

**CATE Board of Directors Meeting MINUTES DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED**

**Thursday, February 20, 2020**

**LAX Marriott, 5855 West Century Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90045**

To Do/Actions to Take  
Before the  
Next Board Meeting:

**THURSDAY, February 20, 2020**

Present/Roll Call: (checkmarks next to names: ✓)

Executive Officers

- ✓ President: Greg Johnson (2020)
- ✓ Past President: Denise Mikkonen (2020)
- ✓ Vice President: Jill Hamilton-Bunch (2020)
- ✓ Secretary: Carole LeCren (2019)
- ✓ Co-Treasurers: Denise Mikkonen, Patrick Keough

Chairs

- ✓ Membership: Joan Williams (2019)
- ✓ Policy/Legislative: Angus Dunstan
- ✓ Resolutions: Robb Polski

Council Representatives (elected every year)

- ✓ Capitol (CCTE): Angus Dunstan
  - ✓ Central (CCCTE): Maddie Britt
  - ✓ Fresno (FACET): Janina Schulz
  - ✓ Greater San Diego (GSDCTE): Gina Vattuone
  - ✓ Kern (KCTE) Kim Flachmann
  - ✓ Redwood (RCTE): Vicki Kurtz
  - ✓ Southland (SCTE): Jennifer Silver
  - ✓ Tulare (TUCATE) Carol Surabian
- Upper: [vacant]

Members-at-Large

- ✓ Julie Burnett (formerly Paulsen) (Elementary, 2019)
- ✓ Robb Polski (Secondary, 2019)
- ✓ Carol Battle (Middle, 2020)
- ✓ Carmen Carrillo (College, 2020)
- Sommer Iamele (Unspecified, 2020)
- Liz McAninch (Unspecified, 2021)
- ✓ Bill Foreman (Small Council, 2021)
- ✓ Mark Olsen (Secondary, 2021)

Conventions

- ✓ Convention Coordinator: Michelle Berry
- CATEWebmaster and Registrar: Cindy Conlin (present at the CATE Pre-Convention)
- ✓ Assistant Convention Coordinator: Annie Gervais
- ✓ CATE 2020 Chair: Jennifer Silver

Liaisons

- ✓ Common Core Consultant: Bill Younglove
- CWP Liaison: Tim Dewar (present at the CATE Pre-Convention)
- ✓ CRLP: Carol Jago
- CYRM Representatives: Rebecca Detrich, Christopher Lewis, Steve Rodriguez
- ✓ CDE Liaison: Jennifer Howerter
- CETA Liaison: Gale Caswell
- ✓ CTA Liaison: Mindy Montanio

## I. Call to Order: 8:13 AM

## II. Consent Docket

The following item of business may be voted upon by a single vote of the Board without discussion, unless and except for any item which anyone of the Board desires to have discussion about at the meeting, in which case, each item so noted will be withdrawn from the Consent Docket and handled individually in order immediately following the completion of the Consent Docket:

A. Approval of December 2019 Board Minutes. Moved by Mikkonen, seconded by Surabian. Passed.

B. Adoption of February 20, 2020. Agenda. Moved by Paulsen, seconded by Williams. Passed.

## III. Board Reports

### A. President (Johnson 5 min.)

1. Use this time to recruit/encourage involvement in local councils
2. Please introduce awardees to Greg BEFORE the award time so he can learn to pronounce names.

### B. Vice-President (Hamilton-Bunch 5 min.)

1. Next meeting: May 2-3, 2020 at Hyatt Regency SFO (next year's convention location).
2. Thanks to the convention chair for arranging rooms and meals for this meeting.

### C. Past President (Mikkonen 10 min.)

1. Award winners need to be escorted after the meal for photographers.
2. Still accepting nominations for all positions, especially Vice President and MAL College. Ballots will be "live" online at the Annual Business Meeting/Town Hall.
3. We will be forwarding Carrie Morgan from West High School as a classroom excellence award winner who will be forwarded to NCTE.

