From the President

Temecula Valley Educators,

I know we are looking at the last few days of the semester with an eye on the tasks ahead to wrap up the semester and anticipation of an opportunity to renew our energy over the winter break. A well deserved opportunity to spend time with our loved ones, and in my case, move some dirt around and finally cover the back patio.

Over the last 2 months, I had the opportunity to spend a significant part of the day at 17 sites connecting with potential members, new members, and many others to get to know them, the

Recently there is lots of talk, murmurings, and prognostications about what happens now with a new Board of Trustees for TVUSD. What will they do? What is next?

For the Temecula Valley Educators Association, we default to our core mission. WE continue to advocate for stellar learning conditions, effective teaching conditions, supporting our students, and due process in our employment by enforcing the Coordinated Bargaining Agreement between TVEA and TVUSD.

WE, as TVEA, set expectations with our employer, provide a voice to employee groups, and create opportunities to advocate for our students and create stellar learning conditions. We believe that we should all have the same opportunities to be successful in our careers, whether you are a veteran, a nurse, a first year who entered during the Zoom year and now redoing a first year again with live students, or someone we don’t know somewhere in the district. WE stand together.

When we hear “What’s going on with the school board?” It is all noise. Boards will change. Administration will change. We are the ones who have chosen to invest our careers here in TVUSD. That’s decades of effort working with colleagues to shape an educational experience that benefits students, families, and our community. School boards do not do this. Educators do! We committed to TVUSD for better or for worse for the length of our careers. We have to stand to protect and improve the gains made in the last 20 years and keep pushing higher.

This only happens if we are visible and active in the community.
Continued next page.

EDGAR DIAZ
TVEA PRESIDENT

117 New Members
1292 Total Members
From the President

Join me in “Welcoming the Board” with open arms on Tuesday, December 13th at the ABC conference center at the District Office. Closed session begins at 4, where they will be sworn in. Recognition for students in ASB in elementary and middle schools in the southern part of the district is at 5 pm, support your students. The meeting is at 6 pm where I will present the TVEA spotlight before public comments. Public comments submissions must be submitted at the beginning of the meeting. You may also speak on an item that is on the agenda during the business part of the meeting, requests are submitted at 6 pm as well. Here is a link to the agenda. (insert link)

Let’s introduce ourselves TVEA. WE represent each other! Teachers, nurses, counselors, psychologist, speech pathologist, specialist, social workers. We are the people who work with students. See you Tuesday.

Wear your TVEA Shirt December 13th in Solidarity with your TVEA Colleagues

Governing Board Meeting December 13th

Join TVEA President, Edgar Díaz as he “Welcomes the Board”. At this meeting the ceremonial swearing in of the newly elected governing board members, Allison Barclay, Danny Gonzalez, Dr Joseph Komrosky and Jen Wiersma will occur. They join Steven Schwartz to complete the five member TVUSD Governing Board.

Elementary Student Council/Ambassadors from ARES, CHES, PES, RES, VES and VHES will be recognized in open session. Parents and Teachers from these schools are invited to attend the open session beginning at 5:30pm.

President Diaz will provide the TVEA spotlight.

The meeting will be held at the TVHS Theater and starts at 6pm.

The agenda for the meeting is posted here: https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/SB_Meetings/ViewMeeting.aspx?S=36030186&MID=16350
The last couple of months, TVEA visited sites to connect with new and potential members and touch base with membership. President Edgar Díaz visited sites at lunch and throughout the day with help from TVEA Vice President Underwood (VRMS), High School Area Reps Doug VonSteeg (TVHS) and Abby Woelke (GOHS), Elementary Area Reps Jamie Vaugh (HIIA), Student Support Specialist Cynthia Lopez, and Organizational Director Lisa Sisco.

The site visits show that TVEA membership provides advantages. As a union, we support each other in the class or office and in professional and personal growth. TVEA membership grew from 1250 in September to just under 1300 in December. That’s 117 new members since summer and climbing towards 95% membership! This growth is a combination of new hires this year and individuals hired last year on a temporary contract. Yes, membership does provide benefits for teachers on temporary and probationary contracts. TVEA is advocating for a change in the way TVUSD staffs classrooms with temporary contracts. Employees make a commitment to the students of TVUSD, TVUSD needs to make a commitment to teachers and hire with probationary contracts and provide them summer pay and benefits.

