

Dear CademCC ...

Folks throughout California and across the nation are worried about the future of IDEA funding (among other federal funding concerns). IDEA, the <u>Individuals with</u> <u>Disabilities Act of 1990</u>, is a massive omnibus set of legislation which provides crucial federal funding for the education of disabled individuals. It ensures adequate support and equity for this integral subset of our general population.

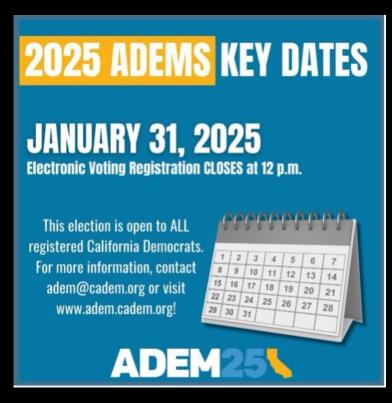
The Act has never been fully funded, see a one-pager about it <u>here</u> and more information from the federal government <u>here</u>.



With the ascendency of the ideologues behind Project 2025, there is widespread concern for the future of IDEA altogether.

Join the Day of Action in Sacramento on 2/19/25 with **IDEA Alliance** and **CARSplus**.

Register Directly with CADEM in order to vote!



This is the time of the political cycle when California's Democrats vote directly for "assembly-district delegates" (ADEMs) to represent them at the state Democratic Party!

If you are a registered Democrat, or would be one if you were able to register to vote, please register online to vote NOW for these direct elections, before noon on Friday, 1/31/25.

Weigh in with your vote to elect Party delegates who represent your values, opinions, feelings. VOTE!!!

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 automagically 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 of the California Democratic Party has been busy! See an archive of our meetings and Conversations with PLEOs (Party Leaders and Elected Officials) on youtube here.

And a recounting of 2024's achievements <u>here</u> (in process; if not uploaded now, keep trying).

CADEM Children's Caucus 2024 Highlights

Conversation Series with Elected Officials

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

Special Meetings

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

Regular Meetings

- 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

 $_{\odot}\,$ Specialized for down ballot, nonpartisan races including school/water boards

CADEM Intra-Committee Activities

- $_{\odot}\,$ CADEM Legislation Committee; all recommended bills were endorsed
- o Mandatory revision of bylaws: completed

Our meeting before the holidays explored children's issues among the indigenous community in California with Dr Joely Proudfit, Dr Alexandra Pierce and Ms Vanessa Brierty – view the meeting on our <u>youtube</u> <u>channel</u>, and find the many helpful references and links to information and resources presented on-screen and in the chat <u>here</u>.

Join our Conversations

♦ After perusing our <u>website</u> and <u>recordings</u>, please make a plan to devise, contribute and join our conversations in 2025:

Save The Date for <u>February 15, 2025</u> for our first Conversation of the year, with CA State Assembly Chair of the Education Committee, Honorable Al Muratsuchi (AD 66)

Our CademCC secretary, <u>Aba Ngissah</u> is hard at work designing our next thematic caucus meeting, to feature CTE, Continuing Technical Education. Held either during the Convention in Anaheim at May's end, or perhaps sooner via Zoom ~ Stay Tuned!

Encourage your own Conversations... and actions!

♦ The Children's Caucus wants to encourage and support you in starting your own Democratic Clubs dedicated to children's issues countywide, or in your own neighborhood. <u>Orange</u> and <u>San Diego</u> Counties are blazing the way, Los Angeles is following... who'll be next? Please <u>reach out</u> 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 <u>the issues that matter to them</u>, where they live.

Organize with US!

♦ The Children's Caucus will be electing new leadership at the 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 ...

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



information for you to keep on hand, with printer's instructions, from the <u>Immigrant</u>
<u>Legal Resource Center</u>.

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 to grow an understanding and effectiveness in the group. Your dues, support caucus infrastructure and communications ~~ a special shout-out in gratitude for encouragement beyond the standard level to:

- Patron:
 - Jennifer DeBrienza
 - Havaughnia Hayes-White
 - Nichelle Henderson
 - Elisabeth Robledo
 - Analisa Swan

- Mentor:
 - Brandee Marckmann
 - Rima Nashashibi
- Benefactor:
 - Renay Grace Rodriguez

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

We will never name you without explicit permission. Conversely, if your name is not listed here and should be, please contact chair.cademcc@gmail.com

To align membership with CADEM's new calendar-year payment schedule, 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 37.

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)

(\$50/annum)

Dues Waiver

More Caucus links

- Socials:
 - Locate our growing **WEBSITE** here
 - Find CDP Children's Caucus on Facebook here
 - Follow us on Instagram @childrenscaucus here
 - Tweet @ChildrensCaucus here
 - Watch our <u>youtube</u> channel @cdpchildrenscaucus <u>here</u>
- Engagement:
 - Download missed newsletters <u>here</u> and <u>here</u>
 - Prioritize a working committee <u>here</u>
 - Signup for the email listserv with fellow caucus members here ...then communicate directly with the membership via email
- Caucus business:
 - Review the 2023-24 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
- Matthew Hilliard, NoCal VC
- Ann Crosbie, SoCal VC
- Tiffany Sickler, Treasurer
- Aba Ngissah, Secretary

Elections Chair:

Koreen Cea

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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