

CTA Secretary-Treasurer Mikki Cichocki is quoted in first story on a new study about how student poverty affects test scores. Fearing more tuition hikes, UC students are protesting today on the four campuses involved in a conference call by UC regents – with UC Davis students holding a general strike. Other stories and editorials today look at potential or filed tax measures headed for the November 2012 ballot...

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CTA Education Makes News



[Income level has strong effect on school test scores, analysis shows](#)

(Pasadena Star-News © 11/27/2011)

Mikki Cichocki, secretary treasurer for the California Teachers Association and a teacher who works with at-risk students in San Bernardino Unified, said students living in poverty face hurdles other don't -- homelessness, frequent moves from city to city, less health care and even a lack of food. "How do they study?" Cichocki asked. "They don't eat. For a lot of those kids, those (school lunches) are their only meals. In the evening they get hot Cheetohs if mom decides to go to the gas station."

[UC students to protest at regents meeting today on 4 campuses -- general strike at UC Davis](#)

(Oakland Tribune © 11/28/2011)

DAVIS -- Student protesters with the Occupy movement will converge on four UC campuses today to vent their fury at a meeting of the regents, with demonstrators in Davis attempting a campuswide shutdown. The meeting, rescheduled after cancellation earlier this month because of threats of violence and vandalism, now includes a one-hour slot for student voices and other public comments, inc...

[New initiative: \\$10B for K-12, preschools](#)

(Educated Guess © 11/28/2011)

An initiative that would raise \$10 billion for K-12 education and preschools by raising the state income tax, primarily on the rich, will be submitted to the Attorney General's office for review this week, the first step for placing it on the November 2012 ballot. The initiative would target low-income students, who'd get a larger piece of the funding. The Advancement Project, a national civil r...

[Editorial: Will 2012 be a pileup for reform initiatives?](#)

(Sacramento Bee © 11/27/2011)

Some are deriding Nicolas Berggruen and other wealthy reform advocates for jumping into the initiative fray with plans for fixing California's tax system, schools and other services. This editorial board has long been leery of initiatives, and we certainly understand why many are angry about wealth disparities that have grown wider since the recession. Yet Californians shouldn't reflexively reje...

[Walters: State budget leaves schools in flux](#)

(Fresno Bee © 11/27/2011)

The state budget's 800-pound gorilla is educating six million elementary and high school students. It consumes between 35% and 40% of the general fund and is allocated by a bizarre combination of power politics and a constitutional provision so complex that only a few in and around the Capitol even profess to understand it – and rarely agree. Since the budget usually can't meet its full co...

[Low scores threaten Long Beach school's charter](#)

(Long Beach Press-Telegram © 11/28/2011)

LONG BEACH - Founded in 2000, New City is a charter school of more than 500 students with campuses at 1637 Long Beach Blvd. and 1230 Pine Ave. Three years ago it added a small high school, Colegio New City, that will celebrate its first graduating class in 2012. The K-8 school, however, has performed extremely low on standardized tests in recent years, prompting red flags for local and state educa...

[Santa Clara County school board will look outside education for next county schools chief](#)

(San Jose Mercury News © 11/27/2011)

SAN JOSE -- In searching for a new county schools chief, the Santa Clara County Board of Education wants a proven leader, but the right candidate need not have a track record in schools -- or even have an education credential. Trustees are dangling a \$295,000 starting salary, with retirement benefits and other perks, to entice candidates to lead the sprawling county Office of Education. They're looking in go...

Remarks:

CTA's Lisa Vieler is quoted.

[Steven Greenhut: 'Think Long' report comes up short](#)

(Marysville Appeal-Democrat © 11/27/2011)

Could California be in better shape if former governors Arnold Schwarzenegger or Gray Davis, or former Assembly Speaker Willie Brown were back in power? That's an odd question given the fiscal mess that those politicians helped create, or at least were powerless to fix. These politicians had their chance at the pinnacles of power, yet they blew it. Schwarzenegger was elected in a historic recall, y...

[Big expansion, big questions for Teach for America](#)

(Monterey County Herald © 11/27/2011)

"These are the lowest performing schools, so we need the strongest performing teachers," said Julian Davenport, an assistant principal at Holmes Elementary, where three-fifths of the staff this year are Teach for America corps members or graduates of the program. By 2015, with the help of a \$50 million federal grant, program recruits could make up one-quarter of all new teachers in 60 of the...

[Virtual schools are multiplying, but some question their educational value](#)

(Washington Post © 11/27/2011)

A Virginia company leading a national movement to replace classrooms with computers — in which children as young as 5 can learn at home at taxpayer expense — is facing a backlash from critics who are questioning its funding, quality and oversight. K12 Inc. of Herndon has become the country's largest provider of full-time public virtual schools, upending the traditional American...

[Occupy L.A. protesters to seek court order to block eviction](#)

(Los Angeles Times © 11/28/2011)

LOS ANGELES -- Protesters plan to file for a federal injunction that would prevent police from dismantling the Occupy L.A. encampment around City Hall. The complaint, which was to be filed today in federal court, names the city of Los

Angeles, Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and LAPD Chief Charlie Beck, alleging that the protesters' civil rights were violated. The three protesters who plan...

[Oakland Effect: Outrage over inequality the crux of Occupy movement, group says](#)

(Contra Costa Times © 11/27/2011)

This is an excerpt from reporter Scott Johnson's blog, which focuses on the impact of violence and trauma on the community. Go to www.oaklandeffect.com for updates on his reporting. The Occupy phenomenon isn't really about tent cities or arrests or even, one could argue, police brutality, though recent events could easily lead one to that conclusion. At a deeper level, it is about inequality. Ho...

[Dan Morain: Think Long 'One percenters' seek to give back?](#)

(Sacramento Bee © 11/27/2011)

It's easy to fume at corporations, banks and tycoons that seem to pocket ever more money at our expense. But heading into an election year, a few 1 percenters are contemplating giving a little bit back. Billionaire Nicolas Berggruen and his Think Long organization in Beverly Hills rolled out a plan last week to right California by, in part, raising taxes by \$10 billion. San Francisco investor Th...

[Occupy Claremont first general assembly attracts small crowd](#)

(Inland Valley Daily Bulletin © 11/28/2011)

CLAREMONT - Instead of using the human microphone, Occupy Claremont members used a sacred Eagle feather to denote whose turn it was to speak at its first general assembly Sunday outside City Hall. The group of about 75 people ranging from college-aged students to senior citizens stood outside City Hall for a couple hours voicing their opinions and reasons for attending. The only ...