

San Bernardino Teachers Association PAGE Committee  
Newsletter



# The FRONT P.A.G.E. NEWS

Volume 11, Issue 1  
September 2019

Welcome to the eleventh volume of our Association's Political Action Newsletter. Each month a small portion of your SBTA dues and of your CTA state dues are allocated to political action. These funds are used for lobbying local and state representatives regarding issues concerning children, public education, and its employees. These many issues include wages, benefits, working conditions, how public education funds are directed, the rights and responsibilities of educators, retirement issues, and the needs of children. Funds are also used to support both local and state candidates, especially SBCUSD Board of Education candidates known to back efforts to protect and improve public education, as well as local and state ballot initiatives that would impact public education, its employees, and those they serve. If you choose not to have this portion of your dues go to support these activities, all you need to do is contact the SBTA office at (909) 881-6755. They will provide you with the necessary forms. This request needs to be made by October 31<sup>st</sup>.

California currently has over one thousand three-hundred charter schools that serve over ten percent of California's school children. Even though California has a disproportionately large share of the nation's approximately seven thousand charter schools, in recent years the California Charter Schools Association along with other prominent charter school advocates have pushed for a massive expansion of charter school enrollments. The California Teachers Association has called for greater transparency in their operations, as concerns have mounted about the impact on the finances of school districts with large numbers of charter schools. A result of this call is the recent passage of AB1505 and AB1507 which, once signed by the governor, will ensure locally-elected school board members have discretion to make decisions to meet the needs of local students in relation to charter schools and ensure charter schools are operating within the authorizing district boundaries to protect our students from waste, fraud and abuse.