



# TVEA ADVOCATE



29377 Rancho California Rd  
#206  
Temecula, CA 92591  
P. 951.699.9970

## Issue 05

May/June

2017

## Features

President's Message

Spring Events

End of an Era

Teacher Feature

CTE Highlights

District Teachers of the Year

TVEA TVUSD Survey

TVEA & Who Award Winners

## Upcoming Events

5/18 Leadership Council

5/19 Day of the Teacher  
Celebration

5/21 TVEA Day @ Petco Park

5/22 TVUSD Retirement  
Celebration

5/24 Principal Recognition

5/30 Special School Board

6/3 Last Day School

## TVEA ELEMENTARY ORGANIZING LEADS TO LCAP COMMUNITY ADVOCACY

The end of the year is always busy in education which makes the recent efforts of our members in advocating for LCAP student programs that much more impressive.

With the district announcing proposed program and personnel cuts to elementary LCAP programs, our concerned members responded. The two May school board meetings have had overflow crowds and public comment participation of eighteen (18) and (10) speakers respectively.

TVEA members contacted TVEA seeking support in challenging the district proposed cuts, particularly to elementary VAPA and PE. TVEA held an organizing meeting at the TVEA office and forty-five (45) people attended! At the May 2 board meeting, public comments centered around cuts to VAPA and PE staffing as well as PBIS Counselors. What was remarkable about this? Of the eighteen public comments only six of them were TVEA members. The remainder were parents and students.

A similar pattern emerged at the May 16 meeting. After a May 9 follow-up organizing meeting and member blasts another overflow crowd attended. Of the ten speakers in public comments, only three were our members. Member comments focused on the critical role literacy specialists play in assisting students.

Why should we be excited about non-TVEA members actively participating? It means that our message is getting out and we are building networks with key community stakeholders such as parents and students. One of the tools we utilized as a suggestion from the organizing meetings were Facebook posts. These demonstrated the power of social media even to a skeptic such as myself!

The board will hold a special meeting on May 30<sup>th</sup> to likely make decisions about various LCAP programs. They will have difficult decisions to make, yet our members who attended board meetings, sent e-mails, or who participated in LCAP feedback meetings can take pride in that they have actively contributed. After all, the idea of the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) is to have local stakeholders determine how local supplemental LCAP dollars can best be used.

It is my hope that after a restful and rejuvenating summer that TVEA can continue to organize and promote advocacy on issues that matter to our members and students. We are Proven Leaders in TVUSD and are Dedicated and Committed Advocates for teaching and learning!

Have a great summer! Jeff

STAY CONNECTED...



**TVEA FORMALLY JOINS TEMECULA VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WITH RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY HELD AT TVEA OFFICE APRIL 13TH**

TVEA has made a concerted effort the last couple of years to participate as a community stakeholder. These efforts were ramped up a notch when the Temecula Valley Chamber of Commerce (TVCC) sponsored a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony in the Windsor Office Atrium downstairs from the TVEA Office. The event also marked the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of TVEA and our predecessor association TTA in representing our Temecula teachers and specialists.

The TVEA Executive Board welcomed invited guests from TVUSD, the City of Temecula, and the TVCC President Alice Sullivan and her fellow Chamber Ambassadors.



TVEA President Jeff Kingsberg started the ceremony by thanking guests for attending and speaking to the significance of TVEA being vested in the community. He cited TVEA's participation and student recognition program associated with the City of Temecula Holiday Parade and our Fun 2B Fit Community 5K and Field Games for elementary students. In addition, we have provided scholarships to graduating seniors through the Temecula Dollars for Scholars program. Jeff stated, "Our membership in the chamber is significant because not only do our nearly 1400 members work here, but many live and/or shop in Temecula".

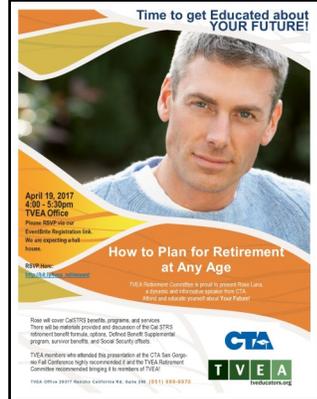
Other speakers included TVUSD Superintendent Tim Ritter who was complimentary toward TVEA's community based efforts, and Mayor Maryann Edwards who presented TVEA with a City of Temecula Proclamation acknowledging our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Riverside County Supervisor Chuck Washington and State Senator Jeff Stone also sent TVEA Certificate of Recognitions congratulating us on our acceptance into the chamber.

**TVEA SPRING EVENTS RECAP**

Since Spring Break, TVEA has had a handful of events for the purposes of providing valuable information, having fun and camaraderie among members across sites, and recognizing members and our students.

