



Dear Children's Caucusers:

We're all processing these events of the last few weeks in different ways, on a different timeline, with a different expression of our own activism. There are thousands, perhaps hundreds of thousands of outpourings (through legacy media, social media, over backyard fences) for you to seek synergy from among.

Here in the Children's Caucus, among fellow Democratic Party members who share a common interest in children's issues, we are planning three meetings through which to channel your feelings into action. *JoinUS* for:

INFORMATION ~ *A Conversation with the Honorable Al Muratsuchi, Chair of the Assembly Education Committee*

*Legislating from the Left Coast:
Can California's laws keep our kids safe?*

ADVOCACY ~ *Raise Your Voice for full funding of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)!*

2025 Legislative Day of Action

**EDUCATING TO BEST PRACTICES ~ *Regular CademCC membership meeting*
*Exploring Career Technical Education (CTE)***

JoinUS for Information

Saturday, 2/15/25 [JoinUs](#) as we convene the next *Conversation* in our Saturday morning series with Californian leaders, focusing on the children's issues concerning CademCC members.

We will be joined by Chair of the Assembly Education Committee, the Honorable Al Muratsuchi, from southern Los Angeles' AD 66.

Of concern will be what's on our member's minds: protecting our kids in schools, protecting their families, keeping their world calm enough to learn and grow. We hope to hear from the Assemblymember about the legislation his committee entertains; the process whereby it is brought and heard and approved; how constituents can advocate for important legislation; how, what and whether legislation can protect our children, and what we can do to further that process.

Click to register for **A Conversation with Al Muratsuchi (AD66), Chair of the Assembly Education Committee:**

Legislating from the Left Coast: Can California's laws keep our kids safe?

All CADEM caucus meetings are open and free to all registered Democrats, but we ask that you please consider formally joining the Children's Caucus. Membership dues cover the Zoom bill and are appreciated, but no one is turned away for want of funds – request a dues waiver below.

JoinUS for Advocacy

Folks throughout California and across the nation are worried about the future of IDEA, the [Individuals with Disabilities Act of 1990](#). IDEA is a massive omnibus set of legislation which provides

JOIN US !



AL MURATSUCHI,
Chair, Assembly Education Committee

*Legislating from the Left Coast:
Can California's laws
keep our kids safe?*

**Saturday,
February 15, 2025
9:30am PST**

*Meeting held
via Zoom*



**Register here today:
tinyurl.com/LeftCoastLeg**

crucial federal funding for the education of disabled individuals. It is intended to assure adequate resourcing and equity for this integral subset of our general population. And yet IDEA has never been fully funded, see a one-pager about it [here](#) and more information from the federal government [here](#).

The Children's Caucus wholeheartedly supports [IDEA Alliance](#) and [CARSplus](#) in their **Day of Action at the Capitol** on 2/19/25, calling attention to [IDEA](#) and the funding of this Act – its chronic underfunding, and now the immediate threat of zero funding under Trump's new administration.

Click to register for IDEA Alliance's **Day of Action**, featuring a legislative meet and greet in the morning, and an afternoon rally of expert guest speakers, including SSPI Thurmond:

2025 Legislative Day of Action

Please share this notice with friends and colleagues! Help us to Stand Up and Speak Up for the Rights of ALL our kids. [Our Voice is Their Voice](#).

2025 LEGISLATIVE DAY OF ACTION



WEDNESDAY
FEB 19

RAISE YOUR VOICE FOR FULLY FUNDING IDEA!

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS:

MORNING: LEGISLATIVE MEET & GREET

- Connect with state legislators & policymakers
- Share stories & discuss importance of IDEA funding

AFTERNOON: RALLY FOR IDEA FUNDING

- **Guest Speakers** - Hear from inspiring advocates, educators, & policymakers
- **Exhibitors** - Explore resources & tools to support special education
- **Community Engagement** - Join a vibrant crowd of educators, families, & allies

SIGN UP TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS FREE EVENT:



CAPITOL GROUNDS ~ SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

2025 LEGISLATIVE DAY OF ACTION FEB 19 WEDNESDAY

CONFIRMED SPEAKERS:

