

**CATE Board Reports: February 2024**

| Board Member  | Report  |
|---|---|
| <p>Liz McAninch, Past President<br/>elmcaninch@comcast.net</p>  | <p>My work in the past months has been to publicize the CATE Writing contests to schools in the area. I have sent Writing Contest flyers to local schools, especially promoting it to elementary teachers. To date, I have not received any entries, but expect to be busy in the last two weeks of March. I am already searching for a venue for Central's Young Writers' Reception in late April.</p> <p>The Curriculum Study Commission is busy planning its Language Arts Conference , <i>Teaching in the World of AI: Promises and Challenges</i>. The conference will be held at Asilomar on October 4-6, 2024. Robert Jeffers and Carol Jago are featured speakers.</p> <p>I was very sad to miss the December meeting and look forward to seeing all of you at the CATE Convention.</p> |
| <p>Robb Polski, President (2026)<br/>Robert_Polski@kernhigh.org</p>   | <p>Since December, I have had various virtual meetings and conversations with Denise Mikkonen to discuss CATE finances. I worked the "President's Perspective" for the next issues of California English. I have been busy putting together the awards and speeches for the 2024 convention in Los Angeles and have met with the convention chairs, coordinator, and advisory board meetings as well.</p>   |
| <p>Susan Dillon, Vice President (2026)<br/>dillon@cchsca.org</p>  | <p>After the last CATE board meeting, I arranged accommodations for the board, the resolution team, and convention speakers. I also served as bookstore liaison for convention speakers and presenters who are published authors. I also facilitated two advisory calls.</p> <p>As interim CCCTE president, I contacted the Dickens Project to see how we can get more counties (teachers and students) involved. I also distributed writing contest entries as well as convention flyers.</p>  |
| <p>Carole LeCren, Secretary<br/>carolelecren@yahoo.com</p>  | <p>Since the last meeting, I have been working mostly on CATE 2024, as Program/Sessions Co-Chair. I also continue to work on using our Google Workspace Google Drive for storing/posting our minutes, agendas, and board reports, and making sure that those get posted on our website after each board meeting.</p>  |
| <p>Denise Mikkonen, Treasurer<br/>denisemikkonen18@gmail.com</p>  | <p>Since the last board meeting I have continued to keep the books current for CATE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Processing deposits from convention</li> <li>• Updating books using Quicken</li> <li>• Keeping accounts payable up to date</li> <li>• Reconciled and paid costs incurred at convention</li> <li>• Prepared a draft 24-25 CATE Budget</li> <li>• Participated in Advisory Call</li> <li>• Communicated with President as needed</li> <li>• Ordered items for convention (cords, lanyards, screens, etc.)</li> </ul>  |
| <p>pending, Central Rep</p>   |   |
| <p>Ryne Preheim and Cathlyn (Cate) Dossetti, with outgoing president Janina Schulz, FACET Reps<br/><a href="mailto:Ryne.Preheim@fresnounified.org">Ryne.Preheim@fresnounified.org</a>;<br/><a href="mailto:Cathlyn.Dossetti@fresnounified.org">Cathlyn.Dossetti@fresnounified.org</a>;<br/><a href="mailto:Janina.Schulz@fresnounified.org">Janina.Schulz@fresnounified.org</a></p> | <p>Since last board meeting Ryne has been involved with an 8 week long production of Amadeus. During which, he was unable to attend regular board meetings, but was able to connect with teachers from greater Fresno county. Ryne was able to connect with 5 different high schools in 3 different districts.</p> <p>FACET was able to apply the results of the survey to determine that online zoom meetings will be used to supplement the monthly in person meeting which will begin implementation following the 2024 CATE conference.</p>   |
| <p>Gina Vattuone, GSDCTE Rep<br/>ginavattuone@gmail.com</p>   | <p>Since the december meeting I have</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contacted Juan Reynoso for DEI Column</li> <li>• Contacted IDW, HTH &amp; SDSU to advertise in CA English</li> <li>• Continued to contribute to the San Diego Poetry Initiative. Jason Perez will present at my school, Bonita Vista High in May.</li> </ul> <p>GSDCTE will meet on April 11th and I plan on including SDSU credential students and methods instructor, Dr. Monica Baldonado.</p>   |

