



Features

LCAP

School Boundary Changes

Common Core News

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Grants and Scholarships

Encouraging Budget News Means TVEA Will Negotiate for Compensation

TVEA has shared with you previously that the new Local Control Funding Formula the state is using has set up some California districts for a lot of new funding over the next 8 – 10 years. Districts with a large number of needy students—EL learners, children in low-income families, foster kids—will see significant increases in funding, while districts like TVUSD, with fewer students in these categories, will see smaller increases.

However, there WILL be an increase in funding for our district, and according to the Governor's Proposed Budget, it may be larger than planned for next year. **The first priority for our TVEA leadership and the Negotiations Team will be focusing on an increase in compensation for all members!** Bargaining teams meet again on January 30 to begin serious discussions on financial matters. Feel confident your team won't settle for anything less than an increase in compensation this year! District leaders are fully aware that this will be our focus in negotiations meetings and we will continue to pursue this until we have finalized a deal.

Two reasons why we're feeling positive about this, for the first time in many years:

The December First Interim Report for TVUSD, shared at the Dec. 10th School Board meeting (and later analyzed by our Bargaining Team and CTA staff) shows more money than the district anticipated in this school year's budget. But it also shows more spending, so it doesn't mean a large amount of money has been freed up. Much of the spending is on **new positions** that weren't projected or reflected in the district's initial budget, spending which impacts our membership and students positively. Teachers were hired because of the new 24:1 ratio the state mandated for CSR; the district nurse we have been advocating for over the last few years was recently hired; special ed teachers were hired due to the increase of special needs students; and TVUSD hired many permanent speech and language pathologists, rather than using consultants on contracts. Beyond this new spending, though, there is still money that can be used for pay increases for employees in all groups.

The Governor's State Budget Proposal includes \$10 billion in new funding for schools across the state. Gov. Brown has also included plans for a "rainy day" savings fund that could help make school funding more stable in years that revenue to the state decreases. Your Negotiations Team will be participating in analysis meetings about the Gov.'s budget proposal with both School Services and CTA's Negotiations and Organizational Development experts.

Remember that at this point the state budget is a proposal, and the state legislature could make many changes to it before the final budget is passed later this year. We'll report more in February!

29377 Rancho California Rd #206
 Temecula, CA 92591
 P. 951.699.9970 F. 951.699.4771

T V E A
 Temecula Valley Educators Association

LCAP Committee Delves into Data, Discusses Ideas for Next Year

TVUSD's Local Control Accountability Plan Advisory Committee has met several times since October to analyze data and discuss priority concerns for a 2014/15 plan. Administrators, teachers (TOSAs, classroom teachers, and TVEA's president), parents, and community members are part of the Advisory. The discussions take place in small (mixed) groups, followed by a share-out to the whole group. Discussion has centered on strengths and concerns in each area we've studied, and identifying the barriers that get in the way of generating success in the area. Most recently our discussion has been on student engagement (attendance, truancy, drop-out and graduation rate info), but previous meetings have focused on needs across the district for English language learners, students in low-income families, and special ed students. There has also been discussion about math achievement rates for TVUSD students.

Interested in giving input on LCAP discussions? Here's 2 ways:

1—Go to www.tvusd.k12.ca.us and click on the survey under "announcements." You can offer your thoughts and answers to questions the advisory committee has been discussing. This survey is closing SOON so please complete it quickly!

2—Attend a "Community Forum" after school. Information from the Advisory Committee will be presented, and there's an opportunity for input. The next one is scheduled for Jan 21st in Room D at the District Office, 4 – 5 pm.

TVEA members (in alphabetical order) who are part of LCAP Advisory are:

Ana Flores (NVES), JoeAnna Hernandez (DO TOSA), Lesly Keys (TVHS), Chris Lindberg (TVEA President), Donna Lione (Math Coach), Kelly Maxey (VRMS), Peter Ricchio (DMS), and Natalie Waddell (DO TOSA).

School Boundary Changes Discussed at Special School Board Meeting

On Jan. 14, the School Board held a special meeting to hear the district's proposal to change boundaries for elementary, middle, and high schools. Board members had the chance to ask questions of Janet Dixon, Facilities Development Director and articulate concerns. Parents also addressed the board with questions and opinions.

Four informational meetings are scheduled for the community to hear the plan and provide input:

Feb. 5 at TMS, Feb. 6 at GMS, Feb. 12 at DMS, and Feb. 20 at MMS (all begin at 6 pm)

The School Board had previously identified "aligning attendance" at all levels as a high priority, meaning to make it consistent which schools each school feeds into at the next level. Other important goals considered as the plan was put together were planning ahead for new populations, minimizing the distance to schools, and spreading the density of lower socioeconomic status populations, and equalizing school density (not enrollment, as all schools are slightly different in size). Note that current students will be able to finish school at the school they're attending.

Common Core Steering Committee Meetings have begun! **ASSESSMENTS will be the first focus topic**

The Common Core Steering Committee met for the first time on Dec. 18th and scheduled our next two meetings for after school on January 23 and February 27.

At our first meeting:

- We discussed the purpose and norms of the group
- The committee members agreed to be solution-minded and results-oriented in our work.
- The committee committed to working towards a positive implementation of Common Core Standards across the district that emphasizes student success.
- The committee discussed the need for improved, clear communication to every level and to every site about Common Core implementation--and the need to monitor this process. This will be one of our projects as a group.
- We discussed the need for clarification of the current systems for teachers and administrators to provide feedback and input with regard to the CCSS implementation. We are committed to refining these systems—or creating new ones if needed.
- We decided **Assessments** will be the first focus