

COMPARING THE CANDIDATES FOR Superintendent of Public Instruction



“What every parent wants is to know that their local school is a high quality and safe school. I’m not going to give up on our neighborhood schools.”
▶ from www.tomtorlakson.com/issues



TOM TORLAKSON



“Failing kids get an ‘F’ on their report card, while failing adults get pay raises, lucrative contracts and good pensions.”
▶ from *San Jose Mercury News* [12/19/09]



GLORIA ROMERO

CTA RECOMMENDS

ON CHARTER SCHOOLS

Wants to hold charter schools accountable to the same standards as traditional public schools—requiring financial audits and enrolling all students who live in the neighborhood.

Wants to privatize our public schools. She voted to take away funding from public schools and give it to corporate charter schools that have a track record of excluding some students, especially those with special needs and English learners.

ON CLASS SIZE

Believes we must reduce class sizes to give teachers one-on-one time with students and understands our schools need more funding to make this a reality.

Supported efforts to weaken the state’s Class Size Reduction Program and let local school districts increase class sizes in California public schools.

ON FUNDING SCHOOLS OF GREATEST NEEDS

Supports adequate funding for all public schools. Sponsored CTA’s Quality Education Investment Act to help students in lower-performing schools with proven reforms like reducing class sizes, hiring more counselors, and providing high quality professional development for staff.

Supports taking funding from schools and turning those schools into for-profit schools that don’t have to meet the same requirements as public schools—letting them hide their financial records and pick and choose their own students.

ON RACE TO THE TOP

Believes that the federal Race to the Top program is another one-size-fits-all program that ignores the needs of local students and schools. He believes the federal program just creates “winners” and “losers” when all kids deserve adequately funded neighborhood schools.

Spearheaded California’s Race to the Top efforts—a federal program that requires states to adopt specific standards and expand accountability measures by paying and evaluating teachers based on test scores and by imposing more stringent sanctions against lower performing schools.

ON TESTING

Understands multiple measures must be used to fairly evaluate student achievement and teacher effectiveness.

Supports paying and evaluating teachers based on student test scores—forcing teachers to teach to the test.

SUPPORTED BY: California School Employees Association, California Federation of Teachers, California Professional Firefighters, Peace Officers Research Association of California, Congressman and Former Lt. Gov. John Garamendi, United Food and Commercial Workers, California Labor Federation

SUPPORTED BY: EdVoice, wealthy coalition of education reformists; Eli Broad, billionaire developer and charter school proponent; Education Management, LLC; Former L.A. Mayor Richard Riordan; California Charter School Association



PAID FOR BY

California Teachers Association | www.cta.org