|   |  |
|---|--|
|   |  |
| Jill Hamilton Bunch, Kern Rep<br>jhamiltonbunch@gmail.com                                     | Since December 2023, our KCTE board met to plan our events for the remainder of the school year. Additionally, we disseminated information to our local schools regarding the CATE writing context. Our plans for the remainder of the year include a book club meeting, an exchange of ideas gathered from the CATE Convention, and an End of the Year gathering.   |
| Vicki Kurtz, Redwood Rep<br>missvkurtz@gmail.com  | Since December I have kept Redwood's FB page current with CATE convention blurbs, NCTC ideas, and CWP teasers. I mailed out 79 flyers with a letter outlining ways to "find the money" to attend and the ease of reaching the hotel/convention from the airport (and the ease of a nonstop flight). Included in the letter were all the ways they could reach me and/or Redwood CATE and cateweb.  |
| Jennifer Silver, Southland Rep/Convention Co-Coordinator<br>jennifersilver@vistamarschool.org | <p><b>SCTE:</b> Since December, Southlanders have promoted and supported Dr. Bill Younglove in his workshop at the Billie Jean King Library. In cooperation with the L.A. Times Book Club, we also gathered at UCI to attend Dean Koontz's outstanding talk in which he discussed his latest novel, <i>The Bad Weather Friend</i>, set in Newport Beach. Koontz was gracious to spend hours afterward meeting the audience and signing our books! Our literary programming will continue in the spring as we meet at the LA Festival of Books for a board mixer and author panels.</p> <p><b>Convention Co-Coordinator:</b> Since December, your CATE Convention Co-Coordinators finalized all backstage convention details, from menus to Exhibit Hall execution to security. We've composed press releases and edited CATE promotional materials to address hotel arbitration concerns and to communicate our professional vision. You can find us in coordination meetings most days of the week. We trust CATE 2024 will be a "gem" of a convention!</p> |
| Carol Surabian, TUCATE Rep<br>surabianc8@gmail.com  | Since December TUCATE has been promoting the upcoming convention. I have been in touch with our award winner. I have been promoting the creative writing contest. Looking forward to the convention.   |
| Jori Krulder, Upper Rep<br>jkrulder@pusdk12.org   |  |
| Julie (Burnett) Young, MAL Elementary (2025)<br>Julie_Burnett@kernhigh.org                    | <p>December-February 2024 Board Report<br/>Julie Young<br/>MAL - Elementary<br/>February 29, 2024</p> <p>I have continued this year to teach primarily for the Kern High School District in a blended learning program that serves all 17 high schools and vocational campuses. I am currently serving as English Department Chair.</p> <p>I am in my 16th year teaching freshman composition at CSUB. I am also RIAP (Reading Institute for Academic Preparadiness) leader where I work with a wonderful group of colleagues to provide a year long professional development program for high school and college students.</p> <p>I have attended KCTE and CATE board meetings and offered support to the committees I am on. I help with RIAP to provide quality professional development to teachers, and I've been the leader of a team of teachers at KHSD Literacy Council. I am grateful to be a part of CATE as the Elementary Member At Large; thank you for allowing me to serve you.</p>  |
| Sommer Iamele, MAL Middle (2025)<br>siamele@powayusd.com                                      |  |
| Ashley Prevo, MAL Secondary (2025)<br>aprevo10@gmail.com                                      | Since our last meeting, I have attended the advisory call with other committee chairs and board members. I have helped coordinate getting members of the Resolutions Committee to CATE. I have communicated the roles and responsibilities to those  |