### D. Secretary (LeCren 5 min.)

1. No report.

### E. Treasurer (Keough/Mikkonen 15 min.)

1. CATE Convention Budget: Announced the current revenue for the convention, and the entire budget. The report was current as of 2/14/20. Explained the income/outgo. Announced CTA's \$1000 donation. Expenditures included paying *eventPower* and Cindy Conlin.
2. CATE Budget: Shared various line items. Precision's payment involves splitting their costs between several lines. Greg asked about the significance increase in the Vanguard. Denise wanted to give an official thank you to Precision and Bob for taking care of receiving checks, picking up boxes, and everything else they do for us.
3. 1099's were mailed out January 31. A shout out to John Pearson who helps us with our IRS. Denise explained that she now has a 1099 form for all speakers to fill out before they get their checks.
4. Reimbursements to board members needs to occur after the annual business meeting on Sunday. Michelle explained costs for parking, and procedures for checking out.
5. Denise thanked the Fristroms for their continuing donation to the Fristrom Scholarship. Carole reported that Anne Fristrom wanted to thank Denise for her special at-

attention to creating the type of receipt that she needed for tax purposes. Greg pointed out that funding a scholarship requires a method of deducting the amount. He and Patrick will work on a method for tracking them.

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F. Membership Chair (Williams)

1. Joan thanks Gina and Carole for bringing *California English* extra copies from Precision to distribute at the Membership Booth or on Saturday night at the banquet honoring Carol Jago. Joan explained the recycling system at Precision. Jill shared the benefits of sharing *California English*.
2. Membership numbers are down, because the increase occurs at convention. Joan explained once again that membership expirations prior to the convention, while trying to sign up for “member” discounts for convention continue to be confusing. She thanked Cindy Conlin for helping with the numerous e-mails on this topic.
3. Roster requests should go through Joan. She has an up-to-date list as of yesterday.
4. Joan wanted to thank Denise for realizing that a “hand-carry” charge to the post office by Precision has now been resolved by giving the permission to simply put those mail requests in with their own mail.
5. Joan reminded everyone that board members must be dues-paying members of NCTE. Bill asked if NCTE has ever considered a lifetime membership. Carol Jago explained that someone would have to approach them and that it would take them a while to consider it.
6. After lunch, Joan will give everyone on the board a strip of tickets. Use the tickets to interact with attendees, and tell them to go to the Membership Booth to find out if their ticket is a winning ticket. She has chargers leftover from last year as prizes.

G. Convention Coordinator (Berry)

1. Thanks to Carole, Annie, Jennifer for all they have done for this convention. Thanks to Cindy Conlin for working on the registration glitches. Thanks to Denise and Patrick for handling for all the money issues. Thanks to Mindy for obtaining the CTA donation. Thanks to Membeam for also donating a sponsorship. Both will help pay for the continental breakfasts. Thanks to the hotel for their flexibility. Thanks to Jonathan Lovell for donated screens and LCD projectors. Thanks to Mark Olsen and Vicki Kurtz for stepping in to help with AV.

**ACTION ITEM: To donate \$500 to Jonathan Lovell’s organization in order to thank him for continuing to supply screens/LCD projectors. Moved by Surabian, seconded by Williams. Passed.**

2. Michelle shared the current numbers 849, which includes exhibitors who don’t pay, but do register through eventPower, which took over the exhibit hall this year and got 30 booths (four in the last week) (as compared to 21 last year). We will be accepting bids for “decorating” the exhibit hall. Please visit the exhibit hall.
3. Michelle discussed volunteer obligations by board members, went over the “Events of Interest to the Board” including the president’s reception and two blocks of time for volunteering. She asked people to sit one per table at meal events except the Saturday banquet. Carole clarified how attendees will find out about council meetups. She thanked Annie for helping her with future convention site visits.
4. Michelle spent time explaining dietary restrictions. Carol Surabian explained that going into the profile was difficult.
5. Greg reiterated that a convention doesn’t work with the full participation of the

CATE board members, and that subsidizing registration fees for board members is done, in part, as

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#### IV. Report of Liaisons

##### A. CYRM- Rebecca Detrich

California Young Reader Medal, made up of three CATE members, and three other organization reps for a total of 13 people that meet four times a year (three in person, one online). They accept nominations throughout the year for five levels of nominations, narrow the nominations to four books in each category, the nominations are then published and voted on from around the state. Aisha Saeed will receive her award at the CYRM luncheon, and will provide the books for luncheon.

