

May 2021



THE ADVOCATE



Approaching the 2020-21 Finish Line and Standing TVEA Tall!

The end of the school year is a time at TVEA for both recognitions and reflection. This last TVEA Advocate Newsletter will recognize the outstanding work of our Super Site Leaders and Committee Members of the Year, Advocacy Awards as chosen by the TVEA Leadership Council. "We Honor Ours" (WHO) Award Recipients, and TVUSD TVEA Members Teachers of the Year. In addition, we acknowledge the five Site Administration Teams whom we honored in a TVEA Virtual Ceremony on May 17th for their exemplary support over the last fourteen months, as well as our 2021 TVEA Retirees.

I have been using this fourteen -month period of late to describe 2020-21. Why? With the school closures announced on March 13, 2020 and the implementation of distance and on-line learning over the next calendar year, 2019-20 never really seemed to end! For TVEA, we immediately were cast into our representational role by negotiating a series of four Memorandum of Understandings (MOU's) dated April 2020, July 2020, March 2021, April 2021 to address this unprecedented situation and its impacts. In addition, we negotiated 3.5% off schedule compensation this spring and 14 hours of outside the contract pay across member groupings.

For the average TVEA member, there was much uncertainty about when and how we were returning to in-person instruction. Adjusting to virtual teaching and learning was like learning how to ride a bike for the first time. Integrating Learning Management Systems on the fly into the repertoire of our member's daily and weekly duties felt like a big boulder coming down us on a hill, yet our members somehow pushed it away from our determined climb.

Some of our members have suffered more than we may know. The impacts of COVID-19 on family, friends, and self are real. Yet the spring of 2021 has brought hope with a return to in-person instruction for all instructional levels. The return of student award events, athletics, promotions, and graduations bring us back to the joyful moments that make all the hard work worthwhile.

We have reason to be optimistic for 2021-22. We do not know exactly what it will look like, yet we can expect our people to be back in action full-time in August as "Dedicated and Committed Advocates for Teaching and Learning" and "Proven Leaders of Student Success".

I am proud to have taught alongside so many of you in my first twenty-seven TVUSD years and look forward to serving my eighth year as your elected TVEA President in 2021-22. Thank you for your ongoing support of TVEA. Jeff Kingsberg

Do not miss these TVEA Advocate Highlights!

CA Day of the Teacher

TVEA "Temecula Educators Care" Water Bottles Delivered to Members

TVEA signs 4 MOUs

Bargaining Brings Home
March, April, and May
MOU's to Protect Member
Interests

Awards & Recognition

TVEA Member TVUSD
Teachers of the Year; Site
Admin Teams Recognized

#TemeculaEducatorsCare

"A Day in the Life" Social
Media Initiative Launches



TVEA Rings in 2021 California Day of the Teacher with Member Water Bottles

The TVEA Executive Board had sought to purchase a reusable stainless steel water bottle last year and then the pandemic and subsequent school closures hit. With the return of staff to campuses for in-person instruction this Spring as well as warmer weather TVEA purchased and delivered to sites 1325 Cobalt Blue 24 oz. Bottles with the message "Temecula Educators Care" as a member promotional gift for 2019-20 and 2020-21.

In a message sent on May 10th announcing the gift, TVEA shared with members:

This week is the California Day of the Teacher on Wednesday May 12 and has been recognized as such by the TVUSD Governing Board in a Resolution they adopted at last Tuesday's Governing Board Meeting.

TVEA is also recognizing this day as well in 2021! We have a Stainless Steel 24 oz. Water Bottle for every TVEA member with the imprinted message "Temecula Educators Care!"

This recognition by TVEA includes all our specialist groups who may not be designated as "teachers" during this state and local recognition day. We are ALL Temecula Educators and have persevered through the last fourteen months through shifts in instructional models, new learning management systems, and much more.

This gift is a token of our appreciation for your work during this challenging period and your continued commitment to TVEA.

With Much Gratitude and on Behalf of the Entire TVEA Executive Team!

The water bottle has a universal and inclusive message for our members, district, and community. Our teachers and specialists are highly committed and caring professionals who have been adaptable and resilient in ensuring student success through this pandemic period. All TVEA members can carry this attractive and functional bottle with pride at their school and in the community!



