

Schools of Greatest Need Organizing Committee

Process Outline

The following outline proposes a concept for implementing the plan adopted by the CTA Board of Directors. This plan calls for CTA to **Listen, Learn and Lead**.

- Listen to the issues, ideas and concerns of a broad group of stakeholders related to the schools of greatest need without preconceptions or agendas.
- Learn what can be done by CTA to assist the schools of greatest need.
- Lead the struggle in California to do something concrete to assist students in the Schools of Greatest Need.

Phase 1 - Meetings with the top level of the Association – has been completed.

Phase 1 included the CTA Board, chapter presidents, State Council representatives and CTA staff. Members of the CTA Board convened sessions with selected local leadership. CTA managers convened sessions with selected staff. The precise plans were left to those who set up the meetings.

One important thing each group considered was: “How deep, how wide should our inquiry go?” This helped develop guidelines as to how to proceed in Phase 2.

These initial meetings were completed by the end of November. The information was processed and decisions related to the next phase were communicated to the Organizing Committee in early December.

Phase 2 – Going deeper and wider

In this phase we allow all entities and individuals within CTA to convene group meetings for the purpose of generating data for the consideration of the Organizing Committee. The answers to the “how wide, how deep?” questions would serve as a guide for expanding the scope of inquiry and should serve as a minimum level of engagement. The Organizing Committee would decide the minimum scope of those to be surveyed based upon input from the Phase 1 sessions. Specific assignments would be made to assure the optimum survey of groups for input.

Concurrently a group of school reform and policy experts decision makers in Sacramento would be convened to elicit their input. This phase should be completed by March 1.

Phase 3 – Writing and Circulating the Draft and Finalization

Based upon the data collected in Phase 1 and Phase 2, the Organizing Committee would create an initial draft for circulation within relevant CTA groups. Substantive suggestions would be encouraged from anyone for changes, modifications, or clarifications of the draft plan. Finally, a one-day gathering of all of those who convened a meeting would be called to discuss the draft during this final phase. This draft would also be shared with policy makers in Sacramento for their comment.

The writing team would then finalize the draft for presentation to the CTA Board in April.