With the numbers above, TVEA is in the middle of a change in membership. The last 2 years show over 200 members are new to the district and a large percentage in their first 5 years in education. That’s 15% of our membership. The site visits provide an opportunity to help connect TVEA with new members to the teaching and learning conditions in the district and how we can continue improving. It also helps TVEA to develop systems to support individuals new in education and develop the next leaders of the organization and the district.

There is a reason TVUSD consistently performs at such high levels, and it is you! As a member, you have the power to advocate and organize to provide feedback not only in TVEA input sessions and governance, but through TVUSD forums such as grade level district meetings, curricular council, Superintendent Council, site LCAP consults and School Site Councils. Your voice is valuable in site and district gatherings to implement what you see happening with your interactions with students. Don’t let that power go.

While we have been out to 18 sites, we have 9 to go before we start Bargaining Input sessions at each site in the spring. See you soon!
Leadership Council Position Specialists

Position Specialists are appointed representatives who help make up the Leadership Council. They are elected by their peers annually. They seek input and gather feedback from the group(s) in which they represent. Represent the views and input of the group(s) they represent in Leadership Council meetings. They Advocate for TVEA members within their Position Specialization, representing their interests in district level meetings whenever appropriate. Below are the 6 Position Specialist Groups and who they represent.

1. Special Education Special Day Class Teachers & Special Education Professionals
   a. Special Day Class (SDC): Preschool, Emotionally Disturbed, Non-Severe, Severely Handicapped, Adaptive PE, Deaf Hard of Hearing
   b. Behavioral Analyst/Behavioral Health Support Specialist
2. Resource Specialists
3. SSS Specialist
   a. Counselors, COSA
   b. LCAP High School Counseling Specialists
   c. LCAP Middle School Counseling Specialists
   d. Student Assistance Program Facilitators
   e. School Social Workers
   f. Licensed Clinical Social Workers
   g. Lead Nurse
   h. School Nurses
4. Psychologists
5. Speech and Language Pathologist
6. Academic Specialist
   a. LCAP K-5 Intervention Literacy Specialist
   b. LCAP Intervention Support Specialist HS
   c. LCAP Language Arts Specialist
   d. LCAP Supplemental Math Specialist
   e. LCAP Supplemental Support Specialist
   f. K-12 English Language Arts Specialist
   g. K-12 Math Specialist
   h. Elementary Intervention Specialist
   i. Supplemental Instruction Specialist
   j. Instructional Coach TK-12
   k. District Library Media Specialist

NEED SUPPORT?

If you have issues, concerns or need support regarding your responsibilities or working conditions that impact your ability to serve your students please reach out to your Position Specialist. They are here to help you!

Position Specialists meet with their Area Directors and can offer support through problem solving at the Administrative or District Level.

They are here to help our newest members with resources and tools and colleague support as well!

Help us to Help You!
It is a great time to take inventory on the amount of leave you utilized this year, and how much you have left. From the TVEA contract, you have 10 leave days that are allocated each year, those days accrue to the next year, if left unused.

On your pay warrant, look at the hours available and divide by 7, to give you “by the day” calculation. Now, log on to Aesop and run a report on the leave days you have taken this year.

Every year you are entitled to take 10 days of Personal Business day, as long as it does not connect to a paid holiday. Do not exceed this or you are responsible for the per diem cost of your daily salary. Only Personal Illness allows you to exceed your accrued leave, and you will continue to be paid, minus the rate of a substitute, which is $142.

You are able to take your leave anytime, without pre approval (Personal Business has exceptions, see above).

To learn more about Leave, check out the Know Your Contract on Personal Illness and Personal Business

Leave does accrue and you can port it to another school district, it is not lost. Consider banking your leave for later in your career to help with family or health emergencies that life may bring. Banked leave is a great resource in times of need. Individuals can use an unlimited amount of medical leave, but the more accrued leave you have, the more fully paid days you will have accessible to you later in your career.

**Know Your Rights**

CTA members have the legal right to a safe and healthy workplace. Get resources to help you understand, preserve, and enhance your rights. If you feel that your rights have been threatened, contact your Primary Contact Staff.

https://www.cta.org/for-educators/your-rights

**Legal Services**

CTA works to preserve and enhance the rights of educators and other public school employees in all aspects of their employment. As a benefit of membership, CTA members receive free employment-related legal services and consults on non-employment-related legal matters.

https://www.cta.org/for-educators/member-benefits/legal-services

**Weingarten Rights**

The US Supreme Court has ruled that the National Labor Relations Act gives workers the right to request union representation during investigatory interviews by supervisors, security personnel and other managerial staff. These are called Weingarten Rights.