TVEA Provides Site Support Upon Return to In-Person Instruction

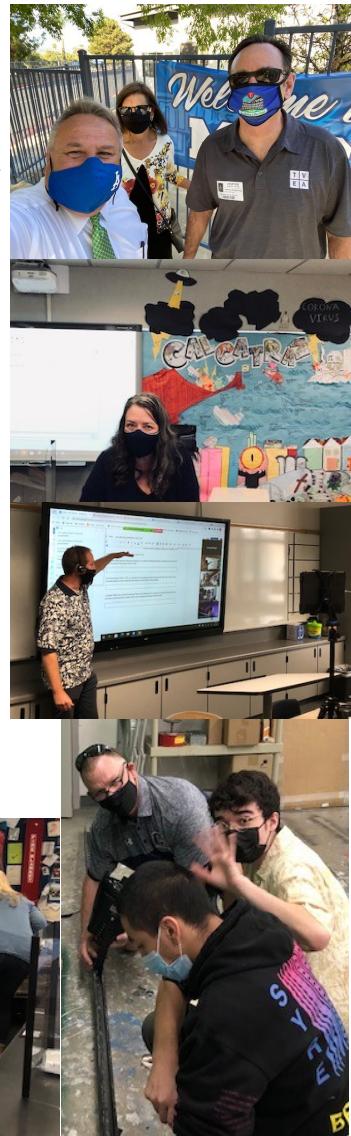
Declining COVID-19 rates led to the return to in-person instruction in the Hybrid Learning Model just before (Elementary Level) and after (Secondary Level) Spring Break.

TVEA President Jeff Kingsberg was on the ground at five sites over this two-week period, joining district personnel such as Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction Karen Valdes and HRD Director Joe Mueller. TVEA provided support as students arrived at school by greeting folks and directing them to their point of entry and assigned teacher and classroom. We then had the opportunity to self-tour or be accompanied by a site administrator.

The week of March 15 we provided support at French Valley, Vintage Hills, and Alamos Elementary schools. The week of April 5th we did so at Chaparral High and Margarita Middle.

In sum, it was impressive how these sites and teachers demonstrated how adaptable and talented our TVEA members are. With smaller cohorts of students, campuses had a peaceful feeling. Students jumped back into their transition willingly and the many members observed and spoke to seemed pleased to be back at school with their students.

Thanks to the following teachers who we were able to photograph them and their students in action: Kathleen Hamilton- FVES, Scott Carey, Anne McNulty, Craig Winger- CHS, and Teri Pinkerton MMS. Special thanks to Margarita Middle School administrators Duane Legg and Teri Hubbard who were very welcoming and accompanied us visiting teachers and students interact live and in-person for "Day # 1" of the 2020-21 School Year. Considering what educators and students have endured since the school closures more than a year ago in March 2020, these "First Day of School" events were a pleasure to participate in!



TVEA Members Provide Strong Survey Response on Potential Instructional Model Shifts with Adjusted Social Distancing Guidelines

Thanks to the 1144 survey respondents (86.3% participation rate) who responded to our Social Distancing Guidelines Survey between April 19 and 21. This was timely information our TVEA Bargaining Committee used in sessions with TVUSD on April 22 and 29.

Secondary Results (575 Members)

Members reported interest (55%) versus non-interest (28% in the concept of combining Cohorts A and B by nearly 2 to 1. The intensity of the groups was two to one as well in that 35% of secondary members were "Very Interested" while 18% were "Not Interested at All". In terms of Plexiglass use, 51% of members suggested doing without plexiglass at the current 6 foot spacing, with 26% wanting to maintain it. At a 3 feet distance, the number adjusted to 44% without and 34% maintaining.

Elementary Results (564 Members)

Elementary members were strongly disinterested in any schedule change for the remainder of the 20-21 year. Nearly 70% were "Not at all Interested" (54%), or "Not Interested" (15%). This contrasts to only a combined 19% of those "Interested" or "Very Interested". The percentage of the groups adverse to change jumped to 73% when the 446 classroom teachers were separated out from the overall group. In terms of plexiglass, a solid majority of elementary members (57%) favor the plexiglass removed at the 6 feet distance, with 26% wishing to maintain it. At 3 feet the numbers changed to 44% favoring removal and 34% wishing to maintain.

This was the highest participation level of any TVEA Survey in memory and provided a timely pulse of membership to our bargaining team who is charged with representing our members interests in TVEA-TVUSD Negotiations.

Thank you TVEA Members!!

TVEA/TVUSD March Memorandum of Understanding Inks Significant Off Schedule Compensation Increase and Hybrid Instruction Safeguards

On March 9, TVEA Bargaining finalized a Memorandum of Understanding with TVUSD for the remainder of the 2020-21 year. The two major components were:

1) One-Time Compensation Increase of 3.5% for all Bargaining Unit Members.

All Bargaining Unit Members received a one-time compensation of 3.5% of their salary on their March pay warrant. In addition, each unit member may submit an extra duty timesheet at the contractual non-instructional rate of \$39 an hour for fourteen (14) extra hours worked to plan/prep for instruction, support student and faculty needs, or mitigate learning loss. These extra hours may be submitted for work beyond contract hours between February 15th and June 8th, 2021.

2) 2020-21 Hybrid Instruction Impacts and Effects.

This language bolsters the previously signed MOU last July with TVUSD. Both MOUs are in effect through June 2021.

The Hybrid MOU addresses such topics as Instructional Model Assignments, Substitute Protocols, Cleaning, Testing, etc.

Both MOU's may be found on the "Contracts" page on the tveducators.org website.

