



# TVEA ADVOCATE



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## Issue 03

January/February  
2016

## Features

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- Site Visits

## Upcoming Events

- 1/13 Leadership Council
- 1/20 LCAP Rep Roundtable
- 1/23 San G Meeting
- 1/29 Exec Board Meeting
- 2/2 School Board Mtg
- 2/4 Exec Board Meeting
- 2/8 Pre-Bargaining Meeting
- 2/10 Leadership Council Mtg
- 2/11 All Member Happy Hour

### RATIFICATION OF TENTATIVE AGREEMENT COMPLETES 2015-16 NEGOTIATIONS

Last week TVEA members voted 516 YES votes to 56 NO votes approving the Tentative Agreement created between TVEA and TVUSD signed on December 3, 2015. This 90% YES vote ratification completes 2015-16 negotiations with the first phase having been approved by member vote in May 2015.

Voting was conducted January 6-11 by electronic vote through a contract with Big Pulse, an approved CTA vendor. TVEA members who opted not to vote electronically were provided a double envelope paper ballot at the TVEA office. TVEA is pleased to implement electronic voting, in which members may vote at their convenience on a non-TVUSD computer and also alleviate the stresses on site leaders and TVEA members in dealing with cumbersome ballot bags.

Highlights of this latest agreement and its impact on the scope of 2015-16 negotiations are:

#### Compensation and Health and Welfare Benefits:

In the Tentative Agreement, 1% was added to the salary schedule, effective January 1, 2016. **This brings the sum of salary schedule increase for 2015-16 to 4%.**

In addition, an off schedule bonus equivalent to 1% of a bargaining unit member's July 2015 salary will be paid in a lump sum to members employed at the date of execution of the agreement ( Dec 3, 2015). A partial year of service shall be prorated accordingly and the 1% based on the bargaining unit member's initial salary. TVUSD will calculate this in January and is expected to appear on the February pay warrant.

The district is now contributing \$790.58 a month (Effective July 2015) toward employee health insurance. This is approximately a .5 % increase over the \$743 a month the district had been contributing in previous years.

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STAY CONNECTED...



**Medical Bridge Insurance Benefit for Retirees**

This is a contractual (permanent) provision to assist our bargaining unit members who meet specific criteria to utilize a district benefit of providing basic retiree-only medical insurance for up to five years before becoming Medicare eligible at 65.



The benefit will provide a retiree medical benefit at the value of the Lowest Active HMO Rate Converted to a Single-Party (Retiree) Rate. For 2015-16 retirees the benefit will be locked at \$541.00 a month or \$6492.00 a year. Members may elect to “buy up” to a more expensive plan such as a PPO and/or add a spouse/family member.

Medical Bridge will be available for TVUSD retirees who:

- Are fifty five (55) years of age
- Have Fifteen (15) full or combined years of service in TVUSD
- Participated in a TVUSD Insurance Plan for the past ten (10) years)
- Submit their retirement to TVUSD and sign up for the Medical Bridge Program by March 30<sup>th</sup> of the school year in which they will retire

There will be many questions that TVEA members will need addressed in the coming weeks and we will work with TVUSD to make sure that ample opportunities are provided to get necessary information related to Medical Bridge.

**RELATED BARGAINING NEWS*****AD HOC BUDGET COMMITTEE FORMED TO EXPEDITE NEGOTIATIONS PROCESS***

One of the newly agreed upon additions to the TVEA/TVUSD contract is in Article 7.1.5 which states: “The District and Association negotiations teams shall form an Ad Hoc Budget Committee” The Committee will collaborate in an effort to reach consensus regarding a recommendation for compensation to the Association and District negotiations teams. In order to achieve this goal, the Committee shall collaboratively analyze the budget. The result of the Committee meetings will be reported to the negotiations teams irrespective of whether consensus is reached. The committee will adopt and amend by-laws that govern their committee”.

TVEA is pleased with this addition to our contract, which is based on a similar provision in the Murrieta Teachers Association contract. Both the Murrieta association leadership and district administration are pleased with how this committee has had a positive impact in their negotiations.

