

The TORRANCE TEACHER

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October 17, 2025

Night of Action Highlights Labor Struggles SEIU & TTA Partner to Demand Living Wages & Benefits

TTA and SEIU Local 99 members delivered a message to the TUSD Board of Education on Monday, October 13th. High executive pay with low wages for labor is unacceptable. The common theme is how the steep increase in healthcare costs have resulted in every employee except top executive earners taking a pay cut.

The struggle for labor remains very real and ever present. Unfortunately, the fight for competitive pay, realistic workloads, and agency is not a singular battle—it is an ongoing war for justice and fairness. TTA leaders acknowledge that members have exceptionally busy lives and cumbersome workloads, and yet it's moments like this—when labor stands together—that truly defines who we are as we advocate for our students, our profession, and our public education system.

SEIU sunshined their initial proposal for their 2025-2028 successor campaign—and were almost denied the ability to speak after initially being cut off by Mr. Julio Hernandez, who spoke to the initial proposal's first reading and segued into discussing negotiations with TTA. This sparked confusion resulting in the school board moving forward with the agenda to get to the TTA agenda items. David Zygielbaum made a point of order and moved to reconsider ensuring their ability to speak. During SEIU's time, Marlene Ramirez demanded fair wages, better benefits, and for TUSD to "show up" for employees who show up for kids every day.

According to the legal process, an open hearing was held for TTA's and TUSD's proposals, sunshined in July and September, respectively. No comments were made, and the Board of Education referred the proposals to the negotiations table. TTA and TUSD are set to hold the first negotiations session of the 2025-2026 reopeners on October 29th. This is the first of two negotiations campaigns set for this school year. Look for TTA Negotiations Updates as the TTA team hopes that this campaign will be short and successful as the team prepares for the 2026-2029 successor campaign in the spring.

Successful negotiations campaigns will be essential in addressing the wage and benefits issues highlighted at the meeting. These campaigns are essential to sending the clear message: Torrance labor deserves fair pay and fair benefits!

TTA and SEIU standing together speaking truth to power set the tone for labor's expectations moving forward—showing collective strength of a workforce that refuses to be ignored. That is why showing up consistently and engaging often matters. It keeps the pressure on those in power, checking that power, and demanding our share of that power. See videos of each speaker on our website and social media.

The story of labor is the story of Sisyphus from Greek mythology. Sisyphus was a king punished by the gods, condemned to the underworld with an eternity of labor rolling a massive boulder uphill only to have it slide back down every time he neared the summit. Every step that Labor takes forward, we must keep pushing that rock. How Labor differs from Sisyphus is that we are not deceitful and full of hubris—we are guided by the quest for justice and fairness. We learn about the constancy of human struggle from Sisyphus. So, while we gear up for two bargaining campaigns this year, it is our boulder to push to keep the pressure on TUSD for fair wages and benefits. The more collective power we exert, the less futile our task becomes. We are truly stronger together!

Election Results for CTA State Council Seats

CTA State Council seats were elected at large
and in accordance with
CTA Election Bylaws and Standing Rules.

CTA State Council Seat 1
America Moreno

CTA State Council Seat 2
VACANT

The Teller Report is available on the TTA
Website under the Governance tab.



ACTION COMMITTEE

SPECIAL EDUCATION

OCTOBER 27TH

4:15 @ TTA OFFICE



Quick Hits

CTA Membership Card Info CTA recently notified chapter leaders about an issue with annual membership cards. A printing error that impacts approximately 189,000 of the 315,000 cards mailed to members has been identified. The error was caused by the vendor and not by CTA systems or data. CTA is working closely with the vendor to correct the issue and ensure accurate replacement cards are sent to all affected members. Due to the timelines required for reprinting and mailing during this time of year, members can expect to receive their new cards in approximately eight weeks. Members who received an incorrect card do not need to take any action—replacement cards will be sent automatically. CTA will be contacting affected members via email to inform them of the error and to confirm that a replacement card has been ordered on their behalf. Impacted members can still use the cards to identify them as a current CTA member until their replacement card arrives. CTA appreciates members' understanding this issue is being addressed promptly and professionally. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us at Membership@CTA.org if you receive questions or need additional information.

Prop 50 Canvassing & Phone Banks Defend Democracy and Public Education by canvassing and phone banking in support of voting YES on Prop 50, the Election Rigging Response Act. Prop 50 is California's bold response to unprecedented redistricting efforts led by Texas and other states working with the Trump administration. These efforts are designed to consolidate power and maintain control of Congress after the 2026 midterm elections—all to slash funding for public education, healthcare, and essential services while providing tax cuts for billionaires. Why Does It Matter to Union Educators? Congressional Republicans are attempting to rig elections specifically to cut funding for public education and essential services for our communities. Critical funding for special education, school meals for hungry children, and other essential programs have already been slashed and jeopardized. Now is the time for union educators to stand together and fight back against the nine members of Congress in California who threw our students under the bus and voted to cut critical funds for public education. Canvassing is held on Saturdays from 10am – 1pm at Torrance City Hall and on Sundays from 2 – 5pm at Polliwog Park in Manhattan Beach. <https://www.mobilize.us/cadems/event/838937/>

TTA Negotiations Team and Executive Board Set Members-Only Bargaining Forums

The Negotiations Team and Executive Board are preparing to survey the membership for the upcoming successor bargaining campaign in the spring. There will be 11 member-only forums held on 6 dates. These forums will include information, facilitated dialogues, and a survey to get member input for items for the 2026-2029 successor campaign initial proposal. The forums will be the primary method of surveying the membership.

Members are invited to select the forum(s) that best works with their schedule and location. Members may attend more than one. Members may attend a forum not in their area. The goal is to provide choice of place, time, and grade level.

The schedule is as follows:

Date	Site
October 30	Madrona Middle School
October 30	Magruder Middle School
November 4	Victor Elementary School
November 4	Yukon Elementary School
November 5	Torrance High School
November 5	North High School
November 12	South High School
November 12	West High School
November 13	Hickory Elementary School
November 13	Arnold Elementary School
November 18	EMB

WHAT IS PROP 50?

The Election Rigging Response Act is a bold response from California to a blatant power grab by Texas Republicans working with the Trump administration to slash funding for public education, healthcare and more to provide tax cuts for billionaires.



You can learn more at: stopelectionrigging.com

WHY DOES IT MATTER TO US?

Congressional Republicans are trying to rig elections to cut funding for public education and services for our communities. Critical funding for special education, school meals for hungry children and more has already been slashed and jeopardized. Now is the time for union educators to stand together and fight back against the nine members of congress in California who threw our students under the bus and voted to cut critical funds for public education.



Learn more about how these cuts have impacted your district at: cta.org/trumpcuts

HOW TO TAKE ACTION

1. Vote YES on Prop 50 on, or before, November 4
2. Visit cta.org/prop50 to sign up for more information on how to volunteer





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3730 PACIFIC COAST HWY, #102
TORRANCE CA 90505

TTA Representative Council Meeting

October 23, 2025 at 4:15 PM

@TTA OFFICE (1623 Cravens, 90501)

Yes, this is a venue change! See you there!