



CUCPTSA LEGISLATION/ADVOCACY TEAM
February 2022 Report
HAPPY LUNAR NEW YEAR!

In Local News:

NEXT CUSD REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING is Wednesday **February 16, 2022 @ 7PM**. I encourage you to listen in virtually or attend in person at the district office. As always, the board agendas are available approximately 72 hours prior to the board meeting. They can be found on the district's website under the BOARD tab. Look for an email from Ryan Burris at that 72 hour timeframe with a copy of the agenda and the exhibits. He will also include instructions on emailing your trustees with comments on any agenda item and provide information on how to make a public comment either online or in person. If you have additional questions on any of that, PLEASE feel free to reach out to me! I am here to help and encourage all of you to "pull a blue card" and speak about something you are passionate about. Maybe your school is doing a fundraiser that you would like to spread the word on or a membership drive. Sometimes trustees join PTA's that are not in their trustee area!! Or an agenda item you would like to provide feedback on or educate the public about. We are the pulse of our schools because we are informed and have the information that our school communities need.

Recap of the January 19, 2022 Board meeting:

Raise the Base: Our Superintendent spoke about us in her opening comments at the last CUSD board meeting and held up our CUCPTSA Raise the Base button!! Woo hoo! Congratulations CUCPTSA Legislation/Advocacy Team! You all are rockstars! 100 buttons were sent to Sacramento to be distributed to lawmakers in the hopes that they will learn more about why raising the base grant is so important and co-sponsor Muratsuchi's three bills-AB 1607, AB 1609 & AB 1614. Two weeks ago, the Superintendent met with CA Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi (D-Torrance), he represents 13 cities in LA County, to discuss our initiative and how we could work together to make it happen. Priority number 1 is to speak with our local lawmakers and ask that they support and co sponsor his three bills. Priority number 2 is to send 1 million letters to the Governor! You will be receiving the template letter to prior to the Feb Leg meeting!

Additionally, with the support of and joined by our CUCPTSA President, Elizabeth Mordock and our very own EVP, Michele Ploessel-Campbell, CUCPTSA met with San Ramon Valley Council of PTSA's & Las Trampas Creek Council in Northern California to discuss our initiative. The goal is to coordinate efforts between our councils to share the Raise the Base message across their unit PTA's like we are doing. Every year, they host an "Advocacy Day" which is a two day event with speakers centered around a theme. They have chosen "Raise the Base" as their theme for this year! I am including a link to

their website if you want to check out their past "Advocacy Days"
<https://www.srvcouncilpta.org/ad21>

Redistricting with the data collected through the 2020 census, has begun! At our last leg meeting, we discussed the criteria and the processes the district will have to follow. At the November 3rd board meeting, a resolution was presented to establish criteria for adjusting trustee boundaries and the trustees provided direction to the demographer. Trustee Bullockus wanted an addition to the resolution that states the school feeder patterns be considered in creating the new boundaries. Her reasoning, that the elementary and middle schools in her trustee area do not follow the high school feeder pattern and she felt it would be beneficial because the parents within an area get to know a candidate/trustee through school activities and sometimes those schools are not within their area.

At this meeting, a public hearing will be held with the demographer presenting the first draft of maps. Trustees will give feedback. At the January 19th board meeting, the demographer will present the revised maps and trustees will give the last set of revisions, if any. Final adoption will take place at the February 16th meeting. The district must submit their final plans to the county by March 1st, 2022.

I encourage you to look at the maps prior to the board meeting and provide any feedback to your trustee that you think is important during redistricting.

5 maps were presented to the trustees-Alpha, Bravo, Charlie, Delta and Echo. 3 of those maps- Charlie, Delta & Echo came back at the January board meeting with revisions and tweaks requested by the trustees.

Update: And then there was 1...the map that the trustees chose to "massage" is "Echo". This map will return with adjustments in the Bergenson triangle around the Golden Lantern area & the ridgeline and balancing street by street. Here is the link to the 3 revised maps:

<https://capousd-ca.schoolloop.com/file/1514016268888/1531973256666/6968762733353881547.pdf>

The final map will be presented at the February 16th CUSD Board meeting.

6th Grade Family Life Teacher Resource Kit- At the November 3rd meeting, as a report out of closed session, it was shared that trustees gave direction to staff to create a 6th grade family life teacher resource kit. We received additional information at our CUCPTSA presidents meeting in November from Dr. Merwin that the implementation of resources and the new 6th grade family life teacher resource kit will be in August of 2023. Sixth grade teachers will have the resources available to teach incoming sixth graders during the first quarter of the school year. Topics will address the unique health needs of students during their first year of middle school, including puberty. Resources will go through the new IMRC process for full transparency with the public. The "opt-out" process is determined by Ed Code. Parent communication and teacher training in the Spring of 2023. I am hoping to have Dr. Merwin present this information to our leg team in January so we can further discuss these changes and I encourage you to bring your questions.