At the January 7 TVEA Executive Board Meeting, President Jeff Kingsberg brought forward the following names for successful Executive Board approval: Bargaining Team Members Edgar Diaz (GMS), Brian Balaris (TAVS), Lowena Manzano (CHS), and new additions to this arm of bargaining in Chris Meglio (GOHS), and Mark Mitchell (VRMS). The committee is expected to meet with TVUSD immediately after the Governor’s Budget Proposal in January.

***ORGANIZING MATTERS: MEMBER TURNOUT AND SPEECHES AT SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN NEGOTIATIONS***

Kudos to our members who participated in our brief but powerful organizing campaign in relation to fall negotiations. TVEA left the table in May expecting a smooth conclusion to 2015-16 negotiations yet the district came back with the mindset that no further monies were available. TVEA was able to move the district position twice. On October 20<sup>th</sup>, after a frustrating bargaining session TVEA Executive Officers Rob Clause, Edgar Diaz, and Jeff Kingsberg all spoke about how fall negotiations had put a dent in the trust we believed had been built over successful negotiations in Spring 2015. The TVUSD Governing Board had their first of two special board

meetings to review negotiations and the district offered off-schedule monies in subsequent negotiations. TVEA notified members of the November 10<sup>th</sup> School Board Meeting, sandwiched between scheduled bargaining sessions on November 6<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. These were days in which members were asked to wear black in support of our bargaining team.

At the November 10<sup>th</sup> meeting, more than 125 TVEA members attended showing their concern and disappointment over the inability of the district to offer on schedule monies. Speeches were given by Bob Eilek (TMS), George Elias (VHES), Jeff Kingsberg (TVEA), Peter Ricchio (DMS), Tony Rossi (CHS), and Susan Wedertz (TLES). The speeches all carried their own message and style, yet were all powerful in their own way.

During the Thanksgiving holiday week a second special TVUSD Governing Board Meeting was scheduled for Monday November 30<sup>th</sup>. A tentative agreement was reached at the next bargaining session on December 3<sup>rd</sup> including an on-schedule increase as well as an off-schedule bonus.

TVEA membership stood strong. We did not expect a negotiations period that required a great deal of organizing. Yet when this became a reality our members responded with extra strength. TVEA believes the aforementioned Ad Hoc Budget Committee will be a vehicle that will clarify budget numbers and increase ongoing communication and transparency. This will improve the efficiency of negotiations surrounding compensation going forward.

## **EDITORIAL: TVUSD PUSH TO MOVE TO BY-TRUSTEE AREA ELECTION METHOD IS ILL TIMED**

*President's Message Jeff Kingsberg, TVEA President*

At the December 8<sup>th</sup> Temecula Valley Unified School Board Meeting the trustees voted unanimously 5-0 to direct the district to submit a Waiver Request to the California Department of Education to waive the requirement that the establishment of trustee areas be put to the electorate (voters). The intent of TVUSD is to implement this in time for the rapidly approaching November 2016 school board election.

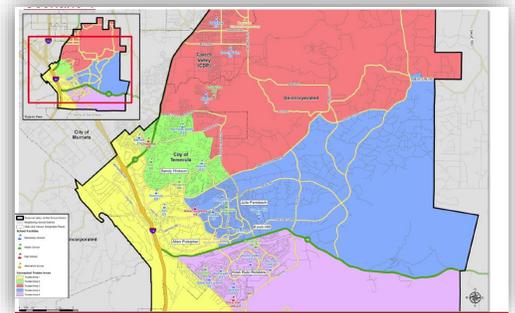
In the coming weeks there will be public hearings at scheduled board meetings and regional district community input meetings in which the public will have the opportunity to attend and participate. TVEA suggests the trustees reconsider both their proposal and their pacing spearheaded by 2015 Board President Dr. Allen Pulsipher, who is one of two incumbents whose current term expires in November 2016.

By-Trustee Area Elections are not new. In fact, most school districts in Riverside County (with the exception of Temecula and Murrieta districts) have moved to some form of this election method. The impetus behind this is the California Voting Rights Act (CVRA) of 2001 which prohibits the use of the traditional at-large election system (candidates are elected by all eligible voters) if it results in "racially polarized voting". This means that the at-large system impairs the ability of a protected class to elect candidates of its choice or to influence the outcome of an election.

