



**The Purpose of PTA is to promote the welfare of children in schools and the community by supporting parent involvement in the educational process, advocating for quality education, and collaborating with the school to ensure our children reach their full potential.**

**CUCPTSA ADVOCACY TEAM  
September Report  
Monthly meeting September 8, 2023 @ 9:30am  
CUSD Office 33122 Valle Road, SJC 92675**

**In Local News:**

**Welcome to our new Superintendent, Dr. Chris Brown!!!**

**“Brown was appointed superintendent of CUSD over the summer, following a unanimous vote of the Board of Trustees. He comes to CUSD after working as the Assistant Superintendent for Research, Assessment, and School Improvement in the Long Beach Unified School District.” For the full article, visit CUSDInsider**

**<https://cusdinsider.org/dr-brown-goes-to-school/>**

**Dr. Brown will be our special guest speaker at the Friday, October 6th Advocacy meeting! We are grateful for the opportunity to meet him, have him meet our team, understand his goals for the district, and ask questions. You won't want to miss this meeting!!!**

**June, July & August CUSD Board of Trustees Meetings over the summer-What did I miss?** June is always a busy month for the board. They are required to adopt a budget for the 2023-2024 by June 30th, adopt a Special Education Local Area Plan or a “SELPA” for 2023-2024 and approve the State Accountability Local Indicators. The board unanimously approved the Instructional Materials Recommended novels, textbooks and supplemental materials by the Instructional Materials Review Committee. To see the IMRC report on each title, please [click here](#).

July's meeting was our new Superintendents, Dr. Chris Brown's first of many! It also featured a bi-annual report on the Cultural Proficiency Plan, which focuses on updating the progress and implementation. You can find more information [here](#).

August featured two meetings; one a board workshop and the other a regular board meeting. August 9th Board Workshop was to review information gleaned during the search process for the new superintendent and assist the governance team in identifying priorities moving forward. August 16th Regular Board Meeting, the trustees approved multiple CFD's and voted on the IMRC recommended novels. [Click here](#) for more information.

**\*\*This item had been tabled at the April meeting and will most likely be on the September 20th board meeting agenda\*\***

**News from the last Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees-April 19th**

**Item #14A5: Trustee Lisa Davis requested the Board have a discussion regarding the California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS). The request is to direct staff to look into an alternative option to CHKS for the 2023-2024 school year.**

Update: This item was pulled from the agenda and tabled by Trustee Jones until the September meeting. Trustee Jones, Bullockus and Davis have all asked staff to look at alternatives to the survey, find out from neighboring districts what surveys they are using and how our principals are using the data.

**NEXT CUSD Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees is September 20, 2023**

You can find the agenda, when it is posted, 72 hours prior to the meeting, here:

<https://www.capousd.org/Board/Board-Meetings/2023-24-BOARD-MEETING-AGENDAS--MINUTES/index.html>

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

<https://www.capousd.org/Board/Board-Meetings/2023-24-BOARD-MEETING-AGENDAS--MINUTES/index.html>

Minutes and Audio Recordings of Meetings can be found at:

<http://cusd.capousd.org/cusdweb/2023-24audio.html>

Minutes are listed once approved, audio is typically posted within a day or two of the meeting. Also, on this page are links to 2022-2023 minutes/agendas/audio and previous years.

**CUCPTSA Advocacy Team Racial Equity Book Club:**

If you would like to join and receive information about our monthly book club meetings, please email Michele Ploessel-Campbell @ [myshel@ix.netcom.com](mailto:myshel@ix.netcom.com)

**Visit CUSD Insider for the most up to date happenings around our district!**

<https://cusdinsider.org>

**CUSD safety director prepares for new school year** By: Lou Ponsi CUSD Insider

<https://cusdinsider.org/cusd-safety-director-prepares-for-new-school-year/>

## **The Fentanyl Crisis:**

**"Dead on Arrival"** <https://anfhelp.org> With the support of the Alexander Neville Foundation, this documentary film features real families that have lost their children to Fentanyl poisoning. Alexander Neville was 14 when he died in 2020 from Fentanyl poisoning, he was a student attending one of our CUSD schools and his mom Amy Neville presents to students, parents, communities, law enforcement to raise awareness. Please share this information with your PTA's.

