



California School Employees Association

# GENERAL INFORMATION BULLETIN

May 2, 2022

GIB No. 26-22

## ELECTION OF RETIREE UNIT EXECUTIVE BOARD SECRETARY DURING CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

**Action for Council Presidents and District Directors:** Discuss at all meetings and review the election process as outlined in the attached board item.

### A. SUBJECT MATTER

Conditions of the coronavirus continue to render impractical the immediate return to the regular method of secret balloting for the Retiree Unit Executive Board (RUEB) Secretary election as provided in the Association Constitution and Bylaws, which involves in-person meetings for Retiree Unit councils. The CSEA Board of Directors voted in its April Board meeting to conduct the RUEB Secretary election by online ballot rather than the usual in-person meetings in order to protect the democracy of these elections and keep members safe.

### B. REQUIRED ACTION

**Council Presidents and District Directors:** For discussion at all meetings, review the election process as outlined in the attached board item.

CALIFORNIA SCHOOL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Keith Pace', is written over a faint, larger version of the signature.

Keith Pace  
Executive Director

KP:DC:jpk:aa

Attachment: Memo dated April 20, 2022 re: Election of Retiree Unit Executive Board Secretary During Coronavirus Pandemic

### DISTRIBUTION:

**(For Action)** Retiree Council Presidents; District Directors

**(For Information)** Board of Directors; Alternate Area Directors; Assistant Regional Representatives; Chairpersons and Members, Standing Committees; Political Action Coordinators; Regional Communications Officers; Retiree Unit Executive Board; Life Members and Honor Roll Recipients; All Staff

**PREVIOUS BULLETIN INFORMATION:** GIB 25-22, dated 4/11/2022, and titled "Support Kevin Palkki for CalPERS Election" was given general distribution.

(B/D – 04/23/22)

**CALIFORNIA SCHOOL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION  
Board Policy and Procedures Review Committee**

**Date:** April 20, 2022  
**To:** Board of Directors  
**From:** Mabelle Kessinger, Chairperson, Policy and Procedures Review Committee  
**Subject:** Election of Retiree Unit Executive Board Secretary During Coronavirus Pandemic

**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. That the Board of Directors approve the Election of RUEB Secretary During Coronavirus Pandemic.
2. That the Board of Directors approve an expense not to exceed \$8,000 for the CSEA-approved online balloting service “Balloteer” to manage the RUEB Secretary election and for mail election notification.

**INFORMATION:**

The CSEA Board of Directors took action during the April 2020 Board Meeting, the September 2020 Board Meeting, the January 2021 Board Meeting, and the January 2022 Board Meeting to elect members to the Board of Directors and the Retiree Unit Executive Board (RUEB) by online ballot. There continues to be a need to hold pending elections required by the Association Constitution and Bylaws promptly so as to protect the democracy of these elections and to maintain continuity of the Association.

Conditions of the coronavirus continue to render impractical the immediate return to the regular method of secret balloting for the RUEB Secretary election as provided in the Association Constitution and Bylaws, which involves in-person meetings for Retiree Unit councils. Protecting the health and safety of CSEA members is of primary importance. Letters of intent for the contested RUEB Secretary election have already been submitted. Waiting to hold constitutionally required elections may suppress the ability for members to vote and it will create additional disruption with Association governance than what has already been caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

Therefore, the provisions of Policy 509 as it relates to election process should be temporarily waived, and the election for RUEB Secretary should be conducted as follows:

1. The CSEA-approved online balloting service “Balloteer” shall be used to manage the above election. This is the same CSEA-approved service used by all CSEA chapters and councils who have approved online balloting in their constitutions and bylaws.

2. The election notice, along with the appropriate information needed to cast an online ballot (such as member username and password), shall be mailed via U.S. First Class mail to each CSEA member in good standing who is eligible to vote in the election who has a mailing address on file with CSEA on June 6, 2022.
3. The online ballot vote shall be conducted by secret ballot for each council in the Retiree Unit. Members shall have the opportunity to vote for no less than a period of ten (10) calendar days from the date that the notification of election is distributed to members.
4. Each council shall be entitled to one (1) vote which shall be determined by a plurality of the qualified membership voting by online ballot. Results shall be arranged by council so that each council result may be verified and tallied. If a council's vote results in a tie, the vote shall be recorded as a tie and no candidate shall receive a vote from said council.
5. At the conclusion of all voting, the RUEB Secretary and the CSEA Executive Department shall set a date and time for a meeting which shall be open to all candidates and their appointed observers to attend via videoconference. The videoconference shall permit participants to see all results by council, which shall be tallied into votes for each candidate in accordance with paragraph 4 above. If a tie exists, the election shall be determined by lot between the tied candidates, to be conducted during a closed (executive) session of the Retiree Unit Executive Board. The tied candidates or their appointed observer will be allowed to observe the procedure. The Retiree Unit Executive Board shall audit all ballots, tabulate the ballots, and certify the successful candidates.