I REQUEST REPRESENTATION

If you are called to a meeting with management, read the following when the meeting begins. "If this discussion could in any way lead to my being disciplined or terminated, or affect my personal working conditions, I respectfully request that my Association representative be present at the meeting."

You have the right to pause the meeting at any time to request representation.
Stipends for Elementary and Middle School - Settled! Look for a joint statement between TVEA/TVUSD on a resolution for the implementation of the stipends for elementary and middle school.

On December 9th, Ad-Hoc groups met with TVUSD to continue discussions for Social Workers and Elementary SDC Case Management. While the title social worker and the type of work is similar at all grade level spans, the requirements and compensation varies greatly between them. This session involved TVEA social workers bringing their experience and knowledge to the table.

Settling the Elementary SDC Case Management MOU is long overdue. Our colleagues working in difficult conditions need access to case management time now! How are they to conduct one-on-one test and complete IEPs with a class of students around them? With one semester completed, how much longer should they wait?

Reach out to Elizabeth O’Donnell at tvea.specialeducation@gmail.com and let her know you can help.

On October 21st, TVEA hosted a Happy Hourween at Old Town Blues Club with a “Bring a New Member” slant. This networking event provided an opportunity for members to connect with members outside of their school and create support networks in their early careers. There are so many individuals excited to join TVEA and be part of the education community. While some individuals are homegrown within TVUSD, many uprooted their lives and careers to come to Temecula. Let’s welcome them in! Ask your TVEA site leader for who is a new member at your site and say hello!
CTA STATE COUNCIL NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

THESE ITEMS ARE VOTED ON BY CTA STATE COUNCIL REPS

1. NBI #: 10/22-13 - CTA will lobby to get legislation passed guaranteeing all teachers get a prep period during the day and that teachers cannot be forced or asked to substitute or do duties during that prep period but instead must volunteer themselves and be paid at least an hourly rate for doing it.

2. NBI #: 10/22-16 - That CTA lobby the California State Legislature to pass legislation to change Ed Code to grant an 11th yearly sick leave day to certificated educators who work 11 months.

3. NBI #: 10/22-31 - That CTA lobby the California State Legislation to pass legislation to require school districts to accept all years of service in public education when hiring a new teacher.

4. NBI #: 10/22-34 - This body is hereby tasked to examine, study, and draft policy language that reinstates teachers’ loss of wages resulting from docked pay imposed by their respective school district payroll department via the use of SB114 between the years of 2020-2022.

5. NBI #: 5/22-10 - CTA will work to pass legislation to ensure that the starting pay in all school districts for all of our members is above the minimum exempt professional salary level for the County they work in with automatic increases each year to ensure that it never drops below that level.

SPECIAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

NBI 10/22-19 Action: CTA will create a workgroup that will determine the best solutions, such as legislation, for caseload/workload limits, speech-language pathology assistants, and CTA staff training, for alleviating the workload problems that SLPs are facing and addressing the shortage of SLPs.

NBI 5/22-21 Action: CTA shall actively lobby with education-friendly CA legislators to craft and implement changes to the existing CA Ed Code to better reflect CTA policy concerning Special Education Caseload.

LEGISLATIVE AGENDA - SACRAMENTO SCENE

AB 167 - CalSTRS retirees will be justly compensated for benefit reductions that stem from employee and CalSTRS reporting errors.

SB 868 - Creates a one-time permanent adjustment applied to the total current benefits that is paid to CalSTRS retirees and beneficiaries of retirees who retired prior to 1999. An added 5% increase to educators who retired in the 90’s. 10% increase for retirees from the 80’s. 15% for those who retired earlier.

AB2675 - Extend probationary period for certificated educators to up to four years. Did not get a hearing. Died.

SB 70 - Makes kindergarten mandatory beginning with the 2024-2025 school year.
Music to our ears! California voters recognize the critical importance of arts and music programs to student success and overwhelmingly pass Prop. 28! Our students win!

On November 8th Californians overwhelmingly passed Proposition 28, providing an investment in arts education. It is now known as AB 185 or the Arts, Music and Instructional Material Block Grant.

Funds will be distributed according to enrollment, with 70% based on overall enrollment and 30% based on Title 1 enrollment. TVUSD has an allocation of $16,285,474 for fiscal year 2022-2023. Of the allocation, 80% must be spent on teachers and aides, and the remainder is earmarked for art supplies and materials. The first part of the allocation to be released early 2023.

