CSEA members appointed to Early Childhood Policy Council and Workforce Advisory Committee

San Jose, CA – The California Legislature and Governor Gavin Newsom created the state’s Early Childhood Policy Council (Policy Council) last year to advise the Governor, the Legislature and Superintendent of Public Instruction on early childhood issues. The Policy Council has two standing committees – the Parent Advisory Committee and Workforce Advisory Committee.

The California School Employees Association (CSEA) applauds Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon’s appointment of Natali Gaxiola to the Policy Council and Governor Gavin Newsom’s appointment of Virginia Eigen to the Policy Council’s Workforce Advisory Committee.

Gaxiola’s career spans 17 years working in early childhood education. She currently works for the Lennox School District as a preschool teacher in the Lennox State Preschool Program. Her teaching techniques have been featured in videos on teachingchannel.org, and she has presented at numerous conferences and workshops as an early childhood education expert practitioner. She is a member of CSEA’s Lennox Chapter 575.

Eigen has worked for the Campbell Union School District since 2002. She is a Child Development Specialist (preschool teacher) and an expert on early childhood education. She is a member of the California Early Childhood Mentor Program and of CSEA’s Campbell Chapter 868.

“Classified school employees will be well-represented in the state’s early childhood policy work, thanks to these appointments,” said CSEA President Ben Valdepeña. “Early childhood education is a high priority for our association and for the state’s high-level policymakers. We look forward to continuing our work together to ensure the voices of classified school employees are heard.”

The appointees will each serve three-year terms. The Council will hold at least four public meetings each year and submit their recommendations in an annual report.
About the California School Employees Association

Founded in 1927 by a small group of Oakland custodians focused on securing retirement benefits, the California School Employees Association is the largest classified school employee union in the United States. The member-run organization represents more than 250,000 school support staff who perform a wide range of essential work, including security, food services, and paraeducator services in kindergarten through 12th grade, Community Colleges, and County Offices of Education.

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