##### B. CTA - Montanio

Mindy apologized that she couldn't get more than \$1000 for this year. Mindy's position that will change from liaison to ambassador. The Schools and Community First initiative is being supported by CTA. Robb added that Mindy got support for English teachers to attend CATE from Kern. Greg explained that they will have a CATE debrief in Kern next week (two hours of professional development time).

##### C. CWP- Dewar [not present, at the CATE Pre-Convention by CWP]

##### D. CLRP and *California English*- Jago

Carol shared that she is working on an amazing collaboration for the September issue of *California English*, to move from reading worriers to reading warriors. She is going to reach out to authoritative "reading war" voices. The issue may need to be a little bigger than usual. The cost won't be that much more. She also explained that getting ads in CE require her to seek out particular advertisers, and makes a professional decision about which ads she comps and which ads she encourages to "pay." She also thinks that our role is to "advertise" for NCTE. She hopes to send the most recent issue about social/emotional teaching of literature for judging to NCTE. The upcoming issue based on the convention theme needs to get out by April 2.

##### E. CCSS Younglove

-It has been ten years since Common Core has been adopted. The UC Task Force recommends that the SAT stay in admissions--for now. Any alternative assessment could take nine years to implement. SAT is still optional for over 1000 colleges. There are districts that pay for PSAT and Khan Academy SAT prep for all students.

-Various critics (e.g. Y. Zhao, Diana Ravitch, and C. Jago) question the results--or, more importantly the derived message(s) from NAEP and PISA testing results. We really need to look at multiple methods of data collection. He talked about a Scandinavian assessment of the whole child called *bildung*. There's not really a translation, but it refers to looking at both the scholastic and social/emotional development of students.

-Echoing Diane Ravitch, former Asst. Sec. of Education (1991-1993), in *Slaying Goliath* (2020), says school reformers must look at poverty again, and adequate financing in order to close the achievement gap.

-Education consultant Mike Schmoker (see ACSD's Educational Leadership February 2020 "Radical Reset: The Case for Minimalist Literacy Standards," pp. 44-50) advocates local/district specifications in five areas--a simply literacy standard framework.

-Finally, as indicated in the latest Educational Leadership--and in *California English*--paying attention to social-emotional learning standards, alongside academic ones, especially when "rooted in [children's] reading" are keys to any student's academic growth.

-State legislators are, truthfully, overwhelmed by proposed bills, average, per calendar year, better than 8 per day.

##### F. California Department of Education – Howerter

[insert her report]

Jill thanked Jennifer for all the information she provides, and shared that her university applied for a CDE grant based on information that Jennifer had brought

G. CETA - Caswell [not present]

## V. Report by CATE Councils

A. Capitol (Dunstan) [as posted]

B. Central (Nichols) [as posted]

C. Fresno (Schulz) [as posted]

D. Greater San Diego (Vattuone) [as posted]

E. Kern (Flachmann) [as posted]

F. Redwood (Kurtz) [as posted]

G. Southland (Silver) [as posted]

H. TUCATE (Surabian) [as posted]

I. Upper (vacant)

10:05-10:15 Break

## VI. Standing Committee Meetings (Round One)

Give minutes, preferably sent via e-mail (exactly the way you want them to appear in the minutes) to LeCren by the end of the meeting. Include the names of the people who attended the committee meeting. NOTE: The results, which were reported out later in the meeting, were placed below the committee title for this meeting.

