



**CUCPTSA ADVOCACY TEAM**  
**May Report**  
**Monthly meeting May 5, 2023 @ 9:30am**  
**Via zoom**

**In Local News:**

**Tomorrow 5/4 @ 5pm CUSD CARES Webinar**

**We invite you to join us for a presentation of our proposed District's well-being plan for all students, "CUSD Cares." District staff will be formally presenting CUSD Cares to our Board of Trustees at the May 17, 2023, Board meeting, and we would like to extend this opportunity for you to learn about the plan and provide feedback prior to the May 17th meeting.**

- **Thursday, May 4, 2023- 5-6 p.m.**  
<https://capousd-org.zoom.us/j/83403548334>

**During the webinar, we will discuss how CUSD Cares effectively supports every students' well-being, and we will share the ways that the plan will have a positive impact on student outcomes by creating student connections, strengthening school community, and celebrating the contributions of all of our students. After a brief presentation, we look forward to your questions and feedback regarding the plan.**

**If you are unable to attend, please note that the webinars will be recorded and available on our [Multi-tiered System of Support \(MTSS\) website](#).**

**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.

**May Revision Workshop-**

Capitol Advisors is hosting their May Revision Workshop in person and online! In person Orange County Department of Education - Tuesday, May 23, 2023 - 2:00pm to 4:00pm -Building D, Room 1005 - 200 Kalmus Dr., Costa Mesa, CA 92626 and virtually May 30th & 31st. You can now register [here](#).

They will discuss proposed funding and programs in the May Revision, as well as advocacy plans related to:

- Maintaining LCFF gains and providing a full COLA
- Funding, policy and implementation issues related to expanded learning, TK, universal meals, community schools, special education, etc.
- Continuing efforts to address declining enrollment and ADA fluctuations
- The political dynamics that will impact the Legislature's consideration of the Governor's proposal

**NEXT CUSD Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees is Wednesday, May 17, 2023**

You can find the agenda, when it is posted on Friday 5/12, here:

<https://www.capousd.org/Board/Board-Meetings/2022-23-Board-Meeting-Agendas--Minutes/index.html>

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

Minutes and Audio Recordings of Meetings can be found at

[https://capousd.ca.schoolloop.com/pf4/cms2/view\\_page?d=x&group\\_id=15140162688&vdid=wi10b1qsopu12s#2021-22](https://capousd.ca.schoolloop.com/pf4/cms2/view_page?d=x&group_id=15140162688&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.

**CUCPTSA Legislation/Advocacy Racial Equity Book Club:**

For our next discussion we are reading "The Kindness of Color: The Story of Two Families and Mendez, et al. v. Westminster, The 1947 Desegregation of California Public Schools" by Janice Munemitsu.

Our next meeting is Thursday, May 4, 2023, at 8pm - we are holding a single meeting for this book, and hope you can join us at this time. Please let me know if you are able to attend.

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

<https://cusdinsider.org>

**CUSD + Hoag Speaker Series: Suicide, Depression and Grief**

The emotional toll on students' daily lives can be overwhelming, and the situation was exacerbated during the pandemic. In order to help families deal with these difficult situations, CUSD has partnered with Hoag Hospital to offer free webinars on student mental health. The first this year dealt with depression, suicide and grief.

<https://cusdinsider.org/cusd-hoag-speaker-series-suicide-depression-and-grief/>

<https://youtu.be/svrAglMTaK>

# **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.

## **April 2023 “Advocacy Communicator”**

<https://www.fourthdistrictpta.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Advocacy-Communicator-APRIL-2023-1.pdf>

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

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

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

- :\_\_California State PTA supports a bill that would require schools to screen students in kindergarten to 2<sup>nd</sup> grade for dyslexia. California is one of only 10 states that do not require this. Dyslexia is a neurological condition that makes reading difficult. Students with dyslexia who do not get additional help are more likely to fail in school and have social problems, and are more likely to end up in prison.**
- :\_\_At least three Orange County district superintendents will be at the Fourth District PTA Superintendents Forum on April 28. It’s always very interesting to hear about what is going on in other school districts.**
- :\_\_The California State PTA Convention will be held in Sacramento, April 21 to 23. Shereen Walter, our former Fourth District PTA vice president for advocacy, will be installed as California State PTA president! Four resolutions have been submitted for approval by the membership. We should read these and vote on how we want our delegate at the convention to vote.**
- :\_\_Being a single advocacy rep can be lonely. If we had a committee we could get more done and build a stronger advocacy program.**

### **In State News:**

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.

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

#### **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>

The 117<sup>th</sup> Congress is considering the following legislation items. The National PTA positions can be found by [clicking here](#).