

For Immediate Release:
Thursday, May 13, 2010

Contact: Carolyn Constantino
cconstantino@csea.com - (415) 509-0271

May 19 Save Our Schools Statewide Day of Action

New grassroots group launched to marshal support for California's schools, plans more than 30 actions throughout state to urge lawmakers to keep their promise to students by rejecting further education cuts

SAN JOSE—Vowing to keep the pressure on Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and the state Legislature to stop a proposed \$2.4 billion education cut, school employees throughout California are reaching out to their neighbors this week and inviting them to gather after work on Wednesday, May 19. “Save our Schools” events will be held next Wednesday from 4:30p to 6:30p at more than 35 locations from Eureka to Calexico to show state leaders there is strong community support for schools (see enclosed list).

“While we have been working long and hard to stop these cuts, we can’t do it alone,” said Allan Clark, president of the 220,000-member California School Employees Association (CSEA). “California’s children have suffered enough. It’s time to save public education, and to do that we need more people in our communities to speak up.”

To engage local supporters, CSEA is sponsoring the May 19 actions and launching a new umbrella group, California Advocates United to Save Education (CAUSE) – online at www.cause4education.org.

The group initially will focus on holding legislators and the governor to their word as they enter the critical phase of the budget process after Schwarzenegger releases his May budget revision later this week. Last July, the Legislature passed and the governor signed a budget agreement that guaranteed this year’s school funding level in law.

Less than 10 months later, Schwarzenegger is proposing to directly ignore that law and manipulate the voter-approved Proposition 98 minimum school funding guarantee. If the governor and the Legislature do not live up to their word, it would mean an additional cut of \$2.4 billion to education funding, on

-more-



A statewide network of parents, grandparents, school employees, teachers, local merchants, civic leaders and thousands of advocates determined to save public education.

www.cause4education.org

CAUSE: May 19 Save Our Schools Statewide Day of Action-Page Two

top of the more than \$17 billion that has been cut over the past two years. This equates to an additional cut of \$400 per student and a total cut of \$2,500 per student over the last two years.

“Voters have said time and again that funding for schools and students should be a top priority, and now we are giving them a way to hold their representatives accountable for making it so,” Clark said. “We are asking our elected leaders to sign ‘commitment cards’ to keep their promise to students. On May 19, we are going to announce which legislators are committed to protecting education, and which refuse to sign our pledge.”

The card commits lawmakers to “stand by my promise to California’s students and protect public education funding from further cuts; stand by the budget agreement signed into law (AB 4X 3) to restore \$11.2 billion in funding owed to schools and community colleges; and oppose any attempts to suspend or undermine Proposition 98, the voter-approved minimum school funding guarantee.”

“It’s shameful that our state’s leaders would even think of turning their backs on our students yet again,” Clark said. “We’re going to make sure that, from this point forward, they stand by their word.”

-30-

MAY 19 DAY OF ACTION EVENTS • All events scheduled 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM
(For more information about a specific event, email the local contact below.)

Event	Location	Address	Local Contact
Apple Valley	Apple Valley High School (near the arena)	11837 Navajo Rd	Lisa Towery at ltowery@csea.com or 951-679-0173
Bakersfield	Liberty Bell	Truxtun & Chester	Deborah Garabedian at dgarabedian@csea.com or 559-273-2675
Carlsbad	Assembly Member Martin Garrick’s Office	Corner of Palomar Airport Road & Paseo Del Norte	Gustavo Padilla at gpadilla@csea.com or 858-202-2618
Chico	Downtown City Plaza Park	411 Main Street	Nanci Bell at nbell@csea.com or 916-468-2119
Del Rey Oaks	Moose Lodge	555 Canyon Del Rey Blvd	Luci Clark at lclark@csea.com or 209-712-4712
El Cajon	Cajon Valley Middle School	550 East Park Avenue	Gustavo Padilla at gpadilla@csea.com or 858-202-2618

