

The TORRANCE TEACHER

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Our Fight for Schools

TTA Adopts Prop 55 Extension Resolution & Partners with Local Groups to Fight for Schools

The fight for our schools is on! The California Teachers Association, Torrance Teachers Association's state affiliate, is spearheading efforts to preserve state funding while standing up to the Trump Administration on education policy that threatens our students and federal funding. To stand with our union siblings statewide, TTA leadership adopted a resolution supporting the extension of California's Prop 55. TTA will also be joining CTA members from across the state on May 17th for a Fight For Schools Rally.

What's at stake if Prop 55 doesn't get extended? Millions of local dollars. Failure to extend Prop 55 would mean a loss of over \$9 billion dollars statewide—and over \$34 million in Torrance. This would be a devastating cut of over 15% that would result in substantial educator layoffs while severely impacting our students. That's one in every six educators!

What is Prop 55? Prop 55 was a 2016 extension of 2012's Prop 30 income tax increase on the state's highest earners, a tax that applies only to the wealthiest residents applying to couples earning over \$700,000. To learn more about Props 30 and 55, [click here](#). To see the resolution TTA adopted, [click here](#).

CTA and TTA are also fighting back against the dismantling of the Department of Education. This dismantling is laying off thousands of dedicated DOE staff at the hands of a DOE Secretary appointee who has never spent a day teaching in a classroom. The Trump Administration's actions are more than just headlines. They are a direct threat to public education and the future of students and families across our community. The administration is betraying our public-school students and educators. Education is a non-partisan issue. Hence, we can all agree that students in poverty and students with special needs deserve resources and support in our schools. The administration's actions are unacceptable, so we are fighting back! The Administration's proposed cuts to education equal another \$16+ million in cuts to TUSD (based on 23-24 numbers, which are lower than current numbers). If both the federal cuts happen and Prop 55 doesn't get extended, up to a third of our TUSD workforce could face layoffs. Now is the time to mobilize and Fight For Schools! CTA is working on a mobilization effort by organizing mass rallies across the state on May 17th. The local rally in Los Angeles will be held at 11 AM. The location is Space X in Hawthorne. TTA is hosting a sign making event for the rally on Thursday, May 8th, at the TTA Office between 4:00-6:00 PM. Members can come and go. Snacks and drinks will be provided. We are asking members to shirt up, show up, and speak up! We are also asking for all members who plan to attend to sign up to attend this event [HERE](#). Now is the time to mobilize! There will also be other local rally opportunities to Fight for Schools and our profession. You can learn more about those Action Opportunities [HERE](#).

Quick Hits

Health Rates to Increase Dramatically After 8 years of rate passes, the TUSD EPO plan is poised to take a dramatic hike in rates for next year. While the exact amount of the hike is not firm yet, the current prediction is a 17-20% increase in cost. Kaiser plan numbers are looking to hold steady or even decrease. Numbers will become clearer after a couple of more months of claims come in for analysis. More information will be available at the May Insurance Advisory meeting.

Real ID Now Required The federal REAL ID Act places new rules on which forms of identification may be used to board flights within the United States and enter secure federal facilities, such as military bases, federal courthouses, and other federal facilities. A California issued REAL ID driver's license or identification card meets these new requirements and is marked with a golden bear and star. Applying for a REAL ID requires proof of identity, proof of California residency, and a trip to DMV. You will be asked to provide your Social Security number on your REAL ID application (exceptions may apply).

NOTE Individuals applying for or renewing an AB 60 driver's license are not eligible to receive a REAL ID driver's license or identification card.

State Council Report [HERE](#) is the written report from the last CTA State Council meeting held over Spring Break. Thanks to America Moreno and Deb Tabush for providing the update, which includes information about pregnancy leave for educators, classroom grants, and how public education is funded.

PERB Hearing Date Set Wednesday, March 19th and Thursday, March 27th, TTA met with TUSD for informal settlement conferences as directed by the California Public Employment Relations Board (PERB). After two days of negotiating settlements, TUSD rejected settling with TTA. The matter will now go to a hearing before a PERB administrative law judge on June 5th & 6th.