### A. Policy/Censorship--Robb Polski

Present: Robb Polski, Carol Jago, William Younglove, Jennifer Howerter, Mindy Montanio, Mark Olsen, and Carmen Carrillo

Committee reviewed the revision schedule of CATE Policies. It was determined that six (6) policies are to be reviewed per board meeting. The P/C committee will revisit the schedule in December 2020 to determine whether the schedule is on pace. The chair of P/C

**ACTION ITEM: To suspend the current of 3 years rotation or to expire as noted in Introduction of CATE Policies in order to keep schedule updated. Moved by Polski, seconded by Foreman. Passed.**

Committee chairs will be notified of schedule to keep members informed to prepare for September 2020 and December 2020 meetings

Discuss NCTE Intellectual Freedom Award which is due May 1—

**ACTION ITEM: To submit the name of Tomi Adeyemi, author of Children of Blood and Bone, for the Intellectual Freedom Award. Her works speak of freedom of the mind, identity, and the self. Her name will also be submitted for the NCTE Affiliate Intellectual Freedom Award. Moved by Polski, seconded by Vattuone. Passed.**

Committee will support Resolutions Day and see if they need anything.

For May 2020 agenda items will include a revision of Introduction, Policy 15.0, and Policy 16.0. P/C will also review Otherness practices in Policy 12.2 #1-9—to make sure that goals are being adhered to and fulfilled. To determine if the goals are being met, committee will work on a survey (Google docs) to gather data and best practices.

This will become the committee's annual review. Committee has been charged to look at By-laws regarding elections (7.3-7.4.4) and review Policy 9.0 Voting to be consistent with language.

Committee will work on a resolution on how to become involved in public office (B. Younglove and M. Montanio). Jago suggests Greg Johnson runs for governor of California.

## **B. Convention Coordinating--Michelle Berry**

Present: Greg Johnson, Denise Mikkonen, Patrick Keough, Bill Foreman, David Harlow, Jill Hamilton-Bunch, Michelle Berry, Annie Gervais, Jennifer Silver, Vicki Kurtz, Carole LeCren

### 1. 2021 (Harlow)

David Harlow announced that Maddie Britt will now be a co-chair. He shared his ideas for strands and his convention theme. He also shared that getting major speakers is difficult because of the budget. He also talked about a social media pilot with Sommer to see if advertising electronically is more effective than print. He also explained his idea to replace a nighttime meal session with Pear Deck--an interactive slide show in real time. Discussion ensued about how to support David in achieving the goals for this convention. David shared his ideas for major speakers, with Jill and Michelle giving advice.

Strands:

Diversity and Otherness

Literacy for Elementary Students

Human Rights/Social Justice focused on Data Rights

Culturally Relevant Teaching Practices

Looking at Non-Fiction vs. Literature

Writing as Inquiry

Navigating Rhetoric in a Polarized World: (Teaching Kids How to Read News)

The Power of the Narrative

Convention Theme:

“Blowing up the Canon: Connecting Literature to the 21st Century Classroom”

### 2. 2020 (Silver)

1. Last minute details: Jennifer needs assistance after the board meeting today to put logos on all breakout podiums and set up the selfie station with investigatory props. Also she has floor decals at the bottom of the escalators. Dress rehearsal is happening tonight.

2. Reminder of changes this year: Annual business sandwiched between a Sunday Super Session and the Sunday Brunch. Cookies with our logo will be provided by the hotel on Friday at the registration. Friday lunch will ask attendees to sit with their councils. Discussion ensued about prizes at the annual business meeting.

### 3. Future Conventions (Gervais)

Site visits looking for 2023/2025 (Note: This convention will compete with the NCTE in Anaheim):

a. Marriott Marquis, San Francisco

b. St. Francis Westin, San Francisco

c. Hilton Union Square, San Francisco

d. Hyatt Regency, Monterey

Recommending the Hyatt Regency in Monterey, because the three SF hotels have issues with parking costs, location, proximity to homelessness/feels dangerous, and problems with the facilities. Pros for Monterey: The area is spread out, but the convention area is centralized (except for meals). It looks like a good “competitor” with Anaheim. Travel bureau willing to “sell” Monterey with online marketing. Option to go offsite to Monterey Aquarium for a Friday night event. Registration area is secure. Room rates were similar to SF, not too unreasonable. Parking costs would be waived. Negative(s): If people don’t choose our meal events, there aren’t a lot of alternative food places. Recommending Monterey for only 2023, and maybe another Hyatt for 2025.

