

# FRESNO TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

MARCH 2018 Campus Connect: *Election Issue*

Office: **PRESIDENT (1 seat)**

Term of Office: **2018 - 2020**



**MANUEL BONILLA #1**

Who do you want to represent you? Who will listen to your concerns and act to address them? If you've liked what we've accomplished and how we've accomplished it, I ask that you allow me to continue to advocate for you.

As a leader of the current bargaining team I am proud of the work we've done to reduce class sizes, increase teacher voice in curriculum and safety & discipline, increase health care coverage and wages, increase social & emotional supports (including \$2 million for special education) and add 13 registered nurses. I'm also proud that we accomplished all of this while avoiding a strike and without making concessions.

These are big steps forward, yet the work continues.

The next president must continue to address concerns over safety/discipline, class size, teacher agency, wages, and health benefits.

I will accomplish this through servant leadership. I will continue to listen to educators, act to address their concerns, and continue to build our collective voice. It's the strong bonds built over the last few years that gave us a strong voice in the bargaining room. It's also the way you've allowed us to advocate for you.

Although we need to keep the district accountable, I want to rebuild strained relationships as we try to find collaborative solutions to address the needs of students and educators; solutions informed by your voice.

Remember to vote for Peter Beck, Chris Finley, and Kerry Roberts. This is the team needed to continue this great work.



**JOHN HAZELETT #2**

No Statement or  
Picture Provided



**SCOTT HATFIELD #3**

My name's Scott Hatfield. I've been an employee of this district since 1994, working at both the elementary and secondary levels, the last 18 as a science teacher at Bullard High. Beginning about eight years ago, I received opportunities to contribute to the work of the Association.

While working as a *Site Rep* in 2011, I discovered that the district was not following the contract where class size was concerned, and began developing tools to hold the district accountable. This work got the attention of FTA leaders, and led to my appointment to the **2013 Bargaining Team**. The contract reached by this Team put over \$40 million in the local economy, and provided language that made class size more enforceable in this district.

Since that time, I've found other opportunities for me to do my part:

- serving **two terms on the Executive Board** since 2013
- developed **Evaluation Trainings** (2015) to help our members leverage FUSD's process in their favor
- since 2016, advocating for **ALL** the district's active employees and retirees as **one of FTA's representatives on JHMB**.

Now, in the spring of 2018, I'm asking for your support, to help me continue the work I've begun:

On class size, on school safety and discipline, on health care, we need a strong, experienced leader who understands where we've been, and where we need to go. **That's why I'm asking for YOUR vote for FTA President!**

## IMPORTANT ELECTION INFORMATION

Electronic voting and paper voting @ FTA office opens at 9:00 am on Monday, March 12, 2018, and closes on Thursday, March 22, 2018, at 5:00 pm.

Candidates will have an opportunity to give a speech at the March 12<sup>th</sup> Rep Council meeting at Diana Court at 4:00 pm.

Note: Each candidate's statement is limited to 250 words and candidate names will appear on the ballot in the order of the official 2018 CTA alphabet:

**B F Z T O X M G A C N L W Q D U J K  
E V I H R Y P S**

## OFFICE: VICE-PRESIDENT (1 SEAT)

*Term of Office: 2018—2020*



FELICIA BURRELL #5

I, Felicia Burrell, am running for **Vice President** for Fresno Teachers Association. As a proud member, advocate, and teacher of the Union I am willing to work above and beyond the needs of this organization. As your **Vice President** our membership and Collective Bargaining Agreement between the District and our Association are the most important aspects of this job. It would be my pleasure to serve as your Vice President at FTA. Through hard work, dedication, and commitment as your **Vice President** I will work hard for you.

