

# **Dear CademCCaucusers!**

Thank you for seeing us through the end of 2024!

Our meeting before the holidays was really interesting – we explored children's issues among the indigenous community in California with Dr Joely Proudfit, Dr Alexandra Pierce and Ms Vanessa Brierty. If you were unable to JoinUS then, no worries ~ you can view the meeting on our youtube channel right <a href="here">here</a>. And please consider joining our caucus for similarly edifying programming, events and actions in 2025, either via dues payment <a href="here">here</a> or dues waiver request <a href="here">here</a>.

Many helpful references and links to information and resources were presented during December's Zoom onscreen and in the chat; these are collected <a href="here">here</a>. Please feel free to share them along with word of our caucus' efforts. In the New Year we will create a letter of introduction to these resources you may use in sharing professionally, with colleagues or friends if you will; stay tuned!



## Children's Caucus 2024 In Review

This slide shows some of the year's major highlights. Intended to be conveyed during the meeting itself, our program ran late and **CADEM Children's Caucus 2024 Highlights Conversation Series with Elected Officials** o Attorney General Rob Bonta 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**  San Diego Eboard Summer (virtual), Family Services, Child Welfare and 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

there was insufficient time to show it there. Look for a more comprehensive review of CademCC's New Year but during this period of elections-recovery, take a moment to let sink in what our caucus is able to accomplish together.

## More in Store for 202...5

- Of vital importance is to grow a network of Democratic Clubs up and down our state dedicated to children's issues, identifying hot spots of concern and sharing resources. The Children's Caucus intends to extend the know-how of our members to encourage, support and sustain just such a set of networked Clubs at the very roots of our grass. *JoinUS!* Think who among your friends lives in far reaches of the state, and could be encouraged to this important initiative. We're there to help them, share our perspectives and lengthen our reach!
- Legislation is where it's at: that's what we're here for. To improve circumstances for kids, whether in school or in society at large. *JoinUS* to establish a strong study section of the ideas being pitched to help our kids. While CademCC cannot endorse legislation itself, its members *can* learn about what's being proposed, and the ideological and political landscape about these issues. It is CademCC's mandate to draw on our expertise to advise CADEM as it considers an official position. We will study these matters regularly, meeting as a subcommittee of our caucus. Please be in touch if this initiative is of interest to you!
- And of course we'll be back for the next regular meeting of the Children's Caucus around May's Convention at the Anaheim Hilton from 5/30/25-6/1/25. JoinUS there to discuss K12 Career Technical Education, CademCC's Secretary Ngissah's passion. The issue is all the more timely at the moment with <u>last week's release</u> of Governor Newsoms' new <u>framework</u> for the Master Plan for Career Education.
- CademCC Elections <u>Chair Cea</u> awaits your inquiries to run for the Children's Caucus leadership team! We will vote on new Party and Caucus leadership teams at the May Convention. But you don't have to wait now is soon enough to seize initiative in CademCC, It's always a good time to run with your ideas here; <u>let's talk!</u>

# Speaking of talking...

- Do you have an idea you'd like to explore? Our series of special-subject meetings will continue next year as well. One incipient program would focus on infant and maternal mortality; please <u>pitch your ideas</u> and stay tuned!
- Our <u>Conversation Series</u> with Party leaders and elected officials will continue in 2025; perhaps there is someone you would particularly like to hear from or inquire after? <u>Send us</u> your suggestions, send us your questions.

#### One for Us

There was a <a href="https://www.nimes.com/huge-victory">huge-victory</a> in the waning days of 2024 in DC when tax laws were adjusted to allow public servants, including public school teachers, to collect all their entitled retirement when earned under more than one system, e.g., Social Security + CalPERS.

We have to hold one line at a time – whether legislative, picket, or personal essay – to keep America working for its children and the ones who look after and out for them.

#### **Membership News**

The Children's Caucus loves our 2024 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:
  - Ann Crosbie
  - Jim Gallagher
  - Amy Hines-Shaikh
  - Norman Howell
  - Terri Lisagor
  - Aba Ngissah
  - Stacey Sampo
  - Teri Sorey
  - Tiffany Woods
  - Patrice McKenzie
  - Nadine Peyrucain
  - Havaughnia Hayes-White ('25)
  - Nichelle Henderson ('25)

- Mentor:
  - Harini Krishnan
  - ▶ Brandee Marckmann
  - Angela D. Scott
  - Rima Nashashibi ('25)
- Benefactor:
  - Renay Grace Rodriguez

To join the Children's Caucus for 2025, click here to pay membership dues

(press on the fifth "+" down), or <a href="here">here</a> 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 <a href="mailto:chair.cademcc@gmail.com">chair.cademcc@gmail.com</a>

To align membership with CADEM's new calendar-year payment schedule, dues paid Q4, 2024, are grandfathered for 2025; dues waivers must be resubmitted for and in each new calendar year.

The Children's Caucus 2024 membership numbers 165. Dues paid in Q4 are reported in 2024 but count toward membership in 2025; dues are credited to membership in one year only. 18 members, including members at all levels, are credited with 2025 membership already!

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 @childrenscaucus here
  - Tweet @ChildrensCaucus here
  - Watch our <u>youtube</u> channel @cdpchildrenscaucus <u>here</u>
- Engagement:
  - Download missed newsletters here and here
  - Prioritize a working committee here
  - Signup for the email listserv with fellow caucus members <a href="here">here</a> ...then communicate directly with the membership via <a href="mail">email</a>
- Caucus business:
  - Review the 2023-24 Annual Children's Caucus Report <a href="here">here</a>
  - View 2024's recertified Bylaws here
  - Submit this year's caucus dues <u>here</u>; (request dues waiver <u>here</u>)

#### **CademCC Executive Board:**

- Sara Roos, Chair
- Matthew Hilliard, NoCal VC
- Ann Crosbie, SoCal VC

#### **Elections Chair:**

Koreen Cea

**Communications Team:** 

- Tiffany Sickler, Treasurer
- Aba Ngissah, Secretary

- 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 <a href="mailto:here">here</a>; request a hardship waiver <a href="mailto:here">here</a>. Direct questions to: <a href="mailto:chair.cademcc@gmail.com">chair.cademcc@gmail.com</a>. 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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