**ACTION ITEM: To give away a membership and a basic convention registration at the annual business meeting on Sunday. Moved by LeCren, seconded by Foreman. Passed.**

**ACTION ITEM: To go with Monterey in 2023. Moved by Silver, seconded by Polski. Passed.**

**C. Leadership/Membership--Williams/Flachmann**

Present: Kim Flachmann, Joan Williams, Gina Vattuone, Sommer Iamele, Julie Burnett, Carol Battle, Maddie Britt, Gale Caswell, Carol Surabian, Janina Schulz

Candidates for Office

We have a summary of all the offices and are considering (next year) using Two-Minutes for CATE to explain a different office at each meal. This year, we will continue using the recruiting cards at the membership table.

Bill Foreman has withdrawn his name from the election for the next president.

T-shirts for this year have been distributed.

We will be giving each CATE board member and resolutions member 10 tickets to give out to attendees with whom they interact. Then the attendees need to come to the membership booth to see if their tickets won a prize. Joan will post winning tickets on a board at the booth.

Joan has prepared two boards for the booth:

-Winning Tickets (for a prize)

-Explanation of membership dues: \$20, \$20, \$10

Council table meetings will occur on Friday at lunch.

Gina: Our committee will be doing a session about membership and participation on Friday at 11:00. We went over slides. We are focusing on background and stories.

**LUNCH noon to 1 PM (occurred after the first three standing committees met)**

**VI. First Report Out of the Resolutions Committee**

1. Resolution on Climate Action and Sustainability

**ACTION ITEM: To discuss informally and forward this resolution to the annual business meeting. Moved by Prevo, seconded by Dunstan. Passed.**

2. Resolution on Equitable Grading Practices

**ACTION ITEM: To discuss informally and forward this resolution to the annual business meeting. Moved by Larimer, seconded by Dunstan. Passed.**

3. Resolutions on Academic Freedom for K-12 Educators

**ACTION ITEM: To discuss informally and forward this resolution to the annual business meeting. Moved by Vela, seconded by Dunstan. Passed.**

## **VIII. Standing Committees Round Two**

### **D. Executive Finance--Patrick Keough**

Present: Present: Greg Johnson, Denise Mikkonen, Patrick Keough, Annie Gervais, Michelle Berry, Jennifer Silver

Reviewed CATE budget and convention budget complete budget discussed earlier. List of expenses was helpful for itemizing convention spending. To smooth out the check reconciliation process, we will add Cindy Conlin to Chase account as view only, in addition we will ask Bob from Precision to send copies of check stubs with weekly re-cap. Checks have been issued for all speakers, document created to collect all information to issue 1099 forms. Patrick and Denise each have a Square reader for processing credit card payments. Cindy, Pat, and Denise will discuss the steps to needed to change from authorize.net to Stripe. Vanguard transfer will be generated by Greg Johnson, monies need to be transferred to TIAA CR-EFF Social Equity Fund (TICRX), after an account is opened. Co-Treasurers, Pat Keough and Denise Mikkonen will go to the TIAA office 3655 Nobel Drive Suite #140, San Diego (877) 554-1008. Current balance \$177,043.84

### **E. Publications--Liz McAninch (Carole LeCren subbed for her.)**

Present: Bill Younglove, Robb Polski, Carol Jago, Joan Williams, Janina Schulz, Jennifer Howerter, Carol Surabian, Carole LeCren

CATE Creative Writing Contest

There were no winners this year. Advertising was dropped.

Discussed going back to the old timing, which included the following:

- Come up with the prompt at the December board meeting.
- Advertise/push at February convention.
- Maybe letting the councils decide on a due date between March and April.
- Require that first place winners be sent by May 1 so that they can be judged at the May board meeting.
- Joan suggested making a rubric that we share out BEFORE the piece is coming.