In a blast to membership on March 9th, TVEA President Jeff Kingsberg shared:

The emphasis for TVEA in a return to in-person instruction was making the Health and Safety of our members our top priority. In doing so, we were successful in the earlier stages of negotiations. Changing the District's stance (Everyone on site each day except those with reasonable accommodations) to allow members the ability to work from home was challenging. In the end we achieved work from home options for staff on Monday's. We also were able to secure that ability for teachers with Online Assignments. Elementary Flex teachers could work from home during their on-line teaching segment and Secondary Teachers could work from home during the intervention portion of their workday. While we fought hard for this option for all members, our Bargaining Team was unable to convince TVUSD to extend this option to unit members who do not have their own "Classroom Roster".

The TVEA Bargaining Committee, which is representative of all TVEA member groupings, consulted with the TVEA Executive Board, which likewise has representation from all TVEA cohorts. The consensus from your elected TVEA Executive Board was to move forward with the MOU. Our sense is that our unit members benefit much more from the clarity and safeguards in this MOU, than the costs of returning to in-person instruction without any such benefits or language.

The state and county governments, including the public health departments are expecting our return for in-person instruction. TVUSD, including the Governing Board which is elected by parents in the community, is counting on us to return. Our students are counting on us to return. Our duty as your representative is to negotiate the best contract and agreement we can achieve for members. Our Bargaining Team has worked tirelessly while managing their online classrooms throughout the 20-21 school year. We believe these MOU's represent the best possible outcome we could achieve for bargaining unit members with elementary instruction at sites beginning March 16th and secondary instruction resuming April 6th.

TVEA and TVUSD Reach Agreement on "Secondary Supplemental Reopening" Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

TVEA Bargaining finalized an MOU with TVUSD on April 29, 2021 to provide the opportunity for secondary students to attend classes four days a week from Tuesday through Friday through the end of the 2020-21 school year. In doing so, Cohorts A and B are to be combined as of Tuesday May 11 with Mondays remaining asynchronous.

The change in social distancing guidelines for students from 6 feet to 3 feet by the Center for Disease Control during TVUSD's Spring Break prompted discussions over a two- week period at the negotiations table in April.

Various safety protocols are addressed in this most recent MOU including: Site Based procedures to determine student classroom capacities, Protocols for student overages, and the Member Option to maintain or take down plexiglass. In addition, there was agreement that the final two days of the school year on Monday June 7 and Tuesday June 8 (Added in the July 27,2020 MOU) will be taught on an asynchronous schedule with unit members being expected to report to campus.

All other provisions in the previous TVEA July 27, 2020 and March 9, 2021 MOU's remain in effect unless modified by this April 29, 2021 agreement.

TVUSD had expressed interest in expanding Elementary Instruction and had shared multiple concepts of adjusted instructional models yet pulled the topic from the agreed upon session agenda. TVEA President Jeff Kingsberg commented: "Kudos once again goes to the TVEA Bargaining Committee for sharing and reflecting our member's interests at the table. While our secondary members favored the concept of combining cohorts, elementary members viewed more changes at this stage of the 20-21 year as highly disruptive. The May 11 start provides members time to reset and make adjustments in their lesson planning and physical classrooms for the larger groups".

TVEA Bargaining Inks Four Memorandum of Understandings with TVUSD

In a full day Bargaining Session on Friday May 7th, four (4) Memorandum of Understandings (MOU's) were discussed and signed by TVEA and TVUSD. The MOU's address topics which have impacts for 2021-22, as well as 2021 Summer School and a new window to access the Retirement Medical Bridge Benefit.

Elementary Special Education Case Management Time

Description: This brings back a previous agreement from the 2019-20 school year for a one-year period through June 2022.

RSP teachers grade TK-5 shall be provided 180 minutes of Case Management Time which are to be prorated for shortened work weeks as well as part-time assignments.

SDC teachers in grades Pre-K through 5 shall receive five release days to be utilized for Case Management. They will also receive a \$750.00 stipend.

PK-5 Professional Development Wednesdays 2021-22 School Year

Description: This MOU which has been executed in previous years formalizes that up to four (4) Wednesdays during the 2021-22 school year PK-5 teachers will participate in various district-wide professional development topics.

Each of these professional development meetings will be in lieu of one of the two staff meetings provided for in Article 5.3 of the TVEA/TVUSD Contract as well as the expectation of staff participating in Professional Learning Communities (PLC) on that day.

Teachers will have input on topics for two (2) of the four (4) sessions. This input from TVEA members might result in regional or specific site training for these two sessions.

Summer School Learning 2021

Description: This MOU outlines the location, dates, staff and student hours, and format for the various TVUSD Summer School Learning programs for 2021. Those unit members teaching summer school will be paid at their per diem hourly rate per Article 18.7 in the TVEA/TVUSD contract. It also addresses safety concerns and guidance in anticipation of the State of California's intent to update its COVID-19 Health and Safety Guidance on June 15th.