While TVUSD has not produced local evidence of this specific concern, it has suggested that the only safe harbor from a potential lawsuit is to make this shift IMMEDIATELY. TVEA understands the district has a responsibility of fiscal stewardship, yet believes they also have a responsibility to district voters as well as potential 2016 candidates who already may have begun planning a campaign.

Temecula Valley Educators Association (TVEA) was notified on November 24<sup>th</sup> that as an "interested entity" we must select a position of "Support", "Oppose" or "Neutral" on the aforementioned waiver by December 7<sup>th</sup>. On December 3<sup>rd</sup>, the TVEA Executive Board voted to oppose this request.

TVUSD has presented no clear evidence of "racially polarized voting". In fact, the last Temecula school board election was highly competitive. Two first time candidates finished one and two, with two long time incumbents finishing fourth and sixth in a seven candidate



field. It is understandable that Riverside County Districts with large minority populations have moved to the By-Trustee model, while Temecula Valley Unified and Murrieta Valley Unified, being more economically stable while at the same time less racially diverse have not been compelled to do so. In addition neither the Temecula nor Murrieta City Councils have publicly expressed an inclination to move in this direction for their elections.

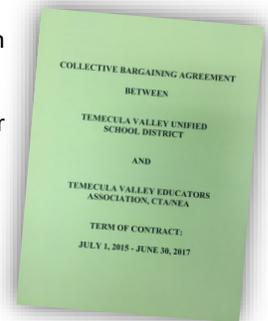
Of even greater concern is the timing of this proposal in relation to the November 2016 board election. Sitting school board members should not preside over a change in voting lines which could have an impact on their potential re-election. The current proposals shrink the 2016 electorate down to one-fifth of the total district size for incumbents Pulsipher and Kristi-Rutz Robbins, seemingly providing an increased advantage for incumbents with high name recognition. In fact, state voters eliminated the ability of California members of Congress and the California legislature to influence their voting districts with two statewide voter initiatives in 2008 and 2010, transferring that duty up to a Citizens Commission.

Pulsipher and Rutz-Robbins may choose to run for re-election in 2016 or not. It could be viewed as reactionary and an infringement upon their own political rights to not allow them to participate as candidates due to a voting systems change. The more sensible and less drastic means for TVUSD is to take a more methodical approach by better educating and preparing the public for a 2018 implementation of By-Trustee Area Districts.

## **CONTRACT AWARENESS: DID YOU KNOW??? 9.4 LONGEVITY**

Members become eligible for Longevity under Column F of the Certificated Salary Schedule upon completion of fifteen (15), eighteen (18), twenty-one (21), and twenty-four (24) years of full-time teaching. The longevity increments are then granted at the beginning of the 16<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, and 25<sup>th</sup> year if a minimum of 50% of their years are earned in Temecula Valley Unified or the previous Elsinore Union High School District. Note that this in-district TVUSD minimum years requirement is not applicable for Speech and Language Pathologists.

New language under 9.4.2.1 effective July 1, 2015 states the district will send out a notice by March 1 starting in 2016 that informs members of their potential eligibility to achieve longevity. This being said, 9.4.2.1 also states it is ultimately the unit members' responsibility to monitor their own longevity progress.



Members who will reach longevity in years 16, 19, 22, and 25 in 2016-17 need to complete Longevity Form H-1 before spring break in March 2016. This is because in 9.4.2.2 the contract states "A certificated employee who qualifies for longevity advancement shall be paid the increased salary not later than three pay periods or months after the employee files proper documentation required for the salary increase". Note that this provision is consistent per California Education Code.

## **THE 2016 – 17 CALIFORNIA EDUCATION BUDGET**

*Rob Clause, Fiscal Chair*

Last week Governor Brown released his proposed budget for the next fiscal year, which begins July 1. The budget looks good for public schools, with funding levels for next year higher than what was projected last summer. There are not only healthy increases in ongoing monies, but the Governor is also proposing one-time funding for school districts of just over \$200 per student. Additionally, the State's "Rainy Day Fund," which is designed to diminish the impact of a future recession, continues to grow at a strong rate.