**As fentanyl deaths climb, bill would require drug education in schools** By: Carolyn Jones EdSource

<https://edsource.org/2023/as-fentanyl-deaths-climb-bill-would-require-drug-education-in-schools/689323>

## **Most recent edition of the "Advocacy Communicator" June 2023**

**<https://www.fourthdistrictpta.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Advocacy-Communicator-JUNE-2023-2.pdf>**

Back issues of the Communicator can be found at:  
<http://www.fourthdistrictpta.org/advocacy-communicator/>

### **Talking Points for Legislative Chairs, JUNE 2023**

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

- **Governor Newsom issued his May revise state budget proposal. The budget is now smaller than anticipated in January, but Newsom wants to maintain education programs by reducing some multi-year allocations.**
- **The May revise budget would make dyslexia screening in kindergarten through first grade mandatory and includes funding for that. This is something that California State PTA supports.**
- **Arts education funding from Prop. 28 is coming, but some of the details are still being worked out. There's information about that in the newsletter.**
- **Are we interested in putting together a resolution about an issue that affects our children? If so, we should start working on it now. Resolutions give State PTA the authority to support or oppose state bills and propositions, and they can make a real difference.**
- **Next year the State PTA Convention will be in nearby Ontario May 3 to 5. We should all plan to go!**

### **In State News:**

**California education budget 2023-24** By: Carol Kocivar Ed100.org

**[https://ed100.org/blog/california-edbudget-2324?utm\\_source=ActiveCampaign&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=California+s+education+budget+for+2023-24&utm\\_campaign=08+28+2023+California+s+education+budget+for+2023-24](https://ed100.org/blog/california-edbudget-2324?utm_source=ActiveCampaign&utm_medium=email&utm_content=California+s+education+budget+for+2023-24&utm_campaign=08+28+2023+California+s+education+budget+for+2023-24)**

**CAPTA is currently tracking these pieces of legislation:**

**<https://capta.org/focus-areas/advocacy/current-legislation/>**

The Legislation Action Report is a very important piece of information for us to have as PTA advocates. The report outlines the bill number, author, topic, a brief summary of the bill, whether CAPTA has taken a support, oppose or watch position of public education related bills. Those position statements become our official position when talking about these bills

within our council and unit. When it is available, you will find it here:  
<https://capta.org/focus-areas/advocacy/legislative-action-reports/>

### **Committee Chairs announced for the 2023-2024 CA Legislative Session:**

On December 22, 2022, Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon (D-Lakewood) announced committee chairs for the 2023-24 Legislative Session. Remarkably, the committee chairs remain virtually identical to last year, absent appointments to fill vacancies. Additionally, only a few freshmen legislators were appointed chairs, despite such a large incoming class of new folks.

As widely reported, the Assembly Education Committee chair is Al Muratsuchi (D-Torrance). Mike Fong (D-Los Angeles) will lead the Assembly Higher Education Committee, replacing former Assembly Member Jose Medina (D-Riverside).

Despite swirling rumors that the Appropriations Committee would see a new chair, Chris Holden (D-Pasadena) will remain in that seat, for now.

Democrats suffered a painful defeat when their prior Rules Committee chair, Ken Cooley (D-Rancho Cordova) was defeated in November. Speaker Rendon appointed Assembly Member James Ramos (former State Board of Education Member) to fill the position.

Assembly Member Phil Ting (D-San Francisco) remains the Budget Committee chair and Assembly Member Kevin McCarty (D-Sacramento) remains the chair of the Budget Subcommittee on Education Finance.

All chairs are subject to change in July when Speaker Rendon has pledged to step aside and allow Assembly Member Robert Rivas (D-Hollister) to assume the Speakership.

**Follow up:** California Assembly gets a new speaker: Robert Rivas <https://calmatters.org/newsletters/whatmatters/2023/06/robert-rivas-new-speaker/>

### **In National Education & PTA News:**

What is IDEA?

<https://sites.ed.gov/idea/about-idea/>

### **How Special Education Funding Actually Works**

Special education is among the most complicated and misunderstood facets of America's sprawling K-12 school landscape.

<https://www.edweek.org/teaching-learning/how-special-education-funding-actually-works/2023/04>