|   |   |
|---|---|
|   | <p>committee members. I have also drafted ideas for resolutions to present to the committee today. In addition, I have continued my outreach with newer teachers to support and encourage them in this profession.</p>  |
| <p>April Parker, MAL Unspecified (2023) / CATE 2024 Co-Chair<br/>aparkerteacher@aol.com</p> | <p>Since our last meeting I've been working with Co-Chair Frank Mata on convention items. I've made personal connections with selected schools in my district and sent personal letters and convention flyers to them. They were mostly English department chairs or literacy coaches, and two principals. I visited schools and promoted the convention to colleges and high schools. With Frank, we worked on the speaker connections and tried to get the convention committee roles filled. This is one area that proved to be a challenge. We worked with the convention coordinators on logistical issues. I added on a theatre credential to my resume</p>   |
| <p>Kylowna Moton, MAL College (2023)<br/>kylowna@gmail.com</p>                              | <p>Since our last meeting, I have found people to apply for and receive the Fristrom and Reid Scholarships. This is in addition to the person I recommended for the Henke Scholarship. All three scholarships will be awarded this year. As a result of this outreach, Birmingham Charter High School in Lake Balboa will be paying for three teachers to CATE Conference this year. I hope to continue to recruit from this school as well as the school of the Reid Scholarship winner.</p>   |
| <p>Mindy Montanio, MAL Unspecified (2024)<br/>mindy_montanio@kernhigh.org</p>               |   |
| <p>Joan Williams, MAL Small Council (2024)<br/>joanwilliams@gmail.com</p>                   | <p>Since the December meeting, I met online with CATE CYRM members and revised the policies for CYRM and assisted with communication between CYRM and the CATE Board.</p> <p>I also continued to work on the CATE bylaws and policies regarding elections and will work with the Leadership/Membership Committee to update and create policies to help support the requirements of the bylaws, hoping to have some policy drafts by the May meeting.</p> <p>I participated in Advisory zoom calls and conferred with Lori about issues regarding leadership and membership and arranged for flyers for the Professional Writing Contest and for CYRM to be printed for convention bags.</p> <p>I wrote a grant to help fund the Redwood Council writing contest.</p> <p>Our local children's author festival event is taking place in October 2024, so I am currently working to gather information from the 25 authors and 60 schools that will participate this year.</p>   |
| <p>Frank Mata, MAL Secondary (2024) / CATE 2024 Co-Chair<br/>frankmata32@gmail.com</p>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● helped coordinate all last-minute things needed for CATE Keynote speakers</li> <li>● helped coordinate final details for convention program production stuff: choir, DJ, bookstore (Susan, you rock)</li> <li>● Met and unsuccessfully negotiated (dodged bullets) with several potential bookstores prior to settling with Russo's</li> <li>● Helped iron out final details and arrangements with all folks Poetry Jam, including making sure Salome and her agent felt comfortable, not overwhelmed, and informed of the spirit of this new event (we Guchi)</li> <li>● Worked with Carole (who also rocks!) on adding new ideas for reel/slideshow for convention</li> <li>● A whole bunch of other stuff I can't think of at the moment... but would be remiss if I didn't mention how damn grateful it's been having the support of this board, but mostly thankful for working with my sister April Parker (early morning and often middle-of-the-day or during-school-hour-phone calls, random bursts of laughter from all the WTF moments, running around all over LA to pick up signs, decor items, putting out fires for speakers at that bomb breakfast cafe, and now running to the flower district at this ungodly hour... I sincerely love you April)</li> </ul> |
| <p>Lori Campbell, Membership Chair</p>  | <p>CATE MEMBERSHIP REPORT</p>   |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>(2024)<br/>Lori_Campbell@kernhigh.org</p>  | <p><a href="#">Full Membership Roster for 2/1/24</a></p> <p>This year's membership count for pre-convention poses some interesting facts. First, we have been able to retain 20% more members than the previous year pre-convention. But we also see that this is a drop in 30% of convention attendees expiration dates.</p> <p>The question brought to us by Precision was whether we want the reminder notices we normally send for expiring dates to be applied to the 1/31 date, or do we instead concentrate on advertising the convention? Email reminders don't cost us anything through Precision, but paper mailers do.</p> <p>We also were able to update the website to avoid confusion that happens for convention registration. Many are under the impression that they have to have a membership number to register and often apply in December and January when there isn't enough time for Precision to process the registration and send out numbers in time. We added the following to the membership renewal page:<br/>NOTE:<br/>Membership is NOT REQUIRED for registration to a CATE convention or affiliate event. Your paid registration will include CATE membership for one year. All memberships acquired through convention registration are good for one year from January 31st. Membership discounts are only for members whose expiration date is AFTER January 31 of the convention year.<br/>Also, our process is NOT automated. Information is processed by hand and updated monthly. Please allow up to 4 weeks to receive your membership information.</p> <p>Since December, I have been able to create and send out Powtoon videos via our new YouTube channel for "Save the Dates" for both <a href="#">CATE 2024</a>, <a href="#">ERWC Leadership Conferences</a>, and the CATE 2024 Student writing Contest video, and the <a href="#">CATE 2024 "Know Before You Go" video</a>.</p> <p>Locally, our KCTE board has met to plan activities for the remainder of the school year including reading Tom Lake for our book club, a debrief for those who attend CATE, and an end-of-the year celebration of accomplishments. We also are brainstorming ways to reach out to more of our middle school and elementary school teachers</p> |
| <p>Annie Gervais, Capitol Rep/Convention Co-Coordinator<br/>agervais451@gmail.com</p> | <p>Capitol Council:</p> <p>We have secured convention co-coordinators for the 2025 Convention at the Hyatt Regency SFO in Burlingame, Amber White and Yolanda Jimenez. We have also brought in a new, first year teacher, Taylor Bradley, to serve on the Resolutions committee, as Kari Mann was unable to this year.</p> <p>Our treasurer and I had to deal with an issue with our bank account, wherein the bank wanted to close our account. We were able to redo some paperwork that needed to be done to clear the issue.</p> <p>Convention Coordinator: Since December, we have met regularly with EventPower, Cindy Conlin, and the Hyatt Regency. We have negotiated the Guarantees for the Food and Beverage Banquet Order, including for Thursday, with Resolutions, Preconvention, and the Board Meeting. In addition, we have negotiated with the hotel's AV department, doing our best to save as much money there as possible. We continue to evolve in our role as coordinators, with planned changes for the coming year.</p>   |
| <p>Bill Younglove, Legislative Analyst<br/>wyoungl@aol.com</p>                        | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>CATE (Fourth Quarter/Dec.-March) Legislative Analyst Report<br/>Liaison Bill Younglove</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Distributed CATE Convention flyers to LBUSD and ABCUSD schools.</b></li> <li>• <b>Hosted SCTE Board meeting on January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024.</b></li> <li>• <b>Zoomed (continuing) CDE Recentering ELA/ELD Framework "Effective Expression" telecasts.</b></li> <li>• <b>Continued contacts with Assembly Speaker Emeritus Anthony Rendon.</b></li> <li>• <b>Presented Elie Wiesel: His Evolutionary Impact Upon Humankind, at the Long Beach Main Library on January 27<sup>th</sup></b></li> <li>• <b>Took Artificial Intelligence ChatGPT classes via CSULB OLLI and ABCUSD Adult Education.</b></li> <li>• <b>Continued Book Club meetings, including NIGHT and GROOVY GIRL reads/</b></li> </ul>  |