Retiree Medical Bridge

Description: Any TVEA Bargaining Unit Member who wishes to retire at the end of the 2020-21 school year may claim the Medical Bridge Benefit under the eligibility requirements under Article 7.5 and/or the TVEA/TVUSD Memorandum of Understanding from January 14, 2021. While normally an employee must submit their end of the year retirement and sign up for Medical Bridge by February 15th, this MOU outlined a special window to obtain Retirement Medical Bridge from May 7 through May 21.

What's Next in TVEA Bargaining:

Thursday May 27th: The TVEA Ad Hoc Budget Committee will meet with TVUSD to discuss the impacts of the May 14th, 2021 Governor's Revised State Budget for 2021-22. TVEA will seek consideration of a joint recommendation to the Bargaining Teams regarding a potential compensation increase for 2021-22.

Tuesday June 1st: TVEA and TVUSD Bargaining Teams are scheduled for a Negotiations Session.

TVEA Special Education Committee is Revived and Invigorated in 2020-21!

The revival of the Special Education Committee and leadership structures has been a focus of this year's Executive Board members and 2020-21 Committee Co-Chairs Melissa Gibson and Dana Portis. The group hosted forty (40) TVEA Special Education on May 3rd in their last meeting of 2020-21. The area of Executive Board oversight for Position Area Rep. Melissa Gibson includes 180 TVEA members representative of SLP, School Psychologist, Counselors, Nurses, Social Workers, and LCAP. The area of Executive Board oversight for Position Area Rep. Dana Portis includes 200 TVEA members representative of RSP/SDC/ and Special Programs across the district.

TVEA/SPED seeks to conduct quarterly Committee meetings to provide both a common space and cohesion across sites and allow for a structure of job alike positional "squads". Meeting discussions this year included impacts of Memorandum of Understandings (MOU's) including Learning Hubs and duties/hours, contractual clarifications, and the sharing of online learning successes and challenges. This has been a building year and Melissa and Dana look forward to continuing to create avenues of support for all TVEA Special Education team members.



HELP WANTED: TVEA Special Education needs more representation and leadership!

We are seeking for 2021-22:

1 Bargaining Representative, 1-2 Committee Chairs, and Leadership Council

Position Specialists for the following:

Resource Specialist, Speech and Language Pathologist, and School Psychologist.

3 TVEA Members Named TVUSD 2021-22 Teachers of the Year

Three outstanding representatives of the Temecula Valley Educators have been named Elementary, Middle, and High School Teachers of the Year by the Temecula Valley Unified School District.

Kathie Boyd, Abby Reinke Elementary Kindergarten Teacher

TVUSD Teacher and TVEA Member Since: December 1988

Motto or Philosophy for Success: "No significant learning occurs without a significant relationship" (Dr James Comer) Professional Role Model or Mentor: I learned so much from, and look up to, my many job share partners, K teammates and room-mates (back in AM/PM days when we had sometimes over sixty 5 year-olds operating out of one room). As we all found out this year, more than ever, partnering is so powerful! The sharing of ideas, methodology, as well the some of the burden! The children benefit from the collaboration!



Elementary Teacher of the Year

A blue rectangular graphic featuring a circular portrait of Barbara Dowling holding a bouquet of flowers. She is surrounded by blue spotlights on a stage. In the top right corner is a logo for 'Day Middle School' featuring a shield with a letter 'D'. On the left side, it says '21 / 22'. On the right side, it says 'D M S' vertically.

Middle School Teacher of the Year

Kristan Morales, Chaparral High School Math Teacher

TVUSD Teacher and TVEA Member Since: 2007

Motto: Success is built on hard work and relationships and made possible with a positive attitude and a smile.

Professional Role Model and Mentor: Jeff Kingsberg, thank you for mentoring me in my role as TVEA Instruction and Professional Development Chair. Your leadership and mentoring helped us grow capacity using a "Teachers Teaching Teachers" professional development model for TVEA and create opportunities to share expertise with other members.

TVEA is proud of these three exemplary teachers! Kathie was recognized in 2019-20 as a 30-year original TVUSD Teacher and TVEA Member. Barbara serves as a TVEA Site Leader at DMS and Kristan has been the TVEA Instruction and Professional Development Chair the last three years.



High School Teacher of the Year

3 Newly Elected and 3 Re-Elected to the TVEA Executive Board for 2021-2023

TVEA conducted Executive Board elections for its 2021-2023 term for six of twelve board positions.

Newly elected to the TVEA Executive Board are:

Steve Campos, Physical Education Teacher at Vail Ranch Middle School as Middle School Area Representative

Jamie Vaughn, Third Grade Teacher at Alamos Elementary School as Elementary Area Representative

Abby Woelke, English-Language Arts Teacher at Great Oak High School as High School Area Representative

Steve has served on the Executive Board previously as a CTA State Council Representative for TVEA and has initiated TVEA's Conservative Caucus. Jamie has been a long time Site Leader at Alamos. Abby served as a Site Leader at Great Oak this year and is a TVUSD alumnus, having graduated in the initial Chaparral High graduating class.