- **SCOTT TURNER** - Chair, SSPIA Administration of California
- **EMERILDA SORNA** - Assembly District 27
- **NICK SCHULTZ** - Assembly District 44
- **SARAH THOMPSON** - Student Leader, CDE Advisory Council of Special Education
- **MIMI MARICOLA** - Education Specialist, Extended Support Needs (ABLE Transition, IEA Director)
- **LARA KELLEY** - President, California Assoc. of Resource and Special Education (CARENA.org)
- **HEATHER WHEAT CURRIE** - Region 6 Director, CAPS Alliance
- **DR. LAURIE CHAFFORD** - Education Specialist, Student Teachers Association

Along with speakers from:
WINE COUNTY YOUNG DEMOCRATS
CA DEMOCRAT PARTY DISABILITY CAUCUS

SIGN UP TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS FREE EVENT:

SCHEDULE:

12:00-3:00 PM	- LOBBING TERMS
3:30-4:00 PM	- ENTERTAINMENT/FOOD
4:00-5:00 PM	- SPEAKERS
5:00-5:30 PM	- ENTERTAINMENT/FOOD

SACRAMENTO STATE CAPITOL BUILDING - WEST LAWN

JoinUS for Educating to Best Practices

Career Technical Education: Empowering California's Children for Their Future

CademCC secretary, Abayawa ("Aba") Ngissah, is hard at work designing a program to spotlight the transformative power of Career Technical Education (CTE) later this Spring. Perhaps as late as our regular hybrid meeting at Convention in Anaheim (May 30-June 1, 2025), or earlier (mid-April?) if the program is ready (virtual), the plan is to bring together educators, industry leaders, policymakers, and community stakeholders,

to discuss how CTE equips California's children with essential skills for success in both education and the workforce.

CTE provides an important blend of academic, technical, and soft skills (e.g., critical thinking, communication, teamwork), which along with real-world experience develops "employability skills," collectively preparing students both for college and for meaningful jobs after high school.

The upcoming program will delve into how CTE programs ensure the children of California are prepared for the workforce of tomorrow. *JoinUS* at our next regular caucus meeting to hear from CTE experts and a panel including students who have benefited from these pathways, fostering qualities like ethical leadership, citizenship, and innovation

ADEM voting is open!

Many of our Children's Caucus membership is running for ADEMs, and almost all of the caucus' current board. See our member's statements [here](#). And if you are one of our members also running for ADEMs and would like to share with your fellow CademCC members about your candidacy, please complete this form [here](#); it will automatically appear on our Facebook group page [here](#). We'll also batch ADEM candidate's fliers there in [one thread](#).

Children's Caucus 2024 In Review

Your Children's Caucus has been busy! A full recounting of 2024 is [here](#).

Our meetings and Conversations with PLEOs (Party Leaders and Elected Officials) are archived on youtube [here](#).

Find 2024 newsletters archived [here](#).

CADEM Children's Caucus 2024 Highlights

Conversation Series with Elected Officials

- o Attorney General Rob Bonta
- o State Superintendent of Instruction Thurmond

Special Meetings

- o Road Show: *Nonpartisan, Down ballot school board races* - presentations to DCCs; meetings with membership
- o *Environmental Justice for Kids*
- o *Countering the Conservative Agenda* - Panel with Diane Ravitch; Dave Jones; Mary Nicely

Regular Meetings

- o San Diego Eboard Summer (virtual), *Family Services, Child Welfare and Mental Health*
- o Summer (virtual) Eboard: *Do Something!*
- o Fall (virtual) Eboard: *Activism in Indian Country*

Candidate Training

- o Specialized for down ballot, nonpartisan races including school/water boards

CADEM Intra-Committee Activities

- o CADEM Legislation Committee; all recommended bills were endorsed
- o Mandatory revision of bylaws: completed

Before the holidays our regular caucus meeting with VC Hilliard explored children's issues among the indigenous community in California, featuring Dr Joely Proudfit, Dr Alexandra Pierce and Ms Vanessa Brierty. View the meeting on our [youtube channel](#), and find the many helpful references and links to information and resources presented on-screen and in the

Organize in 2025!