The last couple years have seen the greatest increases in school funding in California history. In addition to TVUSD having a substantial amount of money available to commit to reducing class sizes at the elementary level and upgrading technology, teachers have received a 9% increase on the salary schedule in the last 1 ½ years.

TVEA is committed to staying informed and updated about California's budget and its impact on our schools. Our Fiscal Analysis and Reports Committee is reviewing the state budget forecast on Tuesday January 19<sup>th</sup> at our committee meeting.

## TVEA MEMBER EVENTS

### **TVEA MEMBERS ENJOY HOLIDAY HAPPY HOUR AT KILLARNEY'S**

On Thursday December 17<sup>th</sup>, approximately forty-five to fifty TVEA members gathered at Killarney's Irish Pub on Highway 79 South to celebrate the impending end of semester and holiday break.

It was a festive occasion with many different sites represented. Larger groups of members were present from Pauba Valley Elementary School, Vail Elementary School, and Chaparral High School. Appetizers were purchased by TVEA and beverages the responsibility of attendees. TVEA raffled off door prizes every half hour.

These sort of member events give members across sites an opportunity to engage with one another and share both the many joys as well as challenges in serving Temecula Valley students. In our fall Member Activity Survey, it was requested that we continue to offer these opportunities for members to gather.

### **FEBRUARY**

Our next TVEA Happy Hour will be Thursday February 11<sup>th</sup> at the Claim Jumper at Rancho California Road and Ynez from 330- 600 pm.



## 2015-16 TVEA PRINCIPAL SURVEY MODIFICATIONS

The TVEA Executive Board has modified the yearly Principal's Survey conducted by TVEA. The survey is used to provide feedback to The TVEA Executive Board has modified the yearly Principal's Survey conducted by TVEA. The survey is used to provide feedback to principals about their effectiveness as perceived by members. Results of each site principal's survey are shared with them by TVEA Site Leaders from that site. It should be understood that this member survey is not an evaluation tool, yet intended to facilitate feedback. TVUSD district administration is also provided a complete copy of survey results as organized by the TVEA office. Each year TVEA honors the top scoring principals in a ceremony for their outstanding work and leadership.

Changes to the 2015-16 TVEA Principals Survey include:

- A leaner survey with fifteen (15) questions, a significant reduction from the previous twenty-three (23)
- Five categories of questions which match the TVUSD Standards for their Evaluation of Administrators including Vision and Culture, Organization and Management of Resources, Collaboration and Partnerships, Professional Standards, and Instructional Leadership
- Optional comment sections for each of the specific above areas
- The elimination of the separate comment section for the Superintendent. TVEA had noticed that many such comments were repeated from the general comment section.

TVEA believes this new version of the Principals Survey will be welcomed by all stakeholders. TVEA will be sharing it with site leaders this month for them to share with their own sites. The expected dates for the 2015-16 TVEA Survey is the week of April 11- 15 with a recognition event in May.

## TVEA ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEA REPRESENTATIVE LOCAL DELEGATE ELECTION

TVEA will be holding a potential election for NEA Representative Assembly Local Delegate. TVEA will fund up to two positions representing our local association. The election will be formally announced on January 27<sup>th</sup> with a link to a Declaration of Candidacy form on the TVEA website. The campaigning period will run from February 3<sup>rd</sup> through 18<sup>th</sup> with voting from February 18-23.

The NEA Representative Assembly (RA) will be held this year from Saturday July 2<sup>nd</sup> to Thursday July 7<sup>th</sup> in Washington DC. It is the largest democratic deliberative assembly at over 8,000 delegates and an experience not to be missed.

TVEA hopes our members will consider participating and giving TVEA a voice in the National Education Association policy making body. For questions on the NEA RA and/or the elections process contact TVEA Elections Chair Alan Underwood at [aunderwood48@gmail.com](mailto:aunderwood48@gmail.com)

# REAUTHORIZATION OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT

## ENDS NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND ERA

With the US Senate voting 85-12 and the House voting 359-64, and the signature of President Obama the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) provides more emphasis on learning and less emphasis on high-stakes testing.