Re-elected to the TVEA Executive Board are:

Dana Portis, RSP/SDC Teacher at Chaparral High as Position Specialist Area Representative

Alan Underwood, VAPA Teacher at Vail Ranch Middle School as Contract Liaison

Mike Wassan, CTE Teacher at Gardner Middle School as Treasurer

These six elected for 2021-23 join Jeff Kingsberg (President), Edgar Diaz (Vice-President), Amy Eytchison (Secretary),

Anastasia Bortcosh (Elementary Area Representative), Melissa Gibson (Position Specialist Area Representative), and Doug Vomsteeg (High School Area Representative) who will be serving the second year of their 2020-2022 terms.

Site Administration Team Support Survey Provides Opportunity to Recognize Exemplary Teams During Distance and On-Line Learning

The COVID-19 Pandemic has placed immeasurable burdens on students, families, and staff. With TVUSD schools not able to offer in-person instruction from March 2020 until March 2021, site administrations still had the custody of maintaining some semblance of school culture and supporting their staffs through the twists and turns of this twelve-month period.



TVEA wanted to do something to recognize the good work of site administrators who have provided exemplary support for our members during this time. We decided to utilize the format used for the TVEA Principal's Survey tool through 2017-18 and expand the concept to include Assistant Principals (and Intervention Administrators at the elementary level).

In March we developed and disseminated a ten-question survey to members. Over 550 people across sites participated. Topics included: Valuing of Our Time as Professionals, Accessibility and Responsiveness to Staff, and Facilitating Support with the Utilization of On-Line Teaching Tools.

The TVEA Executive Board selected five Site Administration Teams to be recognized based on the feedback for these and other topics. Site Participation in the survey was also considered. The Site Administration Teams were honored in a Virtual Ceremony on Monday afternoon May 17th. TVEA members at their sites were invited to attend and share stories of how these leaders have inspired persistence and resilience in them as professional educators. Pictured are the Site Administration Teams with flowers and their framed certificate that was delivered to each site.

Temecula Elementary School:

Principal Sandy McKay, Assistant Principal Darla Underwood



Vail Elementary School: Principal

James Evans, Intervention Administrator Amy Rankin



French Valley Elementary: Principal Jon Cole, Assistant Principal Destiny Gerber, Intervention Administrator Garrick Stein

Day Middle School: Principal Rob Sousa, Assistant Principal Cheryl Tukua



Great Oak High School: Principal Aimee Ricken, Assistant Principals Amber Lane, Timothy Lucore, Keith Moore, Herschel Ramirez



Brian Balaris and Lauren Davis Selected as TVEA WHO Recipients for 2020-21

The TVEA Executive Board nominated and voted on TVEA We Honor Ours (WHO) recipients for the 2020-21 year and selected Brian Balaris and Lauren Davis.

Brian Balaris: Is a former Site Leader from Susan Nelson (Temecula Advantage) High School who served on the Executive Board from 2014-2016 before being appointed as Bargaining Chair which is a role he has served in continuously since.

Brian's Nomination Stated:

This school year has been like no other! Our bargaining team, led and chaired by Brian, have worked endless hours on behalf of the safety of all stakeholders within TVUSD, navigating the never-ending changes introduced by the state, county, and the CDC. Our bargaining team had no summer, and on top of teaching online, a new endeavor for all of us, dedicated hour after hour in bargaining sessions to ensure that our students, staff, and educators have a safe environment to return to as well as compensation and contractual language gains. Thank you for your dedication, your thoughtfulness to detail, your perseverance, and your advocacy. Brian was essential to navigating this year and our safe return to in person education.



Lauren Davis: Lauren has served effectively as a Site Leader at Day Middle School and is completing her term as the Middle School Area Representative. Lauren has also committed to serving on the TVEA LCAP Committee and advocating for TVEA's LCAP positions in recent years.

Lauren's Nomination Read:

Lauren has contributed to TVEA's strength in a multitude of ways. First, she organized a strong site at her middle school which had been TVEA dormant and has served as our Middle School Area Rep for the last two years. She has brought energy to the role and has communicated with and coached our Middle School Representatives.



Lauren is a strong advocate. As a member she has been willing to speak periodically at Governing Board Meetings. More recently, she has embraced her role as the Executive Board Liaison to our LCAP Committee. She has engaged cohort groups to get feedback and is a strong advocate for the best use of LCAP funds to close the achievement gap for struggling students.

TVEA 2020-21 Executive Board Award Recipients

Three retiring TVEA Members received special recognition at the final TVEA Governance Meeting of the year May 13th.

Karen Hogan of Bella Vista Middle School was presented the "Outstanding Service Award" for her commitment as Special Education Advocate over the years. Karen has served TVEA as the Special Education Committee Chair, Executive Board Member, and Bargaining Team Representative. She is highly respected by her colleagues and has carried TVEA's voice in Special Education Advocacy over the last decade.

Marcia Varner of Crowne Hill Elementary received one of two TVEA "Longevity of Service Awards". Marcia has been involved in TVEA for many years first serving as the Equity and Human Rights Committee Chair for nearly a decade as well as multiple terms as a TVEA representative on CTA State Council. In recent years she has chaired TVEA's Retirement Committee, planning and orchestrating our annual TVEA Retiree Recognition Event.

