the Bakersfield Elementary Teachers Association, and Tim Fulenwilder, the director of Instructional Support Services of the Bakersfield City School District, brief participants about joint efforts undertaken by the chapter and the district to reduce suspension rates and increase student performance.