**Member Workshop: How to Plan for Retirement at Any Age April 19<sup>th</sup>**

Nearly forty (40) TVEA members attended and participated in this workshop at the TVEA office. CTA Staff Member Rose Luna presented detailed information on the State Teachers Retirement System (STRS), Social Security and the Offset for Teachers, and Medicare. Members are encouraged to acquire an on-line STRS account and start doing projections on the STRS calculator to ensure they meet their retirement date meets their anticipated retirement needs!



**Community Health Awareness Speaker and Discussion: Addressing the Valley's Heroin Epidemic April 26<sup>th</sup>**

A group of TVEA leaders, members, and students attended an afternoon workshop at TVEA on the Valley Heroin Epidemic. This issue has been reported in other regions of the country such as Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New Hampshire just to name a few. The epidemic has now spread to Southern California. Heather Banker, Director of Second to None Recovery Services shared her approach to outpatient treatment for the highly addictive opioid family of drugs. TVEA hopes to do another session next year possibly targeting our counselors and other health professionals.

**TVEA Bowling Event at Temecula Lanes April 27<sup>th</sup>**



TVEA's first bowling event was a huge success! Twenty-one members attended and about thirty-five members and family participated on the lanes. It was a good time had by all and a nice change from the traditional happy hour events we have traditionally offered. Bowlers cheered and jeered one another- all in good fun. We will explore another bowling event for the fall or winter of 2017-18.



**TVEA Retirement Recognition Event @ The Bridge on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Old Town Temecula Wed May 10**

On May 10, TVEA held a recognition for our 2016-17 retirees in Old Town Temecula at the Bridge on 3<sup>rd</sup> British Pub and Restaurant. Retirees and a guest were provided complimentary admission to the event.

Other

attendees provided a nominal \$10 fee for unlimited appetizers. Thank you to TVEA Retirement Committee Chair Marcia Varner (FVES) and Member Deanne Johnson (DMS/RVHS) for their work in making for a successful event. Each retiree was invited to submit a short funny story they recall from their teaching career and/or their retirement plans.



**Temecula Dollars for Scholars Awards Night Mon May 15<sup>th</sup>**

TVEA designated thirteen graduating seniors from Chaparral, Great Oak, and Temecula Valley High Schools to receive TVEA Scholarships at the annual Dollars for Scholars Awards night held at Golden Bear Theatre.

TVEA received a record twenty-seven applications this year from dependents of TVEA members. A subcommittee of Executive Board members was formed to do a blind review of the applications. Congratulations to our scholarship awardees and we wish all our graduating seniors the best of success!



**TVEA May Day of the Teacher Celebration**

Friday May 19<sup>th</sup> Cougar Winery, De Portola Road  
Temecula 4:00-6:00 pm



**TVEA Day at Petco Park – Sunday May 21<sup>st</sup> 12:30 pm**

Lunch ( included with ticket) Game time versus the Arizona Diamondbacks 1:40pm



## END OF AN ERA... A TVEA TRIBUTE TO MITCH BROWN AND BOB ROLLINS

TVEA has been blessed to have Mitch and Bob as mainstays in our association for the past three plus decades. Mitch and Bob. Bob and Mitch. I am just one of many TVEA Presidents who have benefitted from their wisdom, knowledge, and support. TVEA is pleased and honored to send these two "Old Guys" off with a big THANK YOU! Will the next Mitch and Bob please step up to work tirelessly on behalf of our teachers?!!

On a personal note, I recall Mitch being the first teacher I met when I arrived as a green first year teacher at TVHS in fall 1987. He was my neighbor in the R building portables. He showed me the ropes, kept me from taking things too seriously, and encouraged me then and at different points of my career to seek opportunities. Everyone who has encountered Mitch in TVEA and TVUSD loves and respects him. He is a consummate professional and team player.

Bob came to TVHS from Elsinore the following year in 1988. I recall Bob as a free spirit and fun loving then just as he is now. He also had plenty of hair and has managed to maintain it. Bob served as TVEA Treasurer for over a decade. Talk about a thankless low paying per hour job! He kept TVEA solvent and moreover fiscally strong through the high and low years of school funding and hiring. Bob has supported every President including me and has gone above and beyond in assisting and advising TVEA in fiscal and governance matters.



### Mitch Brown

Mitch Brown- Mitch served students for thirty- nine total years. Thirty-five of those years were here locally, twenty-Eight (28) with TVUSD and seven (7) with Elsinore. The last four of the seven years were at TVHS before the district unified K-12.

Mitch taught Math and Social Science at TVHS and moved to Susan Nelson Independent Study High School in 1998-99. Mitch taught all subjects there and eventually became the lead teacher.