Highlights of this this much-welcomed law include:

- Empowering educators to make school and classroom decisions involving teaching and learning
- Reducing the amount of standardized testing in public schools and lessening the link between testing and major education policy making
- Closing the opportunity gaps for students by utilizing an “opportunity dashboard” with indicators of school success and student support
- This new legislation fits much better into the direction educational decisions are made at the state and local level in California. The Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) provides TVUSD employees and stakeholders the opportunity to influence the spending priorities of our own district. Professional Learning Communities (PLC’s), Article 23 of the TVEA Contract rely on site teams to best guide teaching and learning decisions impacting our students.

Thank you to all those who lobbied members of Congress with phone calls and e-mails. This reinforces that educators collectively benefit from participating in the political process.

**February  
23rd 4-5:30**

### **Retirement/STRS Workshop@ the TVEA Office**

CTA Negotiations and Organizational Development consultant Rose Luna will present information on Retirement and the STRS system

**Space is limited and pre-registration is restricted to the first sixty people who register.**

**Rose will cover CalSTRS benefits, programs, and services. There will be materials provided and discussion of the Cal TRS retirement benefit formula, options, Defined Benefit Supplemental program, survivor benefits, and Social Security offsets.**

**RSVP by February 16th  
[lstvea@verizon.net](mailto:lstvea@verizon.net)**

**TVEA members who attended this presentation at the CTA San Geronimo Fall Conference who attended this workshop highly recommended it and the TVEA Retirement Committee recommended bringing it to members of TVEA!**

### **BY TRUSTEE DISTRICT COMMUNITY MEETINGS**

TVUSD has proposed applying for a waiver from the California Department of Education to change how school board members are elected. To learn more and give feedback attend one of the regional community meetings below. All meeting started at 6pm. Encourage others at your site to join you in attending the meeting in your area of the district.

**Wednesday January 20th**

(Northern Region and Chaparral Feeder Schools) @ Bella Vista Middle School

**Thursday February 4<sup>th</sup>**

(Southern Region and Great Oak Feeder Schools) @ Vail Ranch Middle School

**Wednesday February 10<sup>th</sup>**

(Central Region and Temecula Valley Feeder Schools) @ Temecula Middle School

### **LCAP Teacher and Specialist Open House and Roundtable**

**What:** A chance for LCAP members to share information about their position and job duties with TVEA Leadership and colleagues. **When:** Wednesday January 20<sup>th</sup> 330-500 Drop in for all or any part of the discussion!

**Where:** TVEA Office 29377 Rancho California Road #206 (Windsor Office Building Across from Target)

**RSVP:** Requested but not required. E-Mail TVEA Office Manager Lisa Sisco at [lstvea@verizon.net](mailto:lstvea@verizon.net) by Tuesday January 19.

## COMMITTEE CHAIR WORKSHOP

On December 10<sup>th</sup>, all Committee Chairs held a half day workshop at the TVEA office. The purpose of the workshop was to review and evaluate how TVEA Committees can best serve our organization and engage members.

TVEA currently has thirteen (13) active committees focusing on specific policy areas. We are pleased with the growth of our member involvement through committees as we currently have seventy four (74) different members serving on one or more committees.

TVEA active committees and chairs are: Bargaining- Edgar Diaz, Organizing-Melissa Young, Insurance- Lynn Breen, Political Action- Peter Ricchio, LCAP Consult- Jeff Kingsberg, Special Education-Lisa Fuehrer, Elections- Alan Underwood, Fiscal- Rob Clause, Retirement- Liz Cooke, Grievance- Christine Scull, Common Core Advisory- Tammy Iverson, Ad Hoc Budget- Edgar Diaz, and Member Engagement- Jeff Kingsberg (Interim).

At the workshop the chairs reflected upon how their committee currently connects with TVEA Governance Structures, including Executive Board, Leadership Council, and other committees. Chairs discussed ways they “chunk” or assign roles in their committee to build capacity. They also reviewed the myriad options to communicate and engage members such as the TVEA Advocate Newsletter, Membership Informational E-Mail Blasts, Member Surveys, and the TVEA Website.