CAUSE: May 19 Save Our Schools Statewide Day of Action-Page Three

Event	Location	Address	Local Contact
El Centro	Bucklin Park (parking lot on 8th St)	1368 South 8th Street	Gustavo Padilla at gpadilla@csea.com or 858-202-2618
El Monte	Pioneer Park	3575 Santa Anita Ave	Michael Leon at mleon@csea.com or 626-258-3314
Eureka	Eureka Courthouse	825 Fifth Street	Heather Carroll Fisher at hcarrollfisher@csea.com or 925-288-1155
Fresno	Courthouse Park	1092 Van Ness Ave	Chris Niehaus at cniehaus@csea.com or 209-472-6108
Livermore	May Nissen Park	685 Rincon Ave	Luci Clark at lclark@csea.com or 209-712-4712
Long Beach	Long Beach Unified School District, Teacher Resource Center	1299 East 32 nd Street	Michael Leon at mleon@csea.com or 626-258-3314
Los Angeles	Ronald Reagan State Building	300 S. Spring Street	Liza Go at lgo@csea.com or 818-502-3865
Merced	Courthouse Square Park	621 21 st Street	Chris Niehaus at cniehaus@csea.com or 209-472-6108
Orange	El Modena High School (Fred Kelly Field)	3920 East Spring Street	Stu Tedford stedford@csea.com or 714-532-7135
Oxnard	Casa Lopez	Downtown Oxnard	Liza Go at lgo@csea.com or 818-502-3865
Palm Desert	College of the Desert	43-500 Monterey Avenue	Lisa Towery at ltowery@csea.com or 951-679-0173
Palmdale	Assembly Member Steve Knight's Office	41319 12 th Street W.	Deborah Garabedian at dgarabedian@csea.com or 559-273-2675
Paso Robles	City Park	11 th & Park	Liza Go at lgo@csea.com or 818-502-3865
Petaluma	Sonoma-Marin Fairgrounds, then march to Lucchesi Park	175 Fairgrounds Drive	Heather Carroll Fisher at hcarrollfisher@csea.com or 925-288-1155
Pico Rivera	El Rancho High School	6501 Passons Blvd	Michael Leon at mleon@csea.com or 626-258-3314
Riverside	Riverside Unified School District Office	3380 14 th Street	Lisa Towery at ltowery@csea.com or 951-679-0173
Sacramento	Grant High School Soccer Field	1400 Grand Avenue	Nanci Bell at nbell@csea.com or 916-468-2119

CAUSE: May 19 Save Our Schools Statewide Day of Action-Page Four

Event	Location	Address	Local Contact
San Diego	San Diego County Office of Education (Linda Vista)	6401 Linda Vista Road	Gustavo Padilla at gpadilla@csea.com or 858-202-2618
San Jose	San Jose City College	2100 Moorpark Ave	Luci Clark at lclark@csea.com or 209-712-4712
San Mateo	College of San Mateo (in front of theatre, Bldg 3)	1700 W. Hillsdale Blvd	Heather Carroll Fisher at hcarrollfisher@csea.com or 925-288-1155
Santa Clarita	Northeast Corner	Valencia Blvd & McBean Pkwy	Deborah Garabedian at dgarabedian@csea.com or 559-273-2675
Santa Maria	Perlman Park	100 N. Broadway	Liza Go at lgo@csea.com or 818-502-3865
Stockton	San Joaquin Delta Community College	5151 Pacific Ave	Chris Niehaus at cniehaus@csea.com or 209-472-6108
Turlock	Pittman High School	2525 West Christoffersen Parkway	Chris Niehaus at cniehaus@csea.com or 209-472-6108
Ukiah	Alex R. Thomas Jr. Plaza	S. School Street/Clay Street	Heather Carroll Fisher at hcarrollfisher@csea.com or 925-288-1155
Vallejo	Service Club Park (next to the ferry building)	295 Mare Island Way	Heather Carroll Fisher at hcarrollfisher@csea.com or 925-288-1155
Visalia	Corner of Main & Church	113 N. Church Street	Deborah Garabedian at dgarabedian@csea.com or 559-273-2675
Wildomar	Jean Hayman Elementary School	21440 Lemon Street	Lisa Towery at ltowery@csea.com or 951-679-0173
Yuba City	Sam Brannan Park	806 Gray Ave	Nanci Bell at nbell@csea.com or 916-468-2119
Yucaipa	Assembly Member Paul Cook's Office	34392 Yucaipa Blvd	Lisa Towery at ltowery@csea.com or 951-679-0173