Steady involvement and leadership in his teacher association has been a trademark of Mitch's career. He served as Treasurer and President of the Elsinore Federation of Teachers in the 1980's. In TVEA he has been a Site Leader (or as Mitch calls it "Building Rep"), Bargaining Member, CTA State Council and chair of the Special Services Committee. Mitch was a member of the TVEA Executive Board for eleven years.



Mitch, being the selfless fella that he authentically is lists his greatest TVEA memory or highlight to be "Just all the great people with whom I have had the privilege to work with". He did mention that he immensely enjoyed the November 2016 TVEA TVUSD Alumni Recognition Ceremony of former TVUSD students who now teach in the district.

Mitch's advice to his younger TVEA counterparts: "Be willing to speak up, stand up, and participate- this is your future".

### Bob Rollins

Bob is finishing a solid thirty-seven years' mathematics teaching career which started in 1980 in Long Beach. He was a Terra Cotta Middle teacher in Elsinore for two years before transferring to Temecula Valley High School in 1988-89, the year Temecula became a unified district. Bob was at TVHS until 2005, when he became TVEA President for one year. Bob then moved to Great Oak High School for three years until 2009 and moved to Rancho Vista High School where he is now.

Bob has been a highly committed TVEA and CTA leader. He has played two major roles: TVEA Treasurer from 2001-05 and 2007-15, and CTA State Council from 2003-06 and 2007-17. Twelve years each in two major roles is an unprecedented contribution within the forty-year history of TVEA/TTA.



Bob remembers fondly the times that TVEA “Took Action”. Being part of the union and hitting the streets to voice concerns over a dictator like superintendent such as David Allmen in the mid 2000’s and working toward the defeat of union-busting statewide initiatives during the Governor Schwarzenegger era stand out.

His advice to TVEA members: Be aware. Be involved. “Strong Unions Make Strong Teachers. Be careful of “Alt News” As for those who suggest teachers stay out of politics, Bob is reminded of a quote from former CTA President Barbara Kerr: “I’ll get out of politics when politics gets out of my classroom”

Combined Bob and Mitch were teachers for 76 years! They served our Temecula students for 63 years combined. They served a combined 25 years on the TVEA Executive Board. They have been a bedrock of the foundation of our teachers’ association over a four - decade period. Thank you Mitch Brown and Bob Rollins!

## **CHAPARRAL HIGH’S ROB CLAUSE GOES INTO THE “HERMIT KINGDOM” IN NORTH KOREA**

*Note: This is a story about TVEA member travel and adventure we hope to offer in future editions. If you have something adventurous or different planned for this summer give us a heads up and we will aim to feature it in our next edition.*

Chaparral High Social Science Teacher (and former TVEA Vice-President) Rob Clause took a “vacation” to a place few if any of us have ventured to- the country of North Korea.

Rob took a one week trip through Koryo Tours, a tour company out of Great Britain that started in Shanghai, China for four days and then on to Pyongyang, the capital of North Korea. Rob, an avid runner was part of a group of about 160 westerners who had signed up for the Pyongyang Marathon which also included a 10K and One Half Marathon Events. Rob opted for the half marathon as a warmup run for the Boston Marathon April 17<sup>th</sup> which he successfully completed for a second year in a row.

Rob, who has taught at Chaparral since its opening in 1997, had taught overseas in Shanghai during the 1996-97 school year called the excursion “A fascinating experience not only as a teacher but as a person of a place unique in this world”.

As would be expected, the North Korea tour before the run Sunday April 10 was tightly controlled. Rob stated that all movement was restricted and that tour goers were broken into smaller groups of 12-15 and were not allowed to leave the tour group nor the hotel. He stated that the people were friendly yet it was clear that the city suffered from infrastructure in disrepair. Rob added that there were few cars compared to a western city and that the large Soviet style propaganda of the Kim family was rampant.

Rob and others were advised on what not to bring, particularly religious materials and history books in a twenty -page guide before the trip. Rob did bring two John Grisham novels which landed him a secondary inspection area before clearing security!

See Rob pictured at the demilitarized zone (DMZ) near the North Korea/South Korea border (right) and in a couple of other photos.



## TVEA INSURANCE ADVISORY RESERVE CREDIT BENEFITS TVEA MEMBERS

TVUSD has a Health and Welfare Insurance Reserve Account where money is collected when a TVEA member's Health and Welfare premium comes in under the district contribution. Over the last six years this account had grown to a balance of \$365,200. Active members who have continuously participated in the district's Health and Welfare program from October 1, 2012 to June 30, 2017 and who paid a monthly Health and Welfare premium contribution towards the cost of the district's sponsored Health and Welfare program will receive a flat rate Health and Welfare premium adjustment to reduce active members' monthly contribution for Health and Welfare benefits. Members with a zero premium or whose premium is less than the monthly refund do not qualify. This monthly flat rate Health and Welfare premium adjustment will be determined by dividing the Reserve Account balance (\$365,200) by the eligible TVEA Health and Welfare participants (846) divided by three (# of months). The Health and Welfare premium adjustment reduction of \$143.89 will be reflected on the April 2017, May 2017 and June 2017 pay warrants. By comparing your March or previous paystub to your April or May pay stub you should see the lesser amount reflected in your premium contribution. The complete Memorandum of Understanding signed between the TVEA and TVUSD Bargaining teams on April 18, 2017 can be viewed on our [tveducators.org](http://tveducators.org) website on the contract page.