Committees are a critical source of specialization and policy development for TVEA. If you are interested in joining a TVEA Committee contact one of the chairs above or the TVEA office. We are particularly looking to build our new Membership Engagement Committee and Political Action Committee at this time.

## LCAP CONSULT COMMITTEE UPDATE

*Jeff Kingsberg, Chair*

What is LCAP and why does it matter to me?

Many TVEA members may be scratching their heads and trying to ponder that question.



TVEA is hard at work as a stakeholder in regard to LCAP and I pleased to share with you a bit of background information and TVEA's intent to influence the shape of LCAP in 2016-17.

LCAP is an acronym for Local Control Accountability Plan. Each district is to develop a yearly plan with input from various stakeholder groups to address the needs of Unduplicated Pupils (UDP) in the district. The eight focus areas of LCAP that districts must provide data on are: Student Achievement, Student Engagement, Other Student Outcomes, School Climate, Parental Involvement, Basic Services, Implementation of CCSS, and Course Access. As part of Governor Brown's funding model, the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF), each district is given an amount of supplemental dollars based on their percentage of UDP's. This is the cumulative percentage of English Language Learners, Free and Reduced Lunch Students, and Foster Youth.

Despite having the lowest percentage of Unduplicated Pupils in the county, Temecula Valley Unified received 7.4 million in LCAP funds for 2015-16 and is expected to attain 1.08 million additional dollars for 2016-17.

The TVEA LCAP Consult Committee including TVEA members Steve Campos (VRMS), Edgar Diaz (GMS), Chris Lindberg (FVES), Kristan Morales (CHS), Nancy Reza (TES), Peter Ricchio (DMS), and Ricardo Salcedo (TMS) are in the process of developing a TVEA member LCAP survey to be distributed at the end of this month. Your participation is essential as TVEA will use this information to develop TVEA priorities to share with the district. TVEA does not officially negotiate the LCAP monies, but does hold the power to consult with TVUSD and exchange ideas and informal proposals. The first of these meetings is scheduled for February. In addition, the TVEA LCAP Consult Committee will be offering a roundtable discussion next week on January 20<sup>th</sup> for all of our members who are currently LCAP Specialists to gather feedback in regard to their current role.

## SHOUT OUTS

Thank you to Tammy Iverson (LES) for organizing the first TVEA Hockey Night between the Ontario Reign and the San Diego Gulls. TVEA had a group of over fifty people purchase tickets and attend.



Engagement Matters: The November 10<sup>th</sup> School Board Meeting was a turning point in convincing TVUSD they would need to offer salary schedule monies to finalize 2015-16 negotiations. Thank you to each and every member who attended.

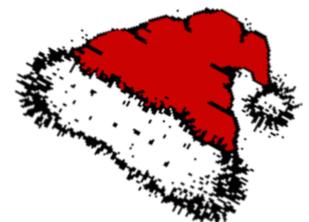
Gardner Middle School Teachers Site Leader Chris Newell and Middle School Area Representative Kim Evans who worked overtime to bring our first edition of the "I AM TVEA" publication to members providing timely information to members

Vintage Hills Elementary Teachers Chris Jones and Michelle Thompson who have provided energy to our Member Engagement Committee and prepared the signage for our "I AM TVEA" kickoff event at the January 13<sup>th</sup> Leadership Council meeting

Temecula Advantage Virtual School Teacher Mitch Brown who was recognized by Azuza Pacific University in their Teachers are Heroes program. Well -Deserved Mr. Brown! One of Mitch's nominations was from fellow TAVS colleague Sharan Koger.

Ryan Leonhardi (CHS) for your continued good work with your students on delivering holiday gifts to the needy in Hemet.

Great Job by Organizing Chair Melissa Young (PVES) and her committee by involving over fifteen teachers and thirty students in the Temecula Holiday Parade December 4<sup>th</sup>. The following teachers nominated 'Student Standouts" and participated with their student and site in the parade making it a huge success: Carrie Nimmo (PES), Cindy Phillips (FVES), Estee Davisson (BVMS), Maribel Cuevas (VRMS), Kristan Morales (CHS), Debbie Slojowski (BES), Karie Shorack (VHES), Anne O'Donnell-McCann (RES), Susan Laliberte (VES), Dawn Murray-Sibby (TVHS), Ann Van Pelt (TES), Heather Smith (PVE), Lynnette Nagtalon (JES) Liz Ludwig (NVES).