## CATE Professional Writing Contest

Revisited the results. In Liz's absence, we aren't sure if the two chosen winners were contacted about revisions before publication.

Discussed the timing of this contest too. Janina suggested doing both prompts in January, but make the teacher one due at the end of the summer, and judged at the September board meeting.

Because the summer is "writing" time, we could also advertise the contest to the California Writing Project.

**ACTION ITEM: To change the following policies:**

**8.12.2 November 1 to April 1.**

**8.12.5 Change due date from November 1 to May 1.**

**8.11.3 Change due date to September 1**

**8.11.4 Change from December board meeting to September board meeting**

**Moved by LeCren, seconded by Polski. Passed.**

## Publicity

We had a discussion about publicity and social media. Carol Jago's input: maybe an affiliate's full use of social media for notification/publicity really is about advertising conventions and conferences. Robb shared that we are not creating the content. Carole LeCren suggested creating a position (Vice President? Chair?) to take charge of the publicity on social media. Janina and Jennifer explained that how it works is the organization creates a persona for the organization, and that publicity chair assumes that persona when posting on social media for that organization. Robb reminded us that we came up several meetings ago with a schedule for posting information. But who follows and implements the schedule? If we create a Publicity Chair position and it requires a by-law change, we have a year to do it.

Perhaps the real idea is to change the Publications Committee name to the Communications Committee. We tabled this idea until next time.

## **F. Otherness and Diversity--Carol Battle**

Present: Carol Battle; Carmen Carillo, Maddie Britt, David Harlow, Kim Flachmann, Vicki Schulz, Mindy Montanio, Gina Vattuone, Julie Burnett

### Old Business:

C. Battle reached out to CTA/CFT to invite members to CATE Conference- no response.  
C. Battle created a Letter to Council Presidents re: ideas for inclusion & outreach - G. Johnson needs to send out the letter.

### New Business:

**ACTION ITEM: To rename committee change from "Otherness & Diversity" to "Equity & Diversity" to shift from deficit to asset-based focus. Moved by Battle, seconded by Polski.**

Conference Presence - World Cafe, meet up idea but Carol Battle gone, save this idea for next convention. Committee HW - ask people "What issues of equity and diversity are important to you/would like CATE to work on?" - add cards to new teacher & membership booth/membership "parking lot" i.e. Courageous Conversations, Microaggressions, (Refer to 12.0 Policy).

Instagram/Twitter thread - post questions that people can respond to: What are some issues surrounding Equity and Diversity that is important to you? How can CATE help?

Mindy Montanio - equity groups in CA as CTA rep CABE, Equity CA, LGBTQ groups, CATESOL, suggested talking points sheet re: what is CATE doing re: Equity Issues

May Agenda Items:

Talking Points & Resources Links

Ideas for articles & authors for our column in *CE* (let's get some "on deck")

Create a template or guide for *CE* column in *CE*.

## **IX. Second Report Out of the Resolutions Committee**

The resolutions were reviewed, with an additional resolution about the 60th anniversary of the first annual business meeting of CATE.

## **X. Old Business**

Michelle shared that she may have under counted the dinners for Friday for the 12 actors. If there are not 12 remaining meals, Plan B would be to provide them \$360 restaurant vouchers.

**ACTION ITEM: To spend \$360 if needed to pay for dinner for the InvestiCATE actors. Moved by LeCren, seconded by Burnett. Passed.**

Michelle shared that this hotel is actively involved in taking leftover food to the LA Food Bank.

Jennifer asked if anyone wants to be the "remind" administrator. Sommer had set up a Remind account to send text to those who signed up. Carol Battle shared that the reminders can be pre-programmed.

## **V. New Business**

Bill Younglove shared that anyone can nominate for the Nobel Prize.

Janina asked if anyone can announce on Friday where the council meetups are.

Jennifer asked for local council presidents to confirm their locations for council meetups on Friday night.

## **VI. Adjournment**

Moved to adjourn by Dunstan, seconded by Polski. Meeting adjourned at 4:40 PM.