**CREDIT**

## TIME TO THRIVE CONFERENCE SARAH CISNEROS, LGBT CONTACT

Attending the HRC Time to Thrive Conference in April was an amazing experience. I found two nationwide programs that I think will really benefit our district, at all levels. I am excited to present to our TVEA Members the OUT for Safe Schools and Welcoming Schools Programs!

There are those of us that display "safe space" posters in our classrooms, and many of our schools have posters in the main office. This is good! We can do more! We can commit to making entire campuses safe – hallways, locker rooms, lunch areas, playgrounds, libraries...



The National OUT for Safe Schools™ Campaign "was created to encourage school staff (including administrators, teachers, bus drivers, etc.) to publicly identify as supportive LGBT allies on campus." Wearing district-sponsored badges that the OUT for Safe Schools designs will allow students and parents to easily identify staff members that are willing to discuss LGBTQ concerns. Please read more about this program by visiting <https://algbtcenter.org/out-for-safe-schools/about-out-for-safe-schools>

Welcoming Schools is "the nation's premier professional development program providing training, resources, and lessons dedicated to creating respectful and supportive elementary schools in:

- Embracing family diversity
- Creating LGBTQ- and gender-inclusive schools
- Preventing bias-based bullying



Supporting transgender and non-binary students"

This program was developed by the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) and offers everything from book lists for the library and ready-to-use lesson plans to tips to making your "school more welcoming for students and families and suggested responses to questions related to gender, families and LGBTQ topics." Please read more about this program by visiting <http://www.welcomingschools.org/resources/>

If you're interested in learning more about these programs please join me and the TVEA LGBT Support Group on **May 23rd at 4 p.m.** at the TVEA office for more details. I hope to see you there!"

# CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE) ON ITS WAY TO BECOMING A DRIVING FORCE AT OUR TVUSD HIGH SCHOOLS

Career and Technical Education (CTE) is off and running in TVUSD with our high schools leading the way. I was offered the opportunity to see first-hand what is happening in the TVUSD world as former CHS CTE Teacher and current TVUSD CTE TOSA **Valerie Backus** gave me a tour how things are forming into shape at our high schools. Valerie is a TVEA member whose position is supported by a state funded CTE incentive grant secured by TVUSD. Valerie suggested that the new 21<sup>st</sup> century approach to CTE merges college and career readiness. "The goal is to have students become 100% BOTH College and Career ready through a CTE Model of Education". There are 15 industry sectors of CTE standards and districts and schools may adopt pathways within these sectors depending on facilities, staff expertise, student needs, etc. A CTE pathway consists of three course levels: 1- Introduction, 2- Concentrator, and 3- Capstone



## Chaparral High School

I met with Valerie and the Assistant Principal overseeing CTE at CHS Marvin Morton before stopping at classrooms. Chaparral is what AP Morton calls a "sleeping giant" in the world of CTE. As the programs develop and blossom, the facilities should become fully functioning as well. There is a clear effort to attract certain teachers to become CTE credentialed who have had success in the general education sphere. Looking ahead to 2017-18 CHS has three major sectors and pathways planned:

Information Computer Technology Pathway (Industry Sector): **Karen Walker**, who has taught Math at CHS in addition to two AP Computer Science courses will be leading the efforts here.

Patient and Health Care Pathway (Health, Science, and Medical Technology Sector) **John Rentar** and **Linda Teahan** will be working with longtime Temecula doctor Jerry Hizon. The introductory course will be Introduction to Patient Care

In the Manufacturing Sector a pathway is under development. The teachers will be **Scott Carey** and **Dave Coram**. The introductory course will be Introduction to Trades, called DIY. Other areas of development of CTE pathways could involve Digital Photography teacher **Dave Carlson** and Mr. Coram's Video Media Arts background.

## Temecula Valley High School

Assistant Principal Donna Lione accompanied Valerie and I as we took a tour of CTE at TVHS. We started at longtime auto shop teacher Nick Anderson's classroom and work area. TVHS currently has a pathway in place of Systems Diagnosis, Service, and Repair with an Automotive I introductory course, Automotive II as a concentrator course, and Advanced Automotive as a capstone course. The goal is to place students into higher end automotive industry jobs.