♦ The Children's Caucus wants to encourage and support a statewide network of Democratic Clubs devoted to children's issues. Let us help you to start your own countywide, or neighborhood or area Democratic Club. [Orange](#) and [San Diego](#) Counties are blazing the way, Los Angeles is following... who'll be next? Please [reach out](#) if we can help you organize in this specific way around these, our specific issues. Help us to build a network up and down the state watching over our children and [the issues that matter to them](#), where they live.

♦ CademCC will elect new leadership at CDP's annual Convention in Anaheim, May 30-June 1, 2025. If you have an interest in joining our team planning caucus programs and Conversations, guiding caucus actions and Party insight into children's issues, please be in touch with elections Chair, [Koreen Cea](#). Your membership dues must be settled by the end of April to vote – [JoinUS](#) to pay membership dues or request a waiver [here](#). And if you have an interest in getting involved, now's never too late! Feel free to pitch an idea and jump into whatever ongoing action there is: we need you – [talk to us!](#)

Pass It On ...

Immigrant and civil rights are very much on the minds of our members, working closely with children and families at risk.



[Here](#) is a “red card” of information for you to keep on hand, with printer's instructions, from the [Immigrant Legal Resource Center](#).

Membership News

The Children's Caucus loves our 2025 membership! Thank you for sharing of your experience and insight, for joining with us and collectively working as a group to raise consciousness and effectiveness around children's issues. Your dues support caucus infrastructure and communications ~~ a special shout-out in gratitude for encouragement beyond the standard level to:

- Patron:

- [Lindsay Carlson](#)
- [Koreen Cea-Heier](#)
- [Jennifer DeBrienza](#)

- Mentor:

- [Brandee Marckmann](#)
- [Rima Nashashibi](#)

- Bob Eversole
- Alyce Eversole
- James Gallagher
- Havaughnia Hayes-White
- Nichelle Henderson
- Elisabeth Robledo
- Tauna Rodarte
- Analisa Swan

- Benefactor:
 - Renay Grace Rodriguez

To join the Children's Caucus for 2025, click [here](#) to pay membership dues (press on the fifth "+" down), or [here](#) to request waiver of membership dues.

Dues paid Q4, 2024, were grandfathered for 2025; dues waivers must be resubmitted for and in each new calendar year. The Children's Caucus current membership numbers 59.

Thank you all... please consider renewing your membership right now:

Standard Dues (\$15/annum)	Update Your Caucus Membership ~	Pre-registered Democrat (Youth; \$5/annum)
Patron-level Dues (\$25/annum)	Dues support our hybrid programming costs - media and communications subscriptions, conference meeting facilities	Benefactor-level Dues (Lifetime; \$500)
Mentor-level Dues (\$50/annum)		Request of Dues Waiver

More Caucus links

- Socials:
 - Locate our growing **WEBSITE** [here](#)
 - Find CDP Children's Caucus on [Facebook](#) [here](#)
 - Follow us on [Instagram](#) @childrenciaucus [here](#)
 - Gaze @cdpchildrenciaucus.bsky.socials [here](#)
 - Watch our [youtube](#) channel @cdpchildrenciaucus [here](#)
- Engagement:
 - Download missed newsletters [here](#) and [here](#)
 - Prioritize a working committee [here](#)
 - Signup for the email listserv with fellow caucus members [here](#)
...then communicate directly with the membership via [email](#)
- Caucus business:
 - Review the 2024 Annual Children's Caucus Report [here](#)
 - View 2024's recertified Bylaws [here](#)
 - Submit this year's caucus dues [here](#); (request dues waiver [here](#))

CademCC Executive Board:

- Sara Roos, Chair

Elections Chair:

- Koreen Cea

- Matthew Hilliard, NoCal VC
- Ann Crosbie, SoCal VC
- Tiffany Sickler, Treasurer
- Aba Ngissah, Secretary

Communications Team:

- Liz Kane
- Ahmanise Sanati
- Nelson Tam

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 attendance does not require Convention or Eboard Meeting registration. It is a good way to engage the state Party, without being a voting delegate to it. Dues are collected annually [here](#); request a hardship waiver [here](#). Direct questions to: chair.cademcc@gmail.com. If you no longer wish to receive news from the Children's Caucus, please accept our apologies for troubling you, and simply unsubscribe through the automated link below.



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