## TVEA PRESIDENT SITE VISITS DECEMBER AND JANUARY

### **Monday AM Visits to High Schools Finds PLC and Staff Meeting Time Well Utilized at the Site Level**

In December and early January, I visited each of the three comprehensive high schools with the intent of visiting one on one with members in the early AM and dropping in some PLC's in action. Having taught high school for twenty-seven years in the district, I know high school teachers are early birds by nature and necessity as the traffic around a large high school becomes a deterrent even before 7am. I have also found it challenging to connect with a large percentage of TVEA members during a single thirty minute lunch with the multiplicity of things occurring on a high school campus during this short window.

On December 7<sup>th</sup>, I visited Temecula Valley High School. I was invited to the English 11 team meeting with teachers Kim Preite, Gina Martinot, Stacy Hunt, Lynn Rose, and Michelle Galusha. The discussion focused on grading issues, particularly dealing with parent concerns and social media issues involving teachers.

On December 14<sup>th</sup>, I was at Great Oak High School and after chatting w a variety of folks in the staff lounge area I was met by Principal Marc Horton who took me to an English 11 team meeting led by Krista Sharp. The discussion centered around teacher interest in developing a team policy toward the issue of "Late Work". It was agreed that there should be a congruency in what students earn and what they learn and that different levels of accountability for the same course was problematic. I also appreciated the invite to the Foreign Language Department meeting as they were sharing a final Monday before the winter holiday feast!

I met with Principal Horton for more than a half hour afterward and it is easy to see how he is worthy of being the TVUSD District Principal of the Year in 2015-16. He is participatory and supportive of his teachers. He shared with me that Great Oak invests heavily in new teachers to the site to maintain continuity at the largest campus in TVUSD. New Teachers get extra training upfront on Essential Elements of Instruction (ECI) and the GOHS Spirit program while doing classroom visits.

Another encouraging trend is transforming the all staff meetings to a more site needs based staff development model. Once a month on Mondays, Great Oak holds staff led sessions on such topics as Teaching to the Target, Engagement, Google Classroom, etc.

On January 4<sup>th</sup>, I attended the AM session at Chaparral High School and was afforded the opportunity to provide a brief TVEA update at the general session. This was the second month in a row that CHS has used Monday meeting time for site based technology training. This program spearheaded by teacher Kristan Morales involves several CHS staff with a strong technology background. Conducting sessions that morning along with Kristan were Amy Charney, Don Forhane, Lori Herrington, Chris Morel, Susan Myers, and Blanca Sakhapour.

I joined twenty- five or so CHS TVEA members and attended the Google Drive session with Chris Morel. It was impressive how much he covered in a one hour or less session.

I have enjoyed getting to the high schools and connecting with members during the Monday AM meeting/PLC time and will explore doing the same at our middle schools.

## Temecula Valley Educators Association

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

### TVEA Officers

Jeff Kingsberg, President

Edgar Diaz, GMS, 1st VP

Rob Clause, CHS, 2nd VP

Courtney Evans, Treasurer

Amy Eytchison, Secretary

### Area Representatives

Raul Miranda (GOHS) HS

Brian Balaris (TAVS) HS

Kim Evans (GMS), MS

Michelle Stevens (CHES) ES

Tammy Iverson (LES) ES

### CTA State Council

Mitch Brown

Bob Rollins

Marcia Varner

### Committee Chairs

Edgar Diaz, (GMS) Bargaining

Lynn Breen (LES) Insurance

Melissa Young (PVES) Organizing

Rob Clause (CHS) Fiscal Analysis

and Reports

Alan Underwood (CHS) Elections

Peter Ricchio (DMS) PAC

Christine Scull (BVMS) Grievance

Liz Cooke (CHS) Retirement

Lisa Fuehrer (TVHS) Special Ed

Steering Committee

Tammy Iverson (LES) Common Core

Advisory Committee

Jeff Kingsberg (TVEA) LCAP

Consult Committee

### NEA State Delegate

Alan Underwood

David Cook