We stopped by **Jon Burnes** Drafting and Architectural Design classroom. Jon is retiring next month and the plan is to move from a building and trades focus to an engineering emphasis in the future.

I had the pleasure of visiting **Donna Perinichs'** Culinary Arts facility. WOW! Donna has done a fabulous job with her students utilizing this facility in its first year. There will be complete pathway by 2017-18 with a Culinary I. Culinary II, Culinary Arts and Hospitality Management capstone course next year.

My final stop was at **Kim Randall's** TV and Video Production course. Kim will be developing a Production and Managerial Arts Pathway under the Arts, Media and Entertainment Sector. Kim's students are a complete news team preparing and taping the student announcements for Golden Bear TV. Like all CTE courses, the goal is to



meet the industry standard and create opportunities for industry experience. Kim and her students took a trip recently to CBS Studios to see first-hand how the major networks prepare, edit and deliver news.

### Great Oak High School

Valerie and I started at the GOHS student store manned by county instructor Rachel Reif who also coaches Girls Golf at GOHS. She utilizes the skills involved with operating the store as a springboard for her students to use mock interviews, internships, and work study placement for her students.

Next, we stopped by **Molly Newman's classroom**. Molly is in the Engineering and Architecture sector. There is a pathway being developed at Great Oak which will include Introduction to Engineering and Architecture, a concentrator course with an introduction to Civil Engineering, and a capstone course to be developed.

**Doug Soles** is starting the seeds of a Graphic Productions Pathway. Great Oak hopes to integrate the graphic design aspect of their Year-book course and make it CTE viable in the years to come.

Great Oak has a TV and Video Production Pathway in the works with teacher **Andrew Huff** leading the way. Introduction and Advanced Media Arts will lead into a capstone course surrounding the operation of the expected video display board the "Pack Tron"

**Jean Brown's** students do a culminating project of a Fashion Show each year. They are also contributing to a Sewer's Group Project which will bring dresses to underprivileged girls in Ethiopia. Apparel and Design Construction I and II are followed by Fashion Design and History as a capstone course.

Our final stop was **Dawn Maceyka-Tuna's** classroom. She currently is teaching two early childhood education courses, Developmental Psychology and Early Childhood Studies. In addition, she has two Culinary courses, I and II. Her students are working on decorative cakes and designing a food truck as a comprehensive business model. The capstone course will be offered at Temecula Valley High School as it's facility is considered of industry standard. Dawn hopes to embed the "Serve Safe" county required exam for food handling into her CTE courses and pathway. Dawn exhibited much energy and enthusiasm for the many hats she is wearing moving CTE forward.

## TVEA Elections

### TVEA SPRING 2017 ELECTIONS BRINGS NEW BLOOD TO TVEA EXECUTIVE BOARD

The twelve member TVEA Executive Board will get somewhat of a facelift for 2017-18 with 2017 elections conducted through electronic voting April 24-27. Two-year terms for the positions of Treasurer, Middle School Area Representative, High School Area Representative, plus one of two Elementary Area Representatives were open. Re-elected to Treasurer was **Mike Wassan** (GMS), who was elected in spring 2016 to complete the term of the office being vacated. **Kim Evans**, also from GMS was re-elected to Middle School Area Representative role. **Karie Shorack** (VHES) was elected to the Elementary Area Representative Position, and **Chris Meglio** (GOHS) was elected to the High School Area Representative Position. Each will serve from July 1, 2017- June 30, 2019. Serving a one-year term for Position Specialist Area Representative will be **Ricardo Salcedo** (TMS). This seat became open for 2017-18 with the retirement of counselor Liz Cooke (CHS). The Position Specialist role on the Executive Board must come from one of our specialist groups: Counselor, Nurse, Resource Specialist, Special Day Class Teacher, School Psychologist, Speech and Language Pathologist, or LCAP Specialist.

Two members were elected to the three-year term CTA State Council Positions which also sit as voting members of our Executive Board. **Raul Miranda** (GOHS), and **Steve Campos** (VRMS) will replace Mitch Brown and Bob Rollins who are retiring from TVUSD and have served a maximum consecutive three three-year terms. Raul has previously served as high school area representative the last two years and Steve is new to the TVEA Executive Board. Raul and Steve will serve a three-year term from July 1, 2017-June 30, 2020.

TVEA Congratulates and Welcomes both our new and returning elected representatives!

## DISTRICT TEACHERS OF THE YEAR

### **DON SKAGGS, GREAT OAK HIGH SCHOOL**

**How long have you been a teacher in TVUSD and at what school sites have you served?** I am beginning my 23rd year in TVUSD. I have been at Vail Ranch MS and Great Oak

**What was your inspiration to become a teacher? Why is it a rewarding and meaningful vocation for you?** My father was an elementary school teacher by day and a college teacher at night. He would often take us to his school during the summer. I loved how he connected with his students. I remember the stories that he would share of how he had made a connection with his students. He inspired me to follow in his footsteps.

