

CHULA VISTA EDUCATORS POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE (CVE PAC) BY-LAWS

Article I: Purpose

1.1 The purpose of the CVE PAC is to run campaigns in support of Chula Vista Elementary School District (CVESD) school board candidates whose goals and philosophies are consistent with the goals of Chula Vista Educators (CVE).

1.2 Additional goals include support of California Teachers Association (CTA) initiatives and other elections with a significant impact on the Chula Vista Elementary School District (CVESD) and Chula Vista Educators (CVE).

Article II: CVE PAC Structure

2.1 The CVE PAC answers directly to the CVE Board of Directors.

2.2 the CVE PAC Chair will be appointed and remain upon the recommendation of CVE President and by approval of the CVE Board of Directors.

2.3 The CVE PAC Chair will call meetings when there is business to conduct and/or on a monthly basis. All members will be notified in advance.

2.4 The CVE PAC Treasurer will be appointed upon the recommendation of the CVE President and CVE Chair. The CVE PAC Treasurer or the CVE PAC Chair must sign checks used for CVE PAC purposes. The CVE PAC Treasurer will make financial statements available to the CVE President and to the general CVE membership at the open meetings.

2.5 The CVE President may also sign checks used for CVE PAC purposes if either the CVE PAC Treasurer and the CVE PAC Chair is unavailable.

2.6 The CVE PAC may consist of up to eight (8) members appointed upon the recommendation of the CVE President and the CVE PAC Chair and by approval of the CVE Board of Directors.

2.7 The CVE PAC shall study all relevant legislative and political matters in the district relating to education and the effects of these matters on CVE matters.

2.8 the CVE PAC shall report to the CVE Board of Directors and/or to the CVE Site Representative Council all relevant legislative and political matters.

2.9 The CVE PAC shall interview candidates for political office and make recommendations for endorsement.

2.10 The CVE PAC will coordinate with the California Teachers Association (CTA), the National Education Association (NEA), and South County Teachers Untied (SCTU).

Article III: Candidate Endorsement Guidelines

3.1 The CVE PAC will recommend candidates or officeholders after interviewing the candidates.

3.2 The CVE PAC will provide a broad questionnaire to all interested school board candidates. All candidates returning the written questionnaire will be interviewed orally by the CVE PAC with additional questions relevant to CVE at that time. Questions will be determined by consensus of the CVE PAC.

3.3 The CVE PAC will announce recommended candidates to the CVE Site Representative Council, and schedule an open forum for members to hear the candidates' platforms.

3.4 the CVE PAC shall, upon completion of the open forum, make its recommendation for endorsement to the general CVE membership. The CVE Site Representative Council will then vote for final approval of candidates.

3.5 The CVE PAC may issue recommendation letters which include reasons for the recommendation. These letters may be used for purposes of press releases or member education after approval.

3.6 The CVE PAC may recommend support for a candidate or local issue/ballot measure after a thorough and fair process in which:

3.6.1 (a) All declared candidates are given an opportunity for equal access, and a good faith effort has been made to determine their positions on important issues facing education, as outlined in Section 3.11

(b) Spokespeople for both sides of an issue or ballot measure are given equal access and a good faith effort has been made to determine the facts and relevance to education.

(c) Changes in (a) and (b) above are subject to approval by the CVE PAC.

3.6.2 For school board elections, and other elections that have a direct impact on other employee groups, the CVE PAC will make every effort to establish ways of coordinating the recommendation process with other employee groups.

3.7 No amount of funding or support "in-kind" may be spent on non-recommended candidates.

3.8 The CVE may recommend candidates to any elected office which may have an effect upon CVE members in accordance with the CVE PAC internal recommendation process.

3.9 The CVE Board of Directors will recommend to the CVE PAC one, or more, of the following levels of participation in campaigns of recommended local issues/candidates:

(a) Use of CVE's name in campaign literature,

(b) Use of CVE's name in campaign literature and monetary contributions for local issues/candidates,

(c) Use of CVE's name in campaign literature, monetary contributions for local issues/candidates, plus recommend to our members that they volunteer in campaigns,

- (d) Use of CVE's name in campaign literature and monetary contributions for local issues/candidates plus recommend to our members to volunteer and contribute to candidates' campaigns,
- (e) Sponsor and independent expenditure campaign for local candidate(s) or issue(s).

CVE Site Representative Council must ratify any of the above recommendations proposed by CVE PAC.

3.10 CVE PAC may provide recommendation letters or statements about candidates and/or issues. The purpose will be to inform members and the media.

3.11 In addition to the regular endorsement process, CVE may recommend a friendly incumbent or make an early candidate recommendation.

3.11.1 Recommendation Procedures for Other Than Friendly Incumbents:

- (a) In consultation with the CVE PAC Chair, the CVE President shall appoint a CVE interview team made up, primarily, of the CVE PAC Chair, CVE officers/board members, and members of the CVE PAC.
- (b) This committee shall conduct any and all candidate interviews. The committee shall send a questionnaire to all declared candidates.
- (c) All declared candidates must be given an opportunity to interview with the interview committee. No candidate may interview if they have not completed the written candidate questionnaire.
- (d) Electronic recordings may be used during the interview and will be the property of the CVE PAC for the sole purpose of rendering a decision.

3.11.2 Recommendation of Friendly Incumbent:

- (a) CVE, when making and endorsement of an incumbent shall consider the incumbent's performance over the previous years of service based on the following criteria:
 - i. Listens to the needs of CVE members and responds to those needs.
 - ii. Shares concerns with CVE and members about meeting the educational needs of the district.
 - iii. Demonstrates support for improvement in the instructional program.
 - iv. Attempts to give leadership to resolve problems daily and productively.
- (b) CVE PAC may recommend an early friendly incumbent recommendation to the CVE Site Representative Council. An interview may not be required for a friendly incumbent recommendation, but may be recommended by CVE PAC.

Article IV: Funding

4.1 Funds that support the interests of CVE members may be used to support candidates endorsed by the CVE Site Representative Council.

4.2 Funds, consistent with the goals of the CVE PAC, may be used to support candidates endorsed by other San Diego County education associations pending approval of CVE Board of Directors and the CVE Site Representative Council.

4.3 Amounts may be spent for any purpose deemed to be consistent with the statement of purpose and determined by the CVE Board of Directors.

4.4 The CVE PAC Chair and CVE PAC Treasurer may spend amounts of up to \$200. at a time without previous authorization of the CVE PAC. Reports of these expenditures will be made to the CVE Board of Directors on a regular basis.

4.5 Amounts over \$200. may only be spent with prior approval of the CVE PAC.

4.6 Funds approved as line items in a budget that have been approved by the CVE PAC may be spent without additional approval. These expenditures will be included in the regular report to the CVE Board of Directors and CVE Site Representative Council.

Article V: PAC Reverse Dues

5.1 Reverse Dues are predetermined amounts of money drawn from existing monthly dues (and not an additional withdrawal) expressly used to fund CVE PAC.

5.2 Reverse Dues are taken for a set amount of time, usually before or during election cycles.

5.3 The amount of reverse dues must be approved by the CVE Site Representative Council.

5.4 Members will be given the opportunity to opt out form reverse dues, but they must indicate their desire to do so.

5.5 Reverse Dues monies will remain segregated from the general membership account and placed in a CVE PAC credit union account.

5.6 Amounts of reverse dues may be adjusted by the CVE Site Representative Council to reflect the need of the CVE PAC, but this action must be approved by the CVE Board of Directors and the CVE Site Representative Council.