The advantage to our students is proven in research. Studies show that children that participate in the arts have better attendance in school, higher achievement in academic subjects and help in their social and emotional well-being.

What does that mean for our schools? Now is the time to get involved to shape what implementation looks like in TVUSD. This funding can increase support at the secondary level and dramatically boost VAPA at the elementary level. The funding can provide funding for over 100 teachers! Elementary would need 18 funded positions to house a VAPA teacher at each campus for the year, thus creating a permanent time for classroom teachers to prepare for instruction.

While the Arts, Music and Instructional Materials Block Grant can also be used for other uses, these funds provide TVEA an opportunity to build opportunities for our students.

Learn more about the Arts, Music and Instructional Materials Block Grant from the California Department of Education page. There is a recorded webinar Navigating the Arts, Music, and Instructional Materials Discretionary Block Grant, October 14, 2022 and an FAQ section.
CTA Scholarships

CTA offers several different educational scholarships to members and their dependents throughout the academic year. Listed below are the major CTA scholarships.

- **CTA Scholarship For Dependent Children**
  - This program offers up to thirty-five (35) scholarships in the amount of $5,000 each to dependent children of active, retired or deceased CTA members. The highest scoring applicant is awarded the Ralph J. Flynn Memorial Scholarship.

- **CTA Scholarship For Members**
  - This program offers up to five (5) scholarships in the amount of $3,000 to current "active" CTA members completing college coursework. The highest scoring applicant is awarded the Alice Piper American Indian/Alaska Native Memorial Scholarship.

- **Del A. Weber Scholarship for Dependent Children Attending Continuation High School/Alternative Programs**
  - This program offers one scholarship in the amount of $5,000 to a dependent child of an "active," retired or deceased CTA member who is attending or attended a continuation high school.

- **LGBTQ+ Safety in Schools Grant and Scholarship Program in Honor of Guy DeRosa**
  - This program provides grants to support projects and presentations that promote understanding and respect for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender persons, in addition to scholarships for members enrolled in a teacher/counseling credential or graduate program who understand the importance of GLBT educators as role models.

- **Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Scholarship**
  - This CTA scholarship is given in memory of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to aid members of ethnic minorities in pursuing a college degree, credential or certification for a teaching-related career in public education. Applicant must be an "active" CTA member, Student CTA member or dependent of a CTA member.

- **CTA César E. Chávez and Dolores Huerta Education Award Program**
  - This awards program provides recognition for teams of students and their teachers who demonstrate an understanding of the vision and guiding principles by which César Chávez lived his life. The recipients, both students and sponsoring CTA members, will receive up to $550 and their work will be recognized by the posting of visual art and written essays online and in various CTA publications. The exact amount will be determined by the Awards committee.

Visit [https://www.cta.org/for-educators/scholarships-awards](https://www.cta.org/for-educators/scholarships-awards) for Deadlines and Applications
TVEA Scholarships

TVEA has pledged another $4000 in scholarship through Dollars for Scholars this year.

This year there will be two scholarships for $500 awarded to students who are pursing a career in Public Education. Twelve scholarships will be awarded to students who are dependents of TVEA Members.

Student Should begin their Applications Now

Scholarships open for matching on January 1, 2023 and will close February 1, 2023

Download the Scholarship Timeline to give you a month to month guide on our scholarship application process.

Download the Step by Step Guide for Students/Parents for detailed instructions on the application process.

Contact info@temeculadfs.org or your school’s Counseling & Career Center if you have questions.

Learning & Leadership Grants

Educators frequently need outside resources to engage in meaningful professional development due to limited district funding. Learning and Leadership grants are intended to provide resources for educators hoping to engage in professional learning that can be implemented in their classrooms.

Through NEA’s Learning & Leadership grants, they support the professional development of NEA members by providing grants to Individuals to participate in high-quality professional development like summer institutes, conferences, seminars, travel abroad programs, or action research.

Learning & Leadership grants will fund projects between $1,500 and $5,000. Grants fund activities for 12 months from the date of the award. Applicants must be teachers, education support professionals, or specialized instructional support personnel and must be current NEA members. Grant funds can be used for travel, room, meals, registration fees, materials, etc. for individual grants. Grant Applications opened December 1st and close February 1st. Apply HERE!
Teacher Discount Programs

Looking for a discount or to make a change in your cell phone carrier. Check out these special teacher discounts through AT&T or Verizon

AT&T Discount
Verizon Discount

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Thank you for being an NEA Member! NEA Member Benefits is offering our members two FREE subscriptions from the NEA Magazine Service.