Update: We have not received any updated information on this item.

Agendas from the most recent Board of Trustee meetings can be found here:

January 25, 2022-Special Board Meeting

<https://capousd-ca.schoolloop.com/file/1514016268888/1531973256666/6375064557642983742.pdf>

January 19, 2022-Regular Board Meeting

<https://capousd-ca.schoolloop.com/file/1514016268888/1531973256666/2078198525661000369.pdf>

December 15, 2021-Regular Board Meeting

<https://capousd-ca.schoolloop.com/file/1514016268888/1531973256666/3249018049764299755.pdf>

Minutes and Audio Recordings of Meetings can be found at

https://capousd-ca.schoolloop.com/pf4/cms2/view_page?d=x&group_id=1514016268888&vdid=wi10b1qsopu12s#2021-22

Minutes are listed once approved, audio is typically posted within a day or two of the meeting. Also, on this page are links to 2020-2021 minutes/agendas/audio and previous years.

Other District news:

Family Resource Center:

<https://sped-capousd-ca.schoolloop.com/frc>

We have a wonderful Family Resource Center located in the lower level of the district office!!!! Please visit it if you have time! It provides support by helping parents, families and children find resources in person and online covering a variety of topics which include autism, dyslexia, and health resources to name just a few. They also connect parents with upcoming workshops within the community.

PAPER: 24 hour online tutoring

<https://app.paper.co/login/student>

CUSD Covid-19 Dashboard: <https://webapps.capousd.org/COVID19Dashboard/>

CUSD Safety Plan:

<http://capousd-ca.schoolloop.com/file/1514016268908/1218998864154/5658544572628422051.pdf>

The District launched an online magazine about the amazing things happening across our district in June of 2019. It is CUSD Insider and can be found at

<http://cusdinsider.org/> Please take the time to share this online resource with our

families, it provides a site for accurate information about our district to counter the mis-information that is spread.

CUCPTSA Legislation/Advocacy Racial Equity Book Club: We have formed a book club and for our next discussion we are reading "Born a Crime: Stories From a South African Childhood" by Trevor Noah ISBN 978-0-399-58819-8 Our next meeting is **Friday, February 25, 2022! at 9:30am** - we are holding a single meeting for this book, and hope you can join us at this time. If you would like to attend, please contact Michele Ploessel-Campbell by email myshel@ix.netcom.com.

From Fourth District PTA:

Talking Points for Legislative Chairs, Feb 2022 coming soon...

Talking Points for Legislative Chairs, January, 2022

Details are in the December issue of the *Advocacy Communicator*.

- **Talking Points for Legislative Chairs, January 2022**
- Details are in the January issue of the *Advocacy Communicator*.
- The state budget process for the 2022-23 fiscal year will begin with the governor's proposed budget, which must be presented by January 10. This year the governor and lawmakers will have to decide what to do with a \$31 billion surplus. The newsletter has an article listing the steps that are taken in developing the final budget.
- The virtual Fourth District PTA Advocacy Forum on Friday, January 21, will feature several of our Orange County school superintendents. It's always very interesting to hear about how things are going in our schools around the county.
- · Registration is open for Sacramento Safari, March 7 and 8 in our state Capitol. Who is going?
- · A new statewide student tracking system is being developed over the next five years to gather information about students from preschool to the workforce. The system will be open to the public but information about individual students will be private.
- · The newsletter has a brief description of the law-making process in California.
- · The old Annex office building next to the historic state Capitol will be demolished and replaced, unless a lawsuit by some activists is successful.
- · The next legislative briefing with California State PTA is on January 18 at 7 p.m.

Back issues of the Communicator can be found at:

<http://www.fourthdistrictpta.org/advocacy-communicator/>

In State News:

The right priorities? Reactions to Gov. Newsom's K-12 budget for 2022-23 by Edsource Staff

The week, Gov. Gavin Newsom built on last year's record state budget with a 2022-23 spending plan that tops it. This article features commentary from multiple edsource writers that cover different areas of education. <https://edsource.org/2022/budget-reactions-k-12/665726>

Muratsuchi Introduces Bill Package to Help School Districts Struggling with COVID by The Rafu Shimpo (Los Angeles Japanese Daily News)As schools, families, and students throughout the State of California continue to struggle with the COVID-19 pandemic, Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi (D-Torrance) has introduced three bills to help school districts with the necessary funding to deal with this ongoing crisis.