I am a leader, problem solver, and great listener who is willing to continue to serve you. In the last 12 years I have shown my character of leadership skills as a past Negotiation Chair and member of the Bargaining Team, Special Education liaison, State Council and National Education Association Delegate. I served as a member of the Martin Luther Scholarship Fund committee working closely with the African American Caucus through CTA. I am a current member of the following caucus groups; GLBTQ+/LBGT, African American/Black Caucus, and Hispanic Caucus in both CTA and NEA. I am current alternate Delegate to CTA State Council and want to continue to make FTA voice heard at the table. As an advocate for safe space I am your current GLBTQ+ State Contact for the Fresno Madera Service Center. I ask for your support please vote March 12.

**Vote Felicia Burrell  
Vice President 2018**



PETER BECK #6  
(Incumbent)

We have come a long way in the last four years. I have been blessed to Play a role in some of our successes. However, we still have much to do. That is why I am running for FTA Vice-President. As a union, we have made headway towards smaller class sizes, more social emotional support, SPED support and improvements in student safety, but we can do better. With an improved relationship with Fresno Unified leadership, I believe these goals are possible.

Our union is stronger than it has ever been. I would like to build on our members' engagement so that we will be just as successful in life after the Janus case AND in electing school board members in the fall. Please vote on March 12 for Manuel Bonilla - President, Peter Beck - Vice President, Kerry Roberts - Treasurer and Chris Finley - Secretary.

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R Y P S**

Videos of candidates will be posted



**OFFICE: SECRETARY**

**(1 SEAT)**

***Term of Office:***  
**2018—2020**



**CHRIS FINLEY #8**  
(Incumbent)

No Statement Provided

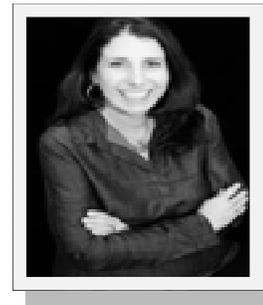
**OFFICE: TREASURER (1 Seat)**

***Term of Office: 2018-2020***



**KERRY MCNEAL-ROBERTS #10**

My entire career of nearly 30 years has all been in Fresno Unified. As a high school math teacher, I have taken on additional responsibilities along the way such as department chair, lead teacher, WASC focus group chair, book adoptions, and numerous committees. Those experiences have given me a broad perspective over time and have allowed me to observe a myriad of changes in our District. It has also allowed me to build many valued relationships that may not have been possible otherwise. Being part of the negotiation process over the last 18 months has garnered another layer of experience and quality relationships that could not have been achieved in any other way. I am very proud of the progress that our Association has made in the last few years. I was honored to be included in a group with such admirable dedication, motivation, and integrity. I believe that it is imperative that the nucleus of that group remains intact to spearhead the work that must continue. We have made progress, but there is still much to be done. I hear your voices and understand the issues because I stand shoulder to shoulder with you. As treasurer, I vow to be a trustworthy and responsible steward of both your contributions and your concerns. There will be challenges. Together, with a strong and ethical leadership, we will overcome them. That is why I'm asking you to vote for me, Manuel Bonilla, Peter Beck, and Chris Finley.



**HILARY LEVINE #11**

Every Vote Matters!

As a veteran teacher of 24 years, in FUSD, I have been involved with FTA for over 20 of those years. I have been a school site rep, on the executive board, on the bargaining team, a professional development trainer, on the PAR panel and a writer of the CSTP's. I love the work that I have done for our local, FTA.

I have spent several years keeping track of our budget and financial statements that are given out at every meeting. I go over them, ask questions and keep them organized in a binder. It is extremely important to track OUR money. Our dues were raised by \$10 a month a year ago and our representative council voted for this.

Do you know how your dues dollars have been spent? Do you understand why they were raised? Do you know how are budget is prepared? I do!

After such a long negotiations and a lot of money being spent on them, it is important to have someone who is knowledge about FTA take over as treasurer. In our next budget it will be important that we avoid deficit spending and be transparent with where our money is going. The next treasurer will have their work cut out for them and I am ready for that job!

