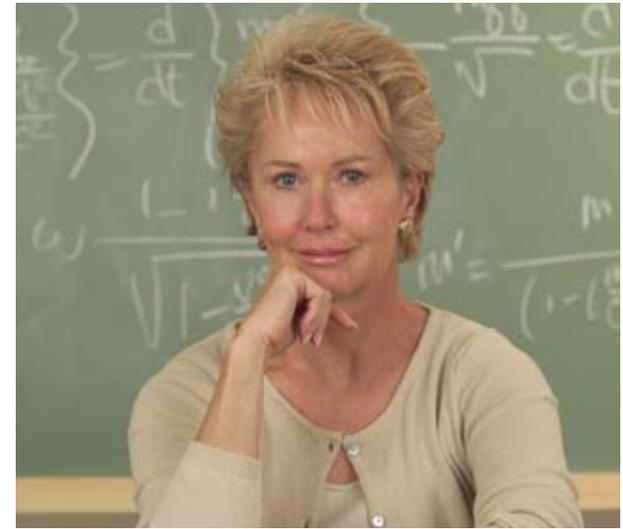


# The CTEN Story

The California Teachers Empowerment Network (CTEN) was created by a group of classroom teachers. The idea came about when we realized that we were not getting the kind of balanced information at our school sites that would enable us to make informed decisions affecting our profession. In fact, a wide range of information comes to us from a single viewpoint. It includes global concerns of education policy, leadership, and reform. It also encompasses more personal information, such as professional liability insurance, options of relationships to teachers unions, and the effect of unionism on teacher pay.

The lack of open and informed dialogue on professional matters adversely affects our ability to think for ourselves and inhibits our own use of those same critical thinking skills that we strive to instill in our students. It is very difficult to navigate a complex maze of data with incomplete or biased information. Therefore, the California Teachers Empowerment Network was founded with two profoundly simple goals: to make balanced information available and to provide a peer support network for teachers of like mind who may adopt dissenting views or make decisions that could invite criticism and strained relationships.



## Would you like to know...

- where your union dues are spent?
- why you might be getting bad advice about your 403b investments and where you can get unbiased advice?
- where to find less expensive and better liability insurance than your union offers?
- how the rapidly growing charter school movement might benefit you?
- how to get hundreds of dollars back from your union every year?

Visit our website where we answer these and many other questions.

[www.ctenhome.org](http://www.ctenhome.org)

## Is CTEN an anti-union organization?

We are not against unions. We are progressive in the belief that unions should be responsive and accountable to their members.

## Does CTEN have a political agenda?

We are fellow teachers who recognize there is an information gap that short circuits the democratic process within teacher unions. We aim to fill that gap. Our members represent a diversity of political viewpoints and backgrounds.

## Is CTEN's information credible?

As an independent, non-political organization, we provide information from a wide variety of reliable and impartial sources.

The California Teachers Empowerment Network (CTEN) was founded by teachers for teachers. Our goal is to make it easier for you to find complete and unbiased information about union membership and other education issues. Hopefully, this will enable you to make more informed decisions on these matters. Additionally, we want to provide you with the opportunity to connect with other teachers who value open and intelligent dialogue.

## Introduce Your Colleagues to the Network!

Visit  
[www.ctenhome.org](http://www.ctenhome.org)

Call  
888.290.8471

write  
CTEN  
P.O. Box 6262  
Woodland Hills, CA 91365



*Standing out from the crowd, fully informed on the issues*

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Open dialogue and  
informed choices will  
empower all of us to  
experience greater  
satisfaction and  
professional success.