Karie Shorack of Vintage Hills Elementary received a "Longevity of Service" for her work over the last several years as a Site Leader, Elections Committee Chair, and most recently two terms as an Elementary Area Representative Executive Board Member. TVEA Vice-President Edgar Diaz, who announced the award shared how Karie has elevated the visibility and advocacy of the elementary representative position and has led by example to encourage other like members to participate in advocacy by writing governing board members or attending school board meetings.

Congratulations to these three outgoing TVEA leaders! You will be missed, yet you have done your part to inspire others to be advocates for teaching and learning!

TVEA has a rich history of recognizing those who provide exemplary service in their roles and make valuable contributions to our association. Each year TVEA recognizes exemplary Site Leaders and Committee Leader(s) or Member(s) of the Year.

Our 2020-21 Recipients are:

Super Site Leaders

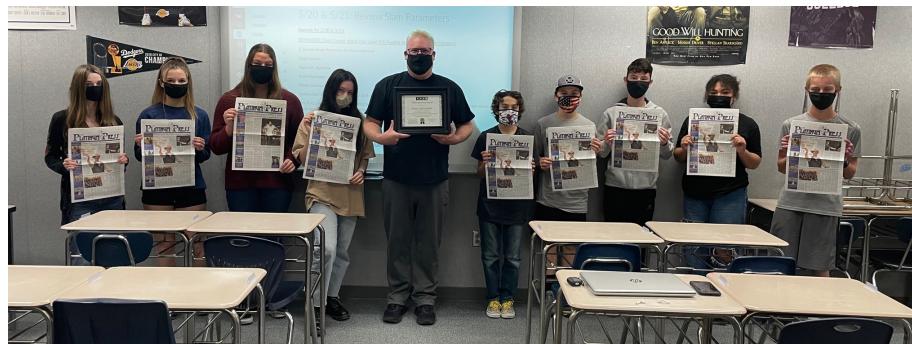
Elem.: **Belisa Guerrero** (TLES), **Cheri Skinner** (TTES) Middle: **Chris Pepes** (MMS) High: **Veronica Kubes** (TVHS), **Barbara Mueller** (CHS)
Co-Committee Members of the Year

Mike Brewer (LES) and **Christina Fenney** (AES): TVEA Bargaining

*For a Comprehensive List of a History of all TVEA Award Winners you may view the "Awards and Recognitions" page on the TVEA website.

Ryan Leonhardi of Chaparral High School Named TVEA “Proven Leader of Student Success to Headline TVEA 2020-21 Leadership Council Award Recipients

The TVEA Leadership Council nominated and voted for the four recognitions in the “TVEA Advocacy Series Awards for 2020-21.



Ryan Leonhardi, English-Language Arts and Journalism Teacher at Chaparral High School was named the “Proven Leader of Student Success for 2020-21. Ryan joins Toby Brannon (TVHS) from 2018-19, and Alan Underwood in 2019-20 as the 3rd recipient of this award which recognizes one of our hundreds of outstanding TVEA educators.

The nomination is described by: *“The nominee is someone who has demonstrated excellence in the classroom as well as in the opportunities they provide students and has proven this over a period of time”.*



Ryan's nomination read:

Ryan has made a difference for his campus and community over a period of years. He has served as the staff advisor for the Platinum Press Newspaper. Each year, Ryan and his group of students publish a university level newspaper at CHS and did so right through the pandemic. Last year, the newspaper was named the top high school newspaper in the United States! He has evolved the Platinum Press over the years and now its staff is also at school events capturing effective videos and providing news reports for school events. In addition, in pre-pandemic years Ryan organized a group of students to gather, prepare, and deliver holiday toys to needy children in Riverside County.

Other recipients for 2020-21 selected with more than fifty (50) voting responses were:

“DEDICATED AWARD”: Karie Shorack, Vintage Hills Elementary Teacher and TVEA Elementary Executive Board Representative

“COMMITTED AWARD”: Brian Balaris, Temecula Advantage Virtual School Teacher and TVEA Bargaining Committee Chair

“ADVOCATE AWARD” Jeff Kingsberg, TVEA Elected President

Congratulations to the TVEA Class of 2021 Who Are Retiring this June! Your Service to the Students of the Temecula Valley is Noted and Appreciated!

On behalf of our twelve- member Executive Board and more than 1300 teacher and specialist members, TVEA wishes a very sincere congratulations to our TVUSD Retirees!

Whatever your specific roles have been for TVUSD, you have directly or indirectly been a “Proven Leader of Student Success”. This year’s retirees deserve special recognition for the resiliency and adaptability they have demonstrated in ensuring the opportunity of “Public Education for All” has continued throughout 2020-2021 school year.

As you close the book on this chapter of your life, you will begin others. I trust your purpose -driven work for TVUSD has resulted in many rewards and that you will continue to find alternative ways to “Make a Difference”.