<https://rafu.com/2022/01/muratsuchi-introduces-bill-package-to-help-school-districts-struggling-with-covid/>

****As a side note-All articles or descriptions I have found on the 3 educational finance bills introduced by Muratsuchi suggest that CA public school are experiencing funding issues because of Covid, or are as a result of covid or due to the ongoing covid crisis. It is important to note that the base grant needed to be raised prior to covid and will continue to be an issue for CA if it is not raised.**

Bill seeks to remove average daily attendance from K-12 funding formula by Ali Tadayon A bill introduced Monday by state senator Anthony Portantino, D-La Cañada Flintridge, would base K-12 district's funding on enrollment, removing average daily attendance from the formula starting in 2023-24. <https://edsource.org/updates/bill-seeks-to-remove-average-daily-attendance-from-k-12-funding-formula>

PROPOSED CA BALLOT initiatives: Here's what you need to know!

Here is a website where you can track the progress of CA ballot initiatives:

<https://oag.ca.gov/initiatives/active-measures>

These are the current potential ballot measures that impact schools.

Proposed California Ballot Measure Would Give Parents 'Legal Standing' to Sue for Better Schools as Right-to-Education Efforts Spread by Linda Jacobson

Californians could vote next year on whether students should have a constitutional right to a high-quality education, potentially opening the door to litigation from parents dissatisfied with their children's schools.

<https://www.the74million.org/article/proposed-california-ballot-measure-would-give-parents-legal-standing-to-sue-for-better-schools-as-right-to-education-efforts-spread/>

School Voucher Initiatives-So far only one is actively to the point of collecting signatures. The other one is waiting on title and summaries.

REQUIRES STATE FUNDING OF RELIGIOUS AND OTHER PRIVATE SCHOOL EDUCATION. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT AND STATUTE.

Title and Summary Issued on October 12, 2021

21-0006A1

Proponents of this initiative are proposing \$13,000 be available to each student every year, to be used toward tuition and education expenses at an accredited private school of their choice. An education savings account will be established at the request of the student's parent or legal guardian.

"Education Savings Act of 2022"

Fiscal Impact Estimate Report

21-0011A1

At the National Level and National PTA:

Florida Republicans Aim to Curtail School Lessons on Sex, Gender by The Associated Press

Florida Republicans want to forbid discussions of sexual orientation or gender identity in schools with a bill that activists say endangers children and echoes a

previous wave of laws that sought to squelch LGBTQ conversations in the classroom.

<https://www.edweek.org/policy-politics/florida-republicans-aim-to-curtail-school-lessons-on-sex-gender/2022/01>

The 117th Congress is considering the following legislation items. The National PTA is supporting (green checkmarks) or opposing (red x) the following items:

Child Health and Safety

- ✔ [H.R. 586: STANDUP Act of 2021](#) | 117th Congress (2021-2022)
- ✔ [H.R. 1319: American Rescue Plan Act of 2021](#) | 117th Congress (2021-2022)
- ✔ [S. 441: STURDY Act](#) | 117th Congress (2021-2022)

Early Learning and Childhood Education

- ✔ [H.Con.Res. 4: Supporting the goals and ideals of No Name-Calling Week in bringing attention to name-calling of all kinds and providing schools with the tools and inspiration to launch an ongoing dialogue about ways to eliminate name-calling, bullying, and harassment in their communities.](#) | 117th Congress (2021-2022)
- ✔ [HR 2817: To amend the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 and the Head Start Act to promote child care and early learning, and for other purposes.](#) | 117th Congress (2021-2022)
- ✔ [S. 1360: Child Care for Working Families Act](#) | 117th Congress (2021-2022)

Federal Investments in Education

- ✔ [H.R. 604: Reopen and Rebuild America's Schools Act of 2021](#) | 117th Congress (2021-2022)
- ✔ [H.R. 764: Keep Our PACT Act](#) | 117th Congress (2021-2022)
- ✔ [S. 72: Keep Our PACT Act](#) | 117th Congress (2021-2022)
- ✔ [S. 96: Reopen and Rebuild America's Schools Act of 2021](#) | 117th Congress (2021-2022)

Gun Safety and Violence Prevention

- ✔ [H.R. 8: Bipartisan Background Checks Act of 2021](#) | 117th Congress (2021-2022)
- ✔ [H.R. 825: Gun Violence Prevention Research Act of 2021](#) | 117th Congress (2021-2022)
- ✔ [S. 281: Gun Violence Prevention Research Act of 2021](#) | 117th Congress (2021-2022)