



WASHINGTON TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

STATE COUNCIL REPORT

22 – 24 October 2010

Don Stauffer

CTA COMMITTEE REPORTS

Curriculum and Instruction Committee

- The Common Core State Standards (ELA & Math) will be implemented very soon, pending creation of a framework, etc.

Retirement Committee

- The CalSTRS longevity bonus for 30 years of service expires on 12/31/10. Members are not required to retire by this date to receive bonus. Talk to CalSTRS for more info.

Teacher Evaluation and Academic Freedom Committee

- ARRA (the Federal Stimulus) requires all states to document the state's progress toward improving the quality of teachers and administrators. Reggie should ask to see WUSD's response.
- Committee is looking for strong teacher-advocates to serve on Commission on Professional Competence panels. New members will be trained in Spring 2011. Region I (WTA's region) is especially interested in finding new members.

Communications Committee

- Nominations for the Gold Award are open. This award is bestowed upon any person or organization whose leadership, acts, and support demonstrates that she/he/it is a true friend of education. Deadline for filing for nomination is 1/15/11.

COUNCIL DECISIONS

- Council approved a recommendation by the Political Involvement Committee to authorize up to \$1 million from the Initiative Fund to support CTA's ballot initiatives.
- Council elected Doreen McGuire-Grigg as NEA Director, District 1, and Barbara Franklin as CTA-ABC Committee Member, District N.

- The Retirement Committee created a useful flier to help members debunk myths about teachers' retirement benefits. See *attached*.
- A Candidate Forum will take place at the next State Council in February. Members may send their questions in advance to candidatesforum@cta.org.
 - Secretary/Treasurer candidate
 - Mikki Cichocki (Director, District O)
 - Vice President candidates
 - AJ Duffy (President, UTLA)
 - Eric Heims (Director, District C)
 - Gail Mendes (CTA Secretary/Treasurer)
 - President candidate
 - Dean Vogel (Vice President, CTA)
- Council committees also participated in the Teacher Evaluation Survey to provide input for the CTA Teacher Evaluation Workgroup.
 - *Teacher Evaluation Survey link is posted on WTA web site – please take it.*
 - *President David Sanchez also released a bargaining advisory to locals regarding teacher effectiveness – link will be posted on WTA web site.*
- Observed presentations on the 10th Anniversary of the CTA César Chavez Awards program and Breast Cancer Awareness.
- Council expressed interest in encouraging members to see or arrange for a screening of *Race to Nowhere*, a documentary about America's schooling system, that provides an alternative point of view to the recent film *Waiting for Superman*.