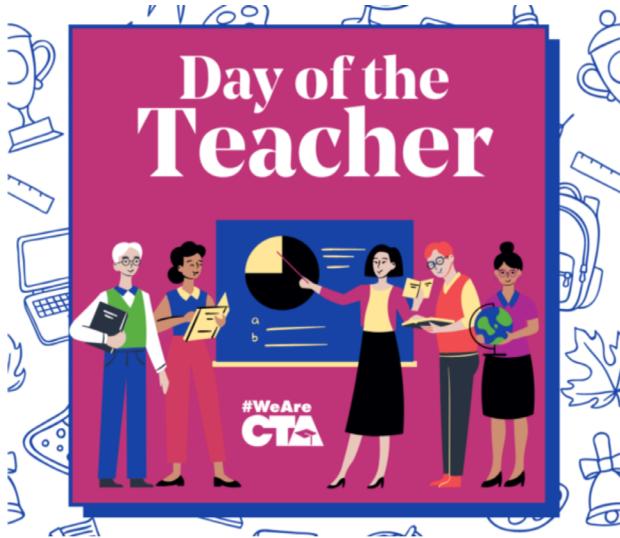
TTA Budget Passed The TTA Executive Board and Representative Council voted to approve the 2025-2026 TTA Budget. The budget includes an increase in local dues by \$1 per month (\$10 for the year). This is the first dues increase in five years. TTA is committed to keeping local dues as low as possible while we look at ways to close deficit spending gaps in the coming years. Luckily, TTA has always had strict oversight of our members' dues dollars. The Association has a healthy reserve as well. Adhering to conservative fiscal principles, the Association, led by Treasurer Dena Ludwig, is addressing fiscal issues now rather than waiting until they pose a problem. For more information, reach out to your site rep or to Dena Ludwig.

Changes to RTI&I Coming The TUSD Board of Education approved a new job description for RTI Teachers on Special Assignment at the April 21st meeting. TUSD has shared through a recent meeting with TTA Leadership and through LCAP consultation that the plan is to move the RTI TOSAs to individual sites, increasing the number of positions from 9 to 17, while continuing to fund site intervention teachers for the next two years (or until funds run out). Under this new plan each elementary school site would then have an RTI TOSA and an intervention teacher for the next few years. TUSD confirmed that current RTI&I TOSAs would have priority rights to the new RTI positions. Intervention teachers seeking one of these new positions would NOT have a priority status in the hiring process.

Spring Election Update

On April 17th, TTA Representative Council finalized the slate for the two CTA State Council Seats. There was only one candidate declared prior to the meeting. After the slate was finalized, America Moreno was re-elected to a second term as CTA State Council Representative when Rep Council waived the ballot and elected her by acclamation from the floor. The second State Council seat, a new seat issued to TTA from CTA to ensure representation for our local, will be up for election in a fall special election since there were no candidates at this time.

The election window of May 13-16 will stay on the books since the TTA Negotiations Team is hopeful of finishing a tentative agreement and holding the ratification election using the already published election timeline.



We Celebrate You, Torrance Teachers!

Join TTA Leaders on **May 14**

@Lazy Dog Café

for appetizers & camaraderie.

One drink ticket will be provided for each TTA member who comes!
4:00-6:00 PM



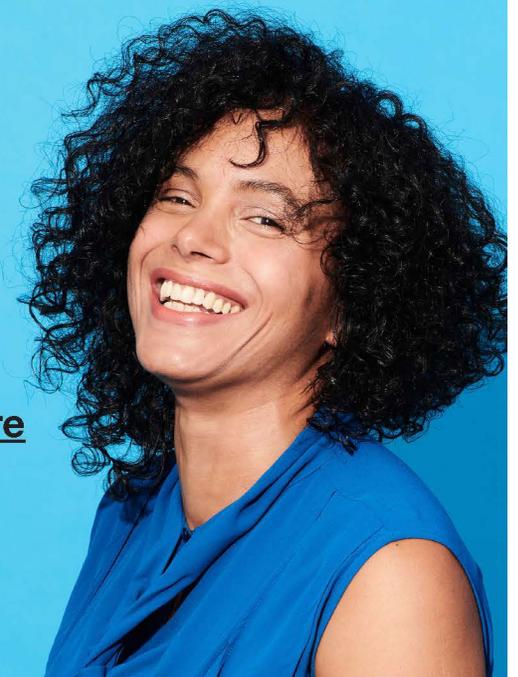
New Hire Enrollment Opportunity Ending Soon

If you're new at your district this year, you have a special opportunity to apply for CTA-endorsed Disability insurance and Life insurance from Standard Insurance Company **with no health questions asked.***

Disability insurance can help protect your paycheck if you're out of work due to an injury, illness, pregnancy or childbirth.

Don't wait to apply - offer expires 270 days from your first day on the job.

Learn more/apply at standard.com/cta/newhire



* Eligibility requirements apply for no health questions asked. Offer not available to retirees.

For costs and further details of the coverage and this enrollment opportunity, including exclusions, any reductions or limitations and the terms under which the policies may be continued in force, please contact The Standard at 800.522.0406. Standard Insurance Company, 1100 SW Sixth Avenue, Portland, OR 97204
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