I enjoy more than anything watching student lives being changed. Two examples: I had a student that did not want to take my class because of fear of public speaking. I encouraged her to take the class. Four years later she was giving her speech in front of the school and was elected the student body VP. A few years ago we had a student that was very disconnected with life and school. I took a group of students and we entered his class with eight pizzas. We announced his name, no one knew who he was. We then gave that entire class pizza. That student became an instant hero.

**What are three defining personal qualities that make you the teacher you are?** Compassion for others, fiercely dedicated to what I do, family man

**Who in the Temecula Valley Unified District has most influenced your success?** I have been so blessed to have so many great mentors. I am so grateful for so many teachers and administrators that have influenced me. I have learned a great deal from each principal that I have had from Pam Blasich, Tim Ritter, Joe Balleweg, Keith Moore, Marc Horton and Aimee Ricken. Each of these individuals have inspired and encouraged me. Each are amazing in their own way. Tim often said that if it is good for students than make it happen. Joe, reminded me of the importance of keeping detailed notes on events. Keith Moore emphasized the importance of being a great listener and friend. Marc Horton stressed the importance of organization and accountability. Aimee Ricken is incredibly supportive and encourages me to be my best. She is a great leader who focuses on the needs of others. I must also give credit to the staff at GOHS.

**What advice might you give to young college grads preparing to enter the field of teaching?** I often tell new teachers to get involved. Two things happen when you are involved with a club or attend an event. First, you make connections with students. It is easier to talk with a student when they know you care. Second, I believe you are a better teacher when you are connected with your school. Your best teachers are those that are going the extra mile.

### **CARRIE MOORE, VAIL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**How long have you been a teacher in TVUSD and at what school sites have you served?** I have served in the Temecula Valley Unified School District since 1999, teaching at Nicolas Valley Elementary and then transferring to Abby Reinke. This year I moved into the Literacy Specialist position at Vail Elementary. I am a TVUSD alumni beginning as a student in the district in 1989.

**What was your inspiration to become a teacher? Why is it a rewarding and meaningful vocation for you?** My inspiration to become a teacher came in my junior year of high school when I taught VBS for a week in the outskirts of Tijuana. Communicating with so many needy children in Spanish, telling Bible stories, and inspiring hope in their hearts lit a fire in my own as my two passions for teaching and Spanish merged, directing the course of my career.

One of the most rewarding parts of teaching has been helping so many children learn to read over the course of the twelve years I taught first grade. To watch students grow as they make the sound symbol connection to blending words, to increasing their automaticity to becoming fluent readers is priceless.

**What are three defining personal qualities that make you the teacher you are?** The three qualities that make me the teacher I am are: patience, passion, and perseverance.



### **Who in the Temecula Valley Unified District has most influenced your success?**

My husband, Keith Moore. He is my sounding board, source of encouragement, pushes me to further my education, and supports all my endeavors.

### **What advice might you give to young college grads preparing to enter the field of teaching?**

Without a doubt, teaching is a tough profession (especially the first few years). Inputting test scores. Planning lessons. Attending meetings. Report cards. Emails and phone calls to parents. It is easy to get bogged down in the details and forget why we were called to this profession. On difficult days, find joy in the moment and remember you are making a difference in the lives of children. It is a rewarding profession and one in which learning for both the student and teacher never ends.

## **TVEA CONDUCTS SURVEY ON TVEA AND TVUSD LEADERSHIP**

TVEA facilitated a recent survey to provide feedback in relation to the effectiveness of our leadership. We also asked similar questions related to TVUSD Leadership. These questions mirrored the TVEA questions as closely as possible.

638 members responded to the survey which ran from Friday April 14<sup>th</sup> to Thursday April 20<sup>th</sup>. Of the respondents 128 also made comments about each leadership group.

This has been a tumultuous few months with the TVUSD deficit announced, district budget meetings, TVEA site visits and surveys, and negotiations to consider how to best address the TVUSD fiscal shortfall. Despite this, we are pleased that most members believe TVEA is effectively supporting them.

### **Here is a summation of the TVEA results:**

- Ninety percent (90%) of respondents strongly agree or agree that TVEA communicates regularly with membership while only two percent (2%) strongly disagree or disagree
- Eighty four percent (84%) strongly believe or believe TVEA makes a concerted effort to seek and utilize feedback from members while only five (5%) strongly disagree or agree
- Eighty seven percent (87%) strongly agree or agree that TVEA leadership is accessible to members and are visible at school sites and district level meetings and only two percent (2%) strongly disagree or disagree. Members who have contacted TVEA appear pleased in getting a "Complete and Timely Response" Of the nearly two-thirds who had a view on this sixty percent (60%) were satisfied while only three percent (3%) were not. 37% chose either the Neutral or No Basis to Judge options.
- In terms of effectively advocating for TVEA member interests, seventy four percent (74%) strongly agreed or agreed, while only ten percent (10%) disagreed or strongly disagreed. TVEA is pleased that we are at a 7:1 plus ratio for what could be considered the "bottom line" in representing our membership.