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Quantities are limited. Free titles and number of issues are subject to change; there is a limit of 2 free subscriptions per member, per year.

Teacher Discount
Programs

As part of the educator community, NEA Travel helps you to save up to 60% off your hotel, resort, cruise, car and tour reservations. Enroll today to ensure you are cashing in on these complimentary benefits.

Check out discounts on Car Rental, Hotels and Travel! https://www.neamb.com/products/nea-travel

Teacher Discount Programs

Looking for a discount or to make a change in your cell phone carrier. Check out these special teacher discounts through AT&T or Verizon

AT&T Discount
Verizon Discount

Traveling this Holiday?

As a member of the California Teachers Association you have Complimentary Life Insurance through your membership.

Please register your Beneficiary today!

Step 1: Visit www.neamb.com/connect
Step 2: Click the BLUE “Register Now” link
Step 3: If you have not registered on the www.neamb.com/connect site, please do so. If you have registered, log-in. Please call the Member Advocacy Center at 800.637.4636 with any issues.

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NEA MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM

The #1 app for stress, anxiety, and depression.

Get all of the support you need to improve your mental health—anywhere, anytime—with clinically proven techniques based on cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT).

DAILY MOOD TRACKING
Answer simple questions each day to assess your mood, identify patterns, and track health activities like sleep and exercise.

GUIDED JOURNEYS
Designed by experts for a range of needs, our Guided Journeys use proven therapies to help you feel more in control and build skills.

COPING TOOLS
Reach for that "just right" tool to relax, be in the moment, or manage stressful situations.

PROGRESS ASSESSMENTS
Through weekly check-ins, we help you create a roadmap for improvement. Track where you are, set goals, and make strides week by week.

Tools and support people love. But don't take our word for it — take theirs.

"If you've ever needed something to help get you to a good place, I've yet to find something better. It equips you to handle whatever may arise."

"Use this everyday. It's like having a good friend give me encouragement, and keeps me motivated."

"Feel like I can actually get better. It's really an all-in-one app for me."

A place to feel better, wherever you go.

From self-care and peer support to working with trained coaches, Sanvello gives you clinically-proven techniques to get the mental health support you need—on your terms.

SELF-CARE
Daily mood tracking, Guided Journeys, coping tools, meditations, and progress assessments to help you find relief when you need it.

PEER SUPPORT
Read, share, and engage with posts from the community on everything from stress relief techniques to motivation to gratitude.

COACHING
Get support to develop your goals, apply new skills, and build resiliency. Privately message your coach anytime or join a group video session.

Learn more at www.neamb.com/mentalhealth
Virtual Retirement Training

You’re never too young or old to learn about your CalSTRS benefits, programs, and services. There will be materials and discussion of the CalSTRS retirement benefit formula, options, Defined Benefit Supplemental program, survivor benefits, legislative changes, and Social Security Offsets.

Topics

- STRS - Overview of The System and How It Works
- Social Security - Effects on CalSTRS Members

Tuesday, September 6, 2022
Tuesday, October 4, 2022
Thursday, October 6, 2022
Tuesday, November 1, 2022
Thursday, November 3, 2022
Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Thursday, January 5, 2023
Tuesday, January 10, 2023
Tuesday, February 7, 2023
Tuesday, March 7, 2023
Thursday, March 9, 2023
Tuesday, April 4, 2023

Each training is limited to 250 participants. If you receive a message that the training you selected is full, please select a different date.

REGISTER NOW!

ALL WORKSHOPS - 4:30 - 6:30 PM

If you need to cancel a training you registered for please email: gdomenici@cta.org
UPCOMING EVENTS 2022-23

- **DEC 13**: Governing Board Mtg
- **NEW EDUCATOR WEEKEND CONFERENCE**: DEC 16-18
- **DEC 21-JAN 6**: Winter Break
- **JAN 10**: Leadership Council
- **JAN 12**: Executive Board
- **JAN 16**: Winter Break
- **JAN 19**: Martin Luther King Holiday

TVEA Calendar can be found here:
HTTPS://WWW.TVEDUCATORS.ORG/CALENDAR
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OFFICERS