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  | <b>discussions.</b>  |
| Gale Caswell, CETA Liaison<br>gale.caswell@gmail.com   |  |
| Tim Dewar, CWP Liaison<br>dewar@education.ucsb.edu     | <p>CWP Liaison Report, February, 2024</p> <p>The California Writing Project has planned a full-day of events for the James Gray Memorial Preconvention at CATE. The day's theme is A Look Back and A Leap Forward. We have assembled a dynamic line-up of break-out sessions, offering four offerings in three different rounds, including strands on Ethnic Studies and Environmental Justice and Literacy. CWP again decided to forego a luncheon speaker, predicting that attendees would prefer an extended opportunity to talk with colleagues they have had limited opportunity to see in person.</p>  |
| Gina Grey, Liaison CTA<br>ginanichole35@gmail.com      |  |
| Jennifer Howerter, Liaison CDE<br>JHowerter@cde.ca.gov | <p><b>Comprehensive Literacy State Development Grant</b></p> <p>California's federally funded Comprehensive Literacy State Development (CLSD) grant advances literacy skills through evidence-based practices, activities, and interventions, including pre-literacy skills, reading, and writing. The grant serves children from birth through grade twelve, with an emphasis on children living in poverty, English learner students, and children with disabilities. The seven projects under the CLSD grant are aligned to the California <a href="#">Comprehensive State Literacy Plan</a>. An overview of each project is available on the California Department of Education (CDE) <a href="#">Literacy Lead Agency (LLA)</a> web page. LLAs share resources developed through the grant program in the <a href="#">Literacy Resources Repository</a> on the California Educators Together online platform.</p> <p>The focus for this year is scaling and sustainability. The CDE offered a series of technical assistance webinars throughout the year to support LLAs in planning for the continuation of this work once the grant has concluded at the end of September 2024. As part of the scaling and sustainability work, each LLA will be creating an implementation guide for their projects; we will share them at the grant's conclusion.</p> <p>Additional information about the CLSD grant is available on the CDE <a href="#">CLSD</a> web page.</p> <p><b>Reading Instruction and Intervention Grant</b></p> <p>Through the RII grant program, also known as Project Accelerating Reading Intervention through Systemic Excellence (ARISE), the Contra Costa COE and partners generate and disseminate professional learning opportunities for kindergarten through grade twelve public school educators across the state in the areas of evidence-based literacy instruction, including biliteracy instruction; intensive literacy interventions; and support of pupils' executive functioning skills.</p> <p>Project ARISE partners have developed a series of self-paced online courses that offer a whole-child approach to literacy instruction. Engage in content addressing literacy as equity, executive functions, research informed best practices for reading instruction, and a process for intensive intervention. This professional learning opportunity is free to all California educators. Project ARISE is led by Contra Costa County Office of Education and supported by California Department of Education.</p> <p>Enroll for courses here: <a href="https://project-arise.thinkific.com/pages/welcome">https://project-arise.thinkific.com/pages/welcome</a></p> <p>Additionally, we are hosting our Spring Workshop series in April and May. The workshops will be facilitated by our partners at The Center for Whole-Child Education, TNTP, and NCII.</p> |

