

Children's Caucus Meeting
AGENDA
Location: Sacramento and Zoom
Date: November 17, 2023
Time: 7:00pm - 8:45pm

Agenda

- I. Welcome
- II. Approval of Agenda
Motion: Terri Sori 2nd: Ahmanise Sanati Approved by acclamation
- III. Approval of Minutes from Visalia
Motion: Ahmanise Sanati 2nd: Karen Cea Passed
- IV. **Caucus business** (At top of agenda)
 - A. Sara Roos: There will be a vote on Sunday on the Children's Caucus draft of the platform. Please read it on the website.
 - B. Southern VP Report: Ann Crosbie will spearhead a legislative group. Spoke about the importance of school board races and the Republican Party's push to get into legislative politics
 - C. Northern VP Matthew Hilliard: Gave update on banning of pride flags, bomb threats. Gave information about focusing on child mental health.
 - D. Tiffany Sickler, Treasurer: Account balance \$5950.02. Money was refunded therefore our balance looks good. Very excited about working on children's mental health. If interested in being a part of the child and family working group, reach out to Tiffany Sickler and Mathew Hilliard.
 - E. Aba Ngissah, Secretary: Spoke about the importance of people reaching out and speaking with locals and presidents as they have an inside knowledge of what is really happening in the schools. School board Incursions
- V. **In The News:**
 1. Over 1,000 school board races in California.
 2. As a caucus, we need to work together.
 - B. Road show - Sara Roos presented and explained how to reach the caucus.
 - C. Michael Borges, Political Manager, CTA.
 1. Explained role in CTA. Spoke about school boards and the shift to Gen Election ballots in the even number years. In every single one of these districts, there is a local teachers association that can be doing this work. They are the ones doing the work to push back against these groups.

- D. [agenda accommodation; out-of-order] Lexi Reese - Candidate for United States Senate and “doing this for our kids.” Housing, homelessness, Black or Brown women have a higher chance of dying when giving birth, behind on technology. Next Gen Equal Rights
- E. Terri Sorey - Retired teachers and retired president of Irvine Teachers Association. Presents a resolution. Monitoring School’s Boards to Guarantee Quality Education” to find and support good candidates. Nonpartisan means nothing anymore.
- F. Kristi Hirst (Chino Valley Parent) - Former teacher in Chino Valley and mom in the school district. Spoke about what students, family, and staff are experiencing at SchoolsUSA. They are using the school boards to legislate. The book ban policy presently affects Chino only, but there is a push for it to spread into many other communities. Policies are having an even more detrimental impact on teacher recruitment especially during this teacher shortage time. Book ban passed last night.

VI. **PANEL**

- A. Shaye Stevens (Union President) , [Gloria Berry](#) (SFDCC, Human Rights Commissioner, District grandparent) , Allison Damikolas (Tustin Unified School Board), Michelle Sutherland (Placer County) [absent]
- B. Shared intimidations, threats, etc. to them.
- C. San Francisco board recall. People were hired to come in to have people think Black people were in agreement with the movement, but one was from Richmond, another Michigan.
- D. There has been a pushing to replace superintendents and board members who were considered “ungodly.”
 - 1. Patterns: The San Francisco board recall started in Tustin to Yorba Linda, then Orange. Dog whistle words being used - Antiracism, not safe, groomer, merit.
 - a) Some superintendents are in fear for their jobs that they will do whatever the extremists want.
 - b) One district printed swastikas and put it on the foreheads of women board members
- E. **How to help:**
 - 1. It doesn’t matter if Republican or Democratic, it affects all of our home prices — work together.
 - 2. It’s about public schools being the center of community, about all of us.
 - 3. Show up to your Central Committee & school board meetings and state facts — try to get people to vote in the non election years.

4. Strength in numbers: Some people are scared to come to meetings because there is a local militia at every board meeting.
5. Have our own message

F. Questions Taken from Attendees

VII. **Election Committee**

- A. Koreen Cea was tasked to search for election committee members.
 1. Angela Der Ramos (CTA, board member, teacher in Salinas), Gregg Solkovitz (Ret. UTLA VP), Tracy Cook (EduChair, EAPD DC), Aydé Bravo - (UTLA NEA Representative, South Area) are election committee members. Each person introduced themselves.
- B. Motion to Approve Election Committee Members

Motion: Eric Conrad 2nd: Steve Chassin Passed

VIII. **Candidate Remarks (Those who spoke)**

- A. **Eloise Gomez Reyes:** Community can make great change. Running for senate in an open seat.
- B. **Allyson Munoz Damikolas:** Reproductive rights, school safety, board races.
- C. **Katie Porter:** Focus on what people, not corporations need. Focus on the children.
- D. **Robert Garcia:** [Etiwanda School District board member](#). Running for AD50 now.
- E. **Ricardo Ortega** - Assembly District 34. Former foster youth in LA county. Health care
- F. **Kevin Juza:** Assembly district 75. [Running against](#) a republican who has pushed out a Parent's Bill of Rights.
- G. **Sean Frame:** [Assembly District 6](#) - Ran and served on the school board for 9 years. Learned that a lot of children and families with food insecurities, homeless, EL. His group is raising money to support school board elections. Does not take campaign mode.
- H. **Raquel Mason:** City for Health California on 2024 ballot. Children live near the drilling zones which have toxic elements and it detrimentally affects people. <https://www.cavsbigoil.com/>

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- X. Adjourn at 8:45pm**

Respectfully submitted by Aba Ngissah