President
Edgar Diaz
tveapresident@gmail.com

Vice President
Alan Underwood
tveavp@gmail.com

Secretary
Amy Eytchison
tveasecretary@gmail.com

Treasurer
Amber Kott
tveatreasurer@gmail.com

AREA DIRECTORS

High School
Doug Vombsteeg, TVHS
tveahsarearep@gmail.com

High School
Abby Woelke, GOHS
tveahigharearep@gmail.com

Middle School
Steve Campos, VRMS
tveamsarearep@gmail.com

Elementary School
Anastasia Bortcosh, JES
tveaelemarearep@gmail.com

Elementary School
Jamie Vaughn, HIIA
tveaearearep@gmail.com

Special Education
April Klingelhofer,
tveaesarearep@gmail.com

Support Services
Cynthia Lopez,
tveassarearep@gmail.com

AT LARGE

Membership Coordinator
Kerri Bodemer
tveamembership@gmail.com

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Adhoc Budget
Lowena Manzano, CHS
tveabudget@gmail.com

Bargaining
Brian Balaris, RVHS
tveabargaining@gmail.com

Elections
Michelle Nelson, VES
tveaelections@gmail.com

Grievance
Kim De La Cruz, GMS
tveagrievance@gmail.com

Insurance Advisory
Lynn Breen, TLES
tveainsurance@gmail.com

IPD
Kristan Morales, CHS
tveaipd@gmail.com

Member Engagement
Claudia Candray, TLES
tveaengage@gmail.com

LCAP Consult - Co
Julianne Dickinson, GOHS
tvealcap@gmail.com

LCAP Consult - Co
Lauren Davis, DMS
tvealcap@gmail.com

Political Action - Co
Diana Arban, GOHS
tveapac@gmail.com

Political Action - Co
Kelly Maxey, VRMS
tveapac@gmail.com

PAC Treasurer
Raul Miranda, GOHS
tveapac@gmail.com

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AES
Jennifer Catalano

ARES
Stephen Miller

BES
Felicia Simon

BES
Vivi Souvanlasy

CHES
Jennifer Gomez

CHES
Suzane Kurtz

FVES
Christine Lindberg

JES
Annalisa Bujas

JES
Cindy Younker

LES
Kay Depauw

LES
Dana Newton

NVES
Greta Carter

NVE
Angela Marino

PES
Michelle Conrad

PVES
Becky Bogardus

PVES
Kim Tucker

RES
Anita Shea

RHE
Renee Morales

RHE
Melissa Salazar

TES
Jennifer Schwank

TES
Lisa Teets

TLES
Claudia Candray

TLES
Lynn Breen

TTES
Holly Sorenson

VES
Sara Luque

VES
Lesley Keyes

VHES
Wendy Matteson

VHES
Matt Paulsen

MIDDLE

BVMS
Rebecca Williams

BVMS
Robin Langdon-Hughes

DMS
Kurtis Tegman

GMS
Anne Marie Curtis

GMS
Tammie Schertzter

MMS
Fearatious Hogan

TMS
OPEN

VRMS
Maribel Cuevas

VRMS
Frank Bantle

HIGH

CHS
Lori Fujioka

CHS
Mike Hebebrand

CHS
Bill Moyer

CHS
Tony Rossi

CHS
Aaron Slojkowski

CHS
Nancy Young

CHS
Carla Bornino

GOHS
Brianna McKiddy

GOHS
OPEN

SAEC
OPEN

RVHS
OPEN

TVHS
Stevie Collins

TVHS
Drek Heid

TVHS
Veronica Kubes

TVHS
Jessica Passmore

STATE COUNCIL RESPRESENTATIVES

Local Rep
Alan Underwood, VRMS
tveavp@gmail.com

Local Rep
Steve Campos, VRMS
tvea.ctastatecouncil@gmail.com

Local Rep
Raul Miranda, GOHS
tvea.ctastatecouncilrep@gmail.com

NEA REPRESENTATIVE

Local Rep
Rebecca Williams, BVMS
rwilliams@tvusd.us

POSITION SPECIALISTS

Academic Specialists
Michelle Nelson, VES
tvea.academicspecialist@gmail.com

Psychologists
Mary Huber, GMS
tvea.psychologists@gmail.com

Speech Pathologists
Deana Vlhaen-Wick, JES
tvea.slp@gmail.com

Student Support
Tina Mey, CHS
tvea.sss.leader@gmail.com

Resource Specialists
Bartosz Krawczynski, CHS
tvea.rsp@gmail.com

Special Education
Elizabeth O’Donnell, ARES
tvea.specialeducation@gmail.com