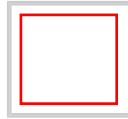


President's Monthly Message (archived)

<**Learn more** about the CCA President, Carolyn Inmon, [here](#).

- updated **December 1, 2005**



## **NO THANK YOU!**

**That's what we said to this governor and his bad ideas.** And we said so decisively. The absolutely stunning victory was due to our unity, our dedication and our hard work. The 1300 phone calls at the fall conference and the 1000 phone calls at the board meeting were small symbols of the tremendous effort we all put in all over the state. We proved that together we can accomplish anything and that the power of the group cannot be overstated. Union means unity and we showed that we were united in defeating the bad ideas of this governor. We said,

- **NO THANK YOU** to blaming teachers,
- **NO THANK YOU** to silencing teachers, and
- **NO THANK YOU** to taking money away from education.

I have been asked why we have to do political action. Why can't we just stay in the classroom? **Barbara Kerr, CTA President, answered that question at the October CTA State Council. Here are excerpts from her remarks:**

They want us to stay out of politics. But like the saying goes, we'll stay out of politics when they stay out of our classrooms.

We'll stay out when they stop trying to deny teachers basic due process rights to a hearing before being fired.

We'll stay out when our poor students – many of our students of color – have the resources they need to succeed.

We'll stay out when teachers earn a salary competitive to other professions that require the same level of education and training.

We'll stay out when all students and teachers can go to class in safe, clean schools.

We'll stay out when there are places for all students, who are eligible, to attend community colleges and state universities.

We'll stay out when they stop trying to tell us how to run our internal business.

We'll stay out when they stop trying to impose one set of rule for workers and another set for big corporate contributors, who already out-spend workers 24 to 1.

We'll stay out when they treat teachers like the highly trained professionals we are.

Until then...you bet we're going to play in politics...and we're going to play – to – win.

**Thank you Barbara for those great words. You inspired me to add to the list:**

We'll stay out of politics when they stop blaming faculty for everything that is wrong in education.

We'll stay out of politics when they give us proper money to run our colleges.

We'll stay out of politics when the funding is as much as K-12, CSU, or UC.

We'll stay out of politics when our community system is funded at the national average for community colleges.

We'll stay out of politics when students of color have the same opportunity as their counterparts in the suburbs.

We'll stay out of politics when they stop cutting Pell grants to fund other things.

We'll stay out of politics when per student funding is equalized across the state.

We'll stay out of politics when part-time faculty have office hours to meet with their students.

We'll stay out of politics when part-time faculty have medical benefits.

We'll stay out of politics when part-time faculty have rehire rights.

We'll stay out of politics when part-time faculty have equitable retirement.

We'll stay out of politics when part-time faculty have equity pay they deserve.

We'll stay out of politics when community colleges have enough librarians to help our students obtain the skills they need to succeed.

We'll stay out of politics when community colleges have enough counselors and educational advisors so that our students aren't confused about what courses to take.

We'll stay out of politics when noncredit is funded at the level it deserves.

We'll stay out of politics when the Governor doesn't veto a bill to pay back our retirement money.

We'll stay out of politics when the computer divide is lessened for both students and faculty.

We'll stay out of politics when the state stops micro managing education.

We'll stay out of politics when legislators stay out of our classrooms!

**Any questions? Call the CCA office at 916/726-4207.**

