

Action on...

NBI 1/17-9

The CTA will initiate the call for a Statewide Day of Action - marches, demonstrations, strikes - against Donald Trump's attacks on public education and immigrant rights. No DeVos! Defend sanctuary cities and campuses!

May 1, 2017

CTA Statewide Day of Action (Fact Sheet)

Why May 1st? May 1st has been historically linked to international workers' rights. It started, May 1 1886 when the U.S. Federation of Organized Trade and Labor Unions – which included immigrant workers from all over – ruled that an 8-hour work day, would be a full and legal work day. More recently, May Day has served as a national day of action to raise awareness about immigration rights and the need to keep families together as they fight for a better life.

This year, in accordance with NBI 1/17-9 approved by State Council, CTA is holding a statewide day of action on May 1, 2017 to profess our unwavering support for all students, our vigilance in making schools safe zones, and our persistent advocacy for the public education all California students deserve. Also on May 1, NEA and the Alliance to Reclaim Our Schools (AROS)* are holding a national day of action. Several other labor unions are also targeting that day to stand up for workers' rights. CTA is asking local chapters and members to hold actions with parents and community members at their local school sites. With CTA local chapters planning school site events all across California and NEA encouraging national action, we will ensure that our positions on immigration and safe schools are heard loud and clear.

Where We Stand

- On May 1, 2017, we are encouraging strong, spirited events that focus on the challenges that we are facing in public education today, especially the challenges that are unique to your community. This is a day of local resistance to the dismantling of public education and for standing up for students and the idea that free public education is a basic civil right. Events can focus on whatever is important at your school site.
- We are asking members to organize “walk-ins” at their school sites that bring together students, parents, teachers and community members to show a united front against hatred, ICE raids, privatization and any actions other policies that have been harming your students.
- We will demand safe and nurturing schools where all children can learn without being frightened or harassed. We will work for policies and practices that *strengthen* our public schools, not dismantle them. We will not cooperate with hateful rhetoric and bullying of DREAMers, immigrant children, LGBT students, Muslims and others.
- We ask all Californians, including elected leaders regardless of party affiliation, to join us in pledging their support to a strong, inclusive, safe and innovative public education system that ensures all students can succeed, regardless of their ZIP code. Our public schools must remain centers of our communities, and not become corporate profit centers. We hold these values because all children, regardless of family circumstances, where they live, where they were born, how they look, who they love or the language they speak have the right to a public education that helps them reach their full potential.

- We stand for fully funded public schools that provide a quality education to *every* child. We will not be silent while the Trump administration seeks to divert billions of public dollars to private vouchers and corporate charter schools.

Event Ideas

- Hold **“walk-ins” with parents and community members** at local schools around the city in the morning in support of public education and social justice.
- Unveil new **safe zone policy and safe zone resolution** that you convinced your local school boards to adopt (sample policy and resolution is available at cta.org/ForAllStudents)
- Hold before or after school events at your neighborhood local schools **standing up for better treatment of immigrants and minorities**. (support Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals or DACA to protect DREAMers.)
- Host a pledge drive leading up to the Day of Action and **unveil the local and statewide signature count**.
- Host a **community meeting and share the CTA Advocacy Agenda** to start a conversation about what type of public education neighborhood students deserve.

The event that you organize or participate in on May 1st should reflect the education and social justice issues most prevalent in your community. You decide! Also, look at participating in community rallies planed by other unions and community groups.

Activities to Incorporate

- Ask all events ask participants to **sign CTA’s Pledge** Unity, Resolve and Resilience. Inspired by our student-centered advocacy agenda, the pledge is a call to action for the Public Education All California's Students Deserve.
- Print and **share copies of CTA’s Advocacy Agenda** to show parents and the community what educators know to be needed for students to succeed.
- **Share information about immigration and ICE raids:** a CTA document that is available in 11 languages.
- **Use CTA’s Safety Resources** to make sure all students know they are welcome and safe at your school.

RESOURCES

www.cta.org/ForAllStudents | www.cta.org/AdvocacyAgenda | www.reclaimourschools.org/resources

***What is AROS?** AROS is an alliance of parent, youth, community and labor organizations that together represent over 7 million people nationwide. The goal of AROS is to reclaim the promise of public education as our nation's gateway to a strong democracy and racial and economic justice.

AROS is best-known for nationally coordinated “walk-ins.” Many of our locals and school sites have participated already in three previous walk-ins, in February, May and October of 2016. Each one was bigger than the previous. In October, walk-ins took place at over 2,000 schools in 238 cities across the country.