Workshop Flier:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1E-hii-XiGz1QXhGgUOT8DrXshbWEzUaZ/view?usp=sharing>

Workshop Registration: [https://sdcoe.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_bBPPSqbkvY1N4eq](https://sdcoe.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bBPPSqbkvY1N4eq)

### **Literacy Coaches and Reading Specialist Funding Opportunities**

Through the Literacy Coaches and Reading Specialists (LCRS) grant, eligible school sites receive a funding allocation to develop school literacy programs, employ and train literacy coaches and reading and literacy specialists, and develop and implement interventions for students in need of targeted literacy support. For a list of eligible school sites for fiscal years 2022–23 and 2023–24, see the [LCRS Categorical Programs](#) web page.

The LCRS Educator Training (LCRSET) grant awards \$27 million to a COE to develop and provide training for educators to become literacy coaches and reading and literacy specialists. The CDE awarded the grant to SCOE through a competitive grant process and LCRSET technical assistance began in January. Learn more about the LCRSET grant on the [LCRS web page](#) and the [LCRSET RFA web page](#).

### **News and Media Literacy Webinar Series**

The CDE has partnered with the News Literacy Project (NLP) to develop a news and media literacy webinar series: News and Media Literacy for All. Content specialists from the CDE, NLP, Fresno COE, San Diego COE, Santa Clara COE, and the California School Library Association have come together to provide this 8-part webinar series designed to increase news and media literacy skills for students, families, and educators. Each session is 30 minutes long, with an optional 15 minute question and answer session after the webinar. Registration information is available on the [News and Media Literacy for All Flyer](#). We also encourage you to join their group on [California Educators Together](#), where they will post recordings for each session, resources, and more. The next session will be on Thursday, March 21, and the topic will be supporting history-social science and civics through news and media literacy.

### **Recommended Literature List**

The Recommended Literature List for Prekindergarten through Grade 12 (Recommended Literature List) has been updated! Over 200 new books are now in the database. Last year's recommendations will be available to download on the [Recommended Literature List](#) web page. [TeachingBooks](#) and [Bookshare](#) have each curated resources for the new update.

CDE is seeking suggestions for recently published, high quality, multilingual books in languages such as Spanish, Vietnamese, and Mandarin to include in the next update of the Recommended Literature List. To submit a title for our committee to consider, please fill out the [title suggestion survey](#). If you have any questions, please email the team at [LiteratureList@cde.ca.gov](mailto:LiteratureList@cde.ca.gov).

