

Hello There, Children's Advocates and Caucus Members!

It's been a while, and we miss you... Learning about Visalia and the Central Valley was so interesting, and now we focus on strategizing the VOTE. We're convening in <u>Sacramento</u> during November 17-19, 2023, in order to officially vote on CADEM endorsements. And we need to be thinking about what endorsements mean in terms of school board races at the local level, too.

<u>-Sara.</u>

So JoinUS!

...for our Children's Caucus (CademCC) <u>membership</u> meeting at the Sacramento Convention Center! We'll kickoff the convention (registration opens at 3pm) on the first night:

Friday 11/17, 2023, in Rooms A10-A11, at 7pm.

Our caucus meeting will be hybrid.* And since technology can be unstable, we encourage the more reliable, and more personable, mode of meeting in person!

Please review our caucus meeting <u>agenda</u> and materials on our <u>website</u> <u>here</u>. Convention agenda is <u>here</u>. We will conduct a small amount of caucus business, including electing our elections committee, and perhaps



a bit of discussing Sunday's meeting agenda (find the CDP Platform here).

But most of our meeting will tag team the Convention's theme: "Organizing To Protect the Rights Of ALL Our Children". We will hear from a panel of individuals who have personal experience on the very front lines as teacher/parent/student/trustee/administrator, pushing back against MAGA incursions on schools, school boards and our civil rights. We hope to hear from statewide and local elected officials about their office's efforts in protecting our children. And we look forward to hearing from candidates regarding their plans in this regard, too.

* We'll do our best to broadcast a remote zoom feed, but cannot guarantee the electronic stars will align. Sign up here to participate remotely if necessary, but understand that safest will be to join us at the SAFE CU Convention Center in person!

<u>Statement</u> from the CDP Children's Caucus regarding endorsement and candidacy

As a constituent part of the California Democratic Party, the CDP Children's Caucus cannot independently endorse candidates.

We appreciate the opportunity to articulate what our members should listen for when candidates speak.

We know a strong voice for children would speak unwaveringly about children's issues in the <u>CDP Platform</u>, especially those found under the planks of "Children, Young Adults and their Families", "Education", "Gun Violence Prevention" and "Juvenile Justice."

We expect candidates not just to forcefully articulate children's issues during their campaign, but to transition proactively to advocacy for such policies upon election.

We appreciate candidates sharing their commitment to children's issues, and how they realize this priority.

Renewing membership with the Children's Caucus

All CDP caucus memberships have been aligned to a calendar year, so please consider renewing for 2024 here! Please JoinUS! and our concerns safeguarding children's issues, electoral integrity and Democrats' elections up and down the great state of California.

Our new membership dues structure holds a special welcoming level for Democrats of ages 16-17 yo preregistered with the Secretary of State. For those who so choose, we are now accommodating "Patron" and



"Mentors" at a higher level than the standard \$15 annual membership, and would be thrilled to recognize inaugural "Lifetime" members too! As always, membership dues may be waived upon request.

Election & Assembly Integrity Watch

Our caucus Election & Assembly Integrity Watch Committee has been busy. We are looking forward to bringing our "Road Show" to all the 18 caucuses at Convention, and to 58 County Committees (DCCs) and countless Dem Clubs afterwards! Our message seeks to convince fellow delegates that "Nonpartisan, Down Ballot School Board Races Are Our Electoral 'Achilles Heel'." If you are interested in helping to bring this message, please reach out and join the committee! We will need a lot of help if we are to reach all 18 meetings over Convention weekend. And the message will be particularly meaningful to DCC members when presented by one of their own: JoinUS!

Organizing to protect our LGBTQ+ youth

Under growing threat to our student's privacy and the civil rights of one and all, CADEM is hosting a bundling action in support of Sacramento's **LGBT Community Center** on Saturday. Register here.

School Board Candidate Training

And CademCC is readying our School Board Candidate Training! This cycle's school board candidate training is set for January 20, 2024. Zoom link registration is here; flyer will be out soon. Please reach out if your DCC or Dem Club would be interested in collaborating – we want to help!

CademCC Statement on the mayhem

...link regarding select California school boards up and down the state:

The Children's Caucus of the CA Democratic Party stands against recent GOP attacks on our public schools and the rights of the children these institutions serve. Our children's basic right to privacy, protection, and the development of autonomy, must not be surrendered to bigotry around gender identity or censorship of letters, arts, or science. We must assure our schools' core function, as a place where learning is taught, social interactions are engaged, and truth is sustained.

Monitoring Schools Boards to Guarantee Quality Education ...link to CDP Resolution 23-05.023:

WHEREAS the Republican Party is waging an ongoing, extensive, deliberate,



well-funded, national effort to undermine and defund public schools for the purpose of privatizing education and thereby weakening our democracy; and

WHEREAS, as President Franklin Delano Roosevelt stated, "Democracy cannot succeed unless those who express their choice are prepared to choose wisely; and the real safeguard of democracy, therefore, is education"; and

WHEREAS elected trustees of school districts must ensure all students are educated equitably because our children are future citizens who need to be "prepared to choose wisely," yet some trustees are undermining public schools and educators by banning books, omitting required curriculum, discriminating against LGBTQ+ students and staff, avoiding public oversight by ignoring the Brown Act, usurping authority beyond their purview, filing frivolous lawsuits, and violating their official responsibilities by wasting tax dollars taken from students to spend on their extremist agendas;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the California Democratic Party supports that education laws must be followed by all school boards and districts, enforced by oversight agencies, and that the community should monitor the actions and decisions of their local and county school boards and participate in its meetings, take an active part in surveys, Parent Teacher Associations, and exercise other efforts to guide school board decisions in order to guarantee that school boards facilitate the delivery of quality education to the students they serve, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports electing and supporting school board members and trustees who commit to following state and federal education laws, as the first step to guarantee quality education to all students.

More important Caucus links

- Locate our growing website here
- Follow regional news E & A Watch postings from the North and South
- Download missed newsletters <u>here</u>
- Register your interest in joining our working committees here
- Join the email listserv with fellow caucus members here
- ...then communicate directly with the membership via email
- Submit this year's caucus dues <u>here</u>

A note on membership and inclusion

* You needn't be an elected or appointed delegate to the CDP to belong to the CDP Children's Caucus! We require only your interest in supporting children's issues. *

CDP caucus membership is accessible to all California Democrats. And meeting



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Not authorized by any candidate or candidate committee

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