The TVEA Executive Board will review the survey results and comments thoroughly and hope to address common areas of concern by the outset of the 2017-18 school year.

### **A few notes from the TVUSD section:**

TVUSD Leadership scored highest on 'Communicating Effectively with Employees' by sharing key information (57%).

From highest to lowest, the percent of strongly agree/agree TVUSD responses compared to strongly disagree/disagree responses were:

- Accessibility and Visibility 49% to 29%
- Seek and Utilize Employee Feedback 43% to 37%
- Effectively Serving Employees and the Entire School Community 38% to 35%
- TVUSD Board as an Effective Governing Body Representing the Community 34% to 34%

TVUSD results and comments have been shared first with Superintendent Ritter and subsequently the Governing Board for their review.



## TVEA END OF THE YEAR RECOGNITIONS

At the TVEA Leadership Council Meeting on April 20th and the May 18, 2017 the following awards were presented by President Jeff Kingsberg with the input and consent of your elected TVEA Executive Board:

### **SUPER SITE LEADERS:**

Jamie Vaughn- Alamos Elementary School  
Anastasia Bortcosh- Alamos Elementary School  
Tammy Schertzer- Gardner Middle School  
Chris Meglio-Great Oak High School

### **COMMITTEE PERSON OF THE YEAR:**

Marcia Varner, Retirement Chair - French Valley Elem School

### **SPECIAL RECOGNITION: TVEA LONGEVITY OF SERVICE**

Mitch Brown - Susan Nelson High School  
Congratulations to all our award winners!!

## TVEA HONORS THREE OF ITS' OWN AT 2017 CTA WHO

### (WE HONOR OURS AWARDS)

On Friday May 12<sup>th</sup>, three TVEA members were recognized at the Fox Theatre in Redlands as TVEA/CTA WHO recipients. TVEA participates annually in this regional San Geronio Service Center event. Your elected TVEA Executive Board nominates three members who have provided outstanding service to our association and then votes by secret ballot for this high recognition. For a complete record of all TVEA WHO winners visit the TVEA website at [tveducators.org](http://tveducators.org)

#### **Lynn Breen:**

Lynn has been a member of the Insurance Committee since 2002/2003 and has been the chair the past three years. IAC has been a very busy and engaged committee this year with vendor presentations, quotes, and discussions over plans. Lynn has participated in full as vested member of our Site Visit Blitzes the last two years. She attends Leadership Council as much or more than any other committee chair who is not an executive board member. She also spoke very strongly at both the Supt Budget Meeting in February and a March School Board Meeting. As one executive board member honestly put it: "She does a lot of research and work on Insurance so the rest of us don't have to!"

**Peter Ricchio:** Peter has been a TTA/TVEA highly involved member since the mid 1980's and was Past President when TVEA was TTA (Temecula Teachers Association). Peter is retiring this year. He has been "carrying the water" at DMS for years as an official/unofficial site leader. Peter always gets a high response from members at DMS with any type of feedback/engagement information. He has served recently on our LCAP Consult and Retirement Committees and has been the chair of the PAC Committee the past two years. Peter has been leading our advance efforts in the 2018 School Board Election is a willing speaker at school board meetings.

**Alan Underwood:** Alan provided stability and leadership three years ago when he joined the elections committee and became the chair. More than any other member, Alan steered TVEA toward a successful transition to electronic voting. Alan has been an active Grievance Committee member for two years and is proficient in documenting and producing the minutes in a highly proficient manner. He has also represented our locals' interests at the NEA RA Convention as a State Delegate for the last three years. This year he has taken on much responsibility as the Member Engagement Co-Chair. While still a work in progress, our member engagement efforts have been persistent largely due to Alan's efforts. He has also been more active and vocal at district level meetings this year including School Board Meetings and LCAP Advisories.