### **Legislation Updates**

Assembly Bill 2222 would create a lot of changes for literacy instruction in California. Here are some of the big changes proposed in the bill (as of February 16, 2024):

- Requires the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to update its literacy standards of program quality and effectiveness, literacy teaching performance expectations, and literacy instruction preconditions for program sponsors offering the reading and literacy leadership specialist credential and reading and literacy added authorizations.
- Requires the CDE to select an expert lead to develop a list of professional development and training programs focusing on literacy instruction for transitional kindergarten through grade 5.

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requires the selected expert lead to present a list of professional development and training programs to the CDE by January 1, 2026.</li> <li>• Requires applicable personnel at local education agencies to complete the professional development/training by June 30, 2028.</li> <li>• Requires the State Board of Education to adopt instructional materials aligned to the science of reading for English Language Arts, English Language Development, and reading by January 1, 2026.</li> <li>• Establishes a definition for the science of reading.</li> </ul> <p>The bill covers a lot more, and we encourage you to review it in full <a href="#">here</a>.</p>  |
| <p>Chris Street, Liaison ERWC<br/>cstreet@fullerton.edu</p>  | <p>I have been working to finalize ERWC related items for the CATE conference.</p> <p>ERWC Reception <i>Saturday, March 2nd</i> 530-630 (Jetway)</p> <p>ERWC strand–Chris S. will reach out to presenters to include ERWC update slides in their sessions, publicize the ERWC reception on Saturday night, hand out ERWC Literacy Conference fliers, etc.</p> <p>ERWC Booth is happening</p> <p>2024 ERWC Literacy Conference and Leader Certification, June 2024<br/>Marketing Timeline–</p> <p>First <i>California English</i> advertisement needed by 12/1–done (will appear in February issue of <i>CE</i>)</p> <p>Message about ERWC reception in CATE program–It is there!</p>   |
| <p>Shraddha Kapadia, CATE's representative to CYRM<br/>sikapadia89@gmail.com</p>   |  |
| <p>Carol Jago, <i>California English</i> Editor, Liaison California Reading and Literature Project<br/>cjago@caroljago.com</p> | <p>March 1, 2024</p> <p>TO: CATE Board<br/>FROM: Carol Jago, <i>California English</i> editor<br/>RE: March board report</p> <p>The February issue of <i>California English</i> focused on climate change in the ELA curriculum. I was at first concerned that the topic might not attract enough manuscripts but Chris Street and Lori Campbell submitted extraordinary articles on ERWC modules that dealt with this topic providing solid ballast for the issue. A CATE member from San Diego introduced me to Sally Pla, author of <i>The Fire, the Water, and Maudie McGann</i>, which opens with a California wildfire. Sally wrote a beautiful letter to readers and two weeks later won an award from the American Library Association!</p> <p>The other good news about this issue is that Michael and I were able to garner \$550 worth of ads from publishers.</p> <p>The May issue will focus on Asian American literature. Please help me spread the word. I am happy to announce that we have found an artist whose work complements this theme. You can check out Felicia Liang's work for yourself here <a href="https://www.felicia-liang.com/">https://www.felicia-liang.com/</a></p> <p><b><i>California English</i></b></p> <p><b><u>May 2024</u></b><br/><b>Building Community with Asian American and Pacific Islander Literature</b><br/><b>Deadline April 1, 2024</b></p> <p>Hate crimes targeting Asian Americans are reaching unprecedented levels. Teachers</p> |

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  | <p>have long held that literature can be a tool for combating divisiveness in society. How have you explored the use of AAPI books and poetry in your curriculum? How can we make inclusion of stories from these communities a classroom norm? How do you foster courageous conversations and inquiry-based research to broaden students' perspectives and foster solidarity?</p> <p>Manuscripts are peer reviewed. Please send submissions in a Microsoft Word file to <i>California English</i> editor, Carol Jago <a href="mailto:cjago@caroljago.com">cjago@caroljago.com</a>. Articles should be limited to 2,500 words.</p> |
|  |  |