Experience matters! Vote Hilary Levine:  
Treasurer of FTA



**OFFICE: CTA STATE COUNCIL (2) Seats**  
**Term of Office (2) Three year terms ending June 2021**



FELICIA BURRELL #13

Representation is the key to our voices being heard, that is why I am running for **California Teachers Association (CTA) State Council Delegate**. I have been a teacher for twelve years and a district employee for twenty-one (21) and I have had the pleasure of providing support as a site representative for eleven years.

I would like to continue the work I have been doing as a **CTA State Council Delegate** working on the Early Childhood Committee and providing a conscientious voice for Fresno Teachers Association and the fourth largest district in California. As a **Delegate of CTA State Council**, I strive to ensure that Fresno voices are heard in the African American, Hispanic, and LGBTQ+ Caucuses. It is also important that we as member of the California Teachers Association be informed of the decisions and outcomes that come from the state level.

I would be honored to represent you as a **Delegate of CTA State Council**.

**Vote Felicia for CTA State Council Delegate 2018**

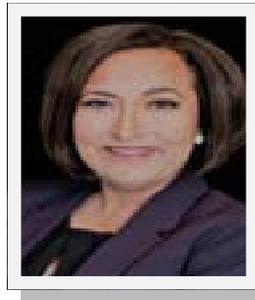


CHRIS FINLEY #14

I have been in education for over 20 years and like most of you I plan to stay in education for years to come. When I started the teaching profession I could not identify those things that would later become a threat to the career field that I had chosen. Like most of you I came to work and taught with the best of my ability. At this time it was apparent that the tools that I had and that of my colleagues varied. For the next 15 years I struggled to stay abreast of the last innovations in education. I attended district professional development and any other professional development that I thought would give me an advantage in the classroom. Then the nature of these opportunities changed overnight. The strategies presented seemed to shift from that of support to directives. My motivation began to wane and I started to feel as if I was all alone and ill-equipped to deal with the challenges that I faced in the classroom. Surely, I couldn't be the only one that felt this way. This is when I met a union member that invited me to step up to the plate. Being at a low, I could only see up. I embraced a verse from one of my favorite reggae songs, "Man would rather die, than live like a dog." And I accepted the challenge. This is when the teaching profession was under attack from within and without.



JOHN HAZELETT #15  
 No Picture or Statement Provided



EVA RUIZ #16  
 (Incumbent)

As your current representative, it's been my honor to serve you and our Association as one of your delegates on the California Teachers Association (CTA) State Council.

I take this work very seriously: CTA's State Council is the policy-making body of CTA educators, meeting four times a year to review and transform policies affecting the educational system within the state of California. Delegates commit up to four full weekends a year to do the work of the association, weekends that are filled with committee and caucus work on your behalf.

I'm proud of the work I've already contributed to the Council, in particular my participation in the Language Acquisition Committee. During the last election, this Committee worked very hard throughout the state to ensure the passage of Proposition 58. I played an integral role at both the state and local level to deliver that outcome, and I look forward to completing the work that will support the implementation of this important reform, which will do so much for the teacher and students in our Valley.

To do that, I'm asking for your vote, to reelect me as a delegate to CTA State Council. You will always get my best. This is the work "I LOVE" to do on behalf of our members, students and community. The moment I walk into State Council until the minute I drive away, three days are filled and consumed with work I do for you!

Vote for Eva Ruiz, CTA State Council!



TRISH RENFRO #17

My Name is Trish Renfro I have been a high school teacher in Fresno Unified for 13 years. I am running for CTA State Council Representative. I have been spent my entire teaching career being inspired by the hard working teachers of Fresno and these past four years I have been inspired by the leadership of Tish Rice. I plan to represent and advocate for all of the outstanding teachers in FTA because I know that some of the hardest teaching is happening here in Fresno. The challenges that our students and teachers are facing are among the hardest in the nation and they need the supports of not only the district but also from the state. On March 12th please vote for Manuel Bonilla for President, Peter Beck for Vice-President, Chris Finley for Secretary, Kerry McNeal-Roberts for Treasurer and Trish Renfro and Chris Finley for CTA State Council to continue the great work that FTA has done. We have come so far, but the work is not done. Thank you.



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