You will all take various paths in Retirement, yet perhaps remembering this breakdown of the letters in the word “Retire” will provide you a course to a satisfying post-career.

R= Relax, E= Entertain, T= Travel, I = Indulge, R= Read, And most Importantly...
E= Enjoy!

Congratulations once again on behalf of the Temecula Valley Educators Association!

Anderson, Sky, CHS	Garcia, Evangelina, ARES	Osinski, Michele, LES
Bamber, Catherine, VES/RES	Herington, Stephanie, VHES	Paul, Tarvinder, TVHS
Bartlett, Jennifer, ARES	Herney-Jones, Ramona, GOHS	Prevo, David, ARES
Beeman, Karla, TMS	Hizon, Theresa, RHES	Prevo, Debra, DMS
Beeth, Richard, VHES	Hogan, Karen, BVMS	Rasband, Sabrina, TMS
Belcher, Frank, ARES	Kale, Sheryl, RHES	Rice (Greenberg) Kristin, BVMS
Bell, Julia, TVHS	Kiefer, Donna, BES	Robertson, Susan, VHES
Bishop, Paul, CHS	Kinney, Tamara, TVHS	Shorack, Karie, VHES
Boyd, Kathleen, ARES	Kunkel, Shirley, TMS	Siptroth, Jacqueline, TTES
Brown, Jean, GOHS	Madera, Daniel, CHS	Skeith, Sandra, CHS
Cook, Carleen, PVES	Manzani, Kelly, DMS	Slocum, Dana, CHES
Cornwell, Leanne, VES	Marabotto, Donna, BES	Smith, Janice, NVES
Craven, Mathew, TVHS	McPhillips, Noelle, NVES	Sorensen, Darcy, PVES
Dippolito, Linda, BES	Mitchell, Luanne, ARES	Thomas, Cynthia, CHES/RES
Dunlap, Jennifer, TMS	Mueller, Barbara, CHS	Vanderhorst, Kathryn, DMS
Ellis, Melissa, RHES	Nielsen, Stephen, TVHS	Varner, Marcia, CHES
Flores, Olivia, MMS		

Spring 2021 TVEA Community Connection

TVEA continues to collaborate with other community groups promoting teaching and learning as well as lend a helping hand to those in need. This spring we have done the following related to working with and making plans with such community groups:



Temecula Dollars for Scholars: TVEA Donates \$5500.00 in 2020-21 Senior Scholarships

TVEA reviewed scholarship applications from graduating seniors from the Class of 2021 who are dependents of TVEA members. The TVEA Scholarship Committee determined that twenty-two (22) students met

TVEA criteria and were qualified. The TVEA Executive Board approved the addition of four (4) scholarships from the previously budgeted eighteen (18) scholarships at \$250.00 per student. Students were awarded from Chaparral, Great Oak, and Temecula Valley High Schools. Congratulations to the Class of 2021!

Temecula Valley Council PTA: TVEA and TVC PTA Collaborate on Spring Kind Heart Donor Day

TVEA collaborated once again with Temecula Valley Council PTA on a community drive for those in need. On May 23rd, TVEA members brought food and toiletries to the Community Mission of Hope to provide non-perishable groceries and toiletries such as soap, shampoo, and toothbrushes to those in need. This was a second effort from a previous collaboration effort in January. TVEA participates in TVC PTA regularly with President Jeff Kingsberg serving on the group's Executive Board.



TVEA Members let's be a part of doing something good for our Community, help restock the Community Mission of Hope!

and Jelly, Canned Vegetables and Fruits, Peanut Butter, Crackers, and more!

Temecula, CA
May 23, 2021
Community Mission of Hope Donation



TVEA Executive Board Sets Plan to Carry Over Temecula Education Foundation (TEF) Teacher Curriculum Grants in 2021-22

In fall 2019, TVEA sponsored with TEF two (2) member curriculum grants for members of \$750.00 for a sum of \$1500.00. The interest in and success of this new initiative led TVEA to double the value of these grants to \$3000.00 in 2020-21. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic leading to on-line learning for much of 2020-21 led to TVEA deciding to put a pause on the grants at the recommendation of the TVEA Instructional and Professional

Development Committee. This spring the TVEA Executive Board and Leadership Council passed a 2021-22 Budget which includes a rollover of these funds into next school year which will support up to \$6000.00 in such TVEA/TEF Teacher Grants.

Leadership Council Engages in TVEA Organizational Assessment Through “SWOT”

Process

Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats. These are the four corners of the “SWOT” Organizational Assessment Process. This is a common organizational assessment tool that it never seems there is time to utilize yet TVEA did so first in January with our Organizing Cohort and subsequently with the TVEA Leadership Council. Members were offered the opportunity to participate in assessing these four aspects of our association this Spring. Council members completed a Google Form and the results were shared and discussed at two different council meetings.

What were common threads among the council members?

In terms of Strengths and Weaknesses:

The top three identified TVEA strengths in order were Communication, Leadership, and Bargaining. Other identified strengths included Transparency, Being Organized, and our Area Representative Positions

The most common identified TVEA weaknesses in order were Member Complacency/Lack of Participation, Inconsistent Site Communication, and Political Orientation/Ideology. Other identified weaknesses included Members Viewing TVEA as Powerless, Sharing All Communication with all Instructional Groups, and TVEA Viewing Teachers Solely as Union Members.

In terms of Opportunities and Threats:

The top three identified TVEA Opportunities were

Focus on Emphasizing and Working with Community and Families, Member Events Emphasizing One Time Participation, and Member Advocacy to Support Bargaining with Emphasis on SPED and Specialists. Other mentioned opportunities included Fostering Cohesiveness with TVUSD Leadership, Sharing of Information from District Meetings, Rebuilding and Expanding Outreach to Members with Site Visits and 1 on 1's, Polling of Members and Their Needs and Interests.

The top three identified Threats to TVEA included Public Perception of Unions (the most identified), along with Members Having the Ability to Drop Out of TVEA and the Divisive National Political Culture and CTA's Emphasis on Social Justice (tied for second). Other identified threats included Member Apathy and Lack of Belief in TVEA's Ability to Change Things (Social Media Posts Regarding Teachers).

The SWOT Assessment was a valuable way to begin to build reflection into our TVEA organizational culture and provided an honest look at what we are doing well and can be excited about as well as what we should perhaps be concerned with and seek to address.



Social Media Initiative Blooms from Work of TVEA Organizing Cohort

It is important for those working to see the so called "Fruits of their Labor". When a group of more than twenty TVEA members first met in late January as an Organizing Cohort, advancing TVEA's social media platform became one of the action plans. This work has developed into a Social Media Initiative described below:

To increase community visibility of our organization and to make member involvement all the easier, TVEA is promoting the work of our teachers and specialists through the new "Day in the Life..." Social Media Series. Using the TVEA Instagram (@wearetvea) and Twitter (@TVEducators) TVEA will post a 15-30 second video that highlights an individual teacher's efforts. Our goal is to offer our larger Temecula Valley community a chance to see just how much care and consideration goes into what our teachers do.

As shared in a Blast E-Mail sent to members in early May, members are encouraged to record a 15-30 second video of themselves in their classroom, or grading, or anything that shows them in their element as an educator. Video prompt ideas include:

- What is one activity that you are doing in your classroom this week that you are particularly excited about?
- What does a day in the life of your teaching experience look like?
- How are you serving your students this summer? (Continuing education classes? Conferences? AP/other trainings?)
-

Videos are sent to Derek Heid (TVHS) at tveacares@gmail.com to be collected and posted. They will be found on Instagram and Twitter under the hashtag #adayinthelifeTVEA.

Let's show our community that #TemeculaEducatorsCare !!

TVEA Beer Tasting Caucus is Approved, Gathers for April Virtual Tasting

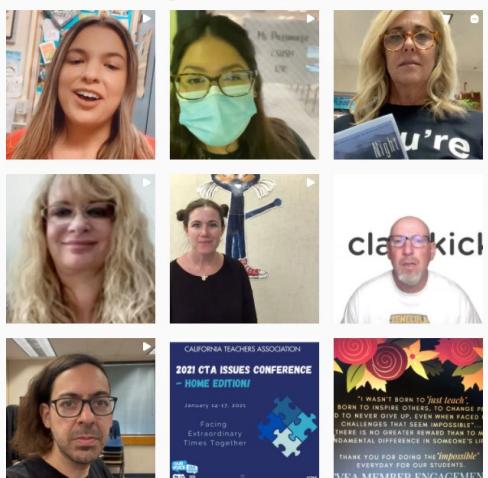
The second TVEA Caucus for 2020-21 was approved by the TVEA Executive Board at their April 8th Meeting. The TVEA Beer Tasting Caucus was born.

A group of TVEA tasters had met in February and when the idea for a second such meeting was discussed again, the idea of making this a TVEA Caucus was brought forward.

On Friday April 30th, eighteen tasters joined the Virtual Event which included up to eight different varieties: Abia Strawberry Lager, Weissbier Krystal by Erdinger, Brew Free or Die: Blood Orange IPA by 21st Century Brewing, Raspberry Gose by Clasemont Craft Ales, Bayley's Brown Ale by Shipyard Brewing Company, Cinq Cents White Belgian by Chimay, Campfire Stout by Highwater Brewing, and Radler Zitrone (Lemon) Stiegl.

TVEA resident brewmaster Brian Balaris, took the tasters through the history and character of the beers each fifteen minutes, with ample opportunity for discussion. Whether participants tasted one beer or all eight, it was an enjoyable Friday afternoon for all.

The next TVEA Beer Caucus event will be in fall 2021 in a format, venue, and date to be announced. If you would like to be put on the contact list contact Brian Balaris or TVEA President Jeff Kingsberg.



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Special Education

STAY CONNECTED...