## OUTSTANDING PRINCIPALS

2016-2017

### **ARES**

Jonathan Cole

### **RHES**

Leilani Russi

### **LES**

Lisa Brown

### **TES**

Sandra McKay

### **GMS**

Michael McTasney

### **VRMS**

Kevin Groepper



## SHOUT OUTS!

Congratulations to Great Oak High School Science Teachers **Amy Erwin** and **Carrie Burdick-Rutz** who represented GOHS at the March 21<sup>st</sup> TVUSD Governing Board Meeting in being named the first TVUSD school to receive the California Green Ribbon School Award for energy effectiveness. At the same meeting the board recognized our mock trial teams from Temecula Valley High School and Great Oak High School as well as individuals from both teams who received county level recognition. Both **Karen Vega (TVHS)** and **Rachel Medwid (GOHS)** shared the efforts and achievements of their respective students with the school board. Congratulations to our Raffle Winners **Becky Burgess (BVMS)**, **Susan Laliberte (VES)**, and **Darci Sorensen (PVES)** who attended the TVEA Professional Development presentation "How to Plan for Retirement at Any Age" held at the TVEA office April 19<sup>th</sup>. Nearly forty (40) members attended the workshop focusing on the nuances of the State Teacher Retirement System (STRS). Way to go for **Michelle Hill (GMS)** and **Jeff MacLean (GOHS)** who worked with their students toward achieving a CTA 2016-17 Cesar Chavez Memorial Award. Michelle's student won in the Art category and Jeff's in the essay competition. Michelle and Jeff each received a certificate and monetary award for their efforts. Simply Amazing! is the tenure and quality of service that VHES teacher **Debbie Knapp** has provided Temecula students for the last 40 years! Debbie has been serving Temecula students since 1977. TVEA was honored to have Debbie address the school board in the TVEA Spotlight on Tuesday May 2. Great guidance of our students by 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at Nicolas Valley Elementary **Michelle Voye**, whose student Peniel Albe was one of five finalists in the Eastern Metropolitan Water District (EMWD) contest for the region's students on being "Water Wise". Congratulations to **Molly Newman**, Career and Technical Education Teacher at GOHS who will be a fellow at Skyscrapers in Chicago, a two -week workshop funded through the National Endowment for the Humanities and Chicago Architecture Foundation. The fellowship focuses on Civil Engineering and Architecture as it applies to the American skyscraper and American invention and innovation. TVHS Social Science Teacher **Matt Craven** and Counselor **Kathy Boulware** were acknowledged by the TVUSD Governing Board for playing a major role in TVHS' Gold Ribbon School Award May 1 for their AVID program. **James Fenney III**, coach of the GOHS Girls Swim Team was recognized by the Riverside County Office of Education for highest GPA in their sport at the May 16 meeting.

## OVER ONE HUNDRED HIGH SCHOOL TVEA MEMBERS RECOGNIZED AT 13<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CRYSTAL APPLE AWARDS

Each year the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints on Pauba Road hosts a recognition event for our high school teachers from Chaparral, Great Oak, and Temecula Valley high schools. Teachers are nominated by students from the church for their leadership, role-modeling, compassion, etc.

More than 130 teachers were nominated this year and received certificates of recognition at the May 7 ceremony. Each school has two finalists selected by a church panel and one Crystal Apple Award winner. For **Chaparral High School** the two finalists were English Teacher **Barbara Mueller** and Social Science Teacher and Swim Coach **Craig Winger**. The Chaparral Crystal Apple winner for 2016-17 was English Teacher **Gayle Trout**. **Great Oak High School's** two finalists were Spanish teacher **Crystal Parry** and Social Science Teacher and Football Coach **Herschel Ramirez**. The Crystal Apple winner for Great Oak was Mathematics teacher **Steve Maxey**, who was a finalist in 2015-16. **Temecula Valley High School** was represented by finalists **Lt. Col Phil Byrd**, Air Force ROTC Instructor, and first year Performing Arts Orchestra Teacher **Leanne Lugo**. The Crystal Apple Winner from Temecula Valley High was AP Biology Teacher **Toby Brannon**.



## Temecula Valley Educators Association

29377 Rancho California Rd. #206

Temecula, CA 92591

(951) 699-9970

(951) 699-4771

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

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

#### TVEA OFFICERS

Jeff Kingsberg, President

Edgar Diaz, GMS, Vice President

Mike Wassan, Treasurer

Amy Eytchison, Secretary

#### Area Representatives

Raul Miranda (GOHS) HS

Kim Evans (GMS), MS

Melissa Young (PVES) ES

Tammy Iverson (LES) ES

#### CTA State Council

Mitch Brown

Bob Rollins

Alan Underwood

#### NEA State Delegate

Alan Underwood

#### Committee Chairs

Brian Balaris (TVAS) Bargaining

Lynn Breen (LES) Insurance

Alan Underwood (VRMS),

Melissa Young (PVES) Membership

Engagement

Lowena Manzano (CHS)

Adhoc Budget

Karie Shorack (VHES) Elections

Peter Ricchio (DMS) PAC

Kim Evans (GMS) Grievance

Karen Hogan (DO) Special Education

Ricardo Salcido (TMS) LCAP

Consult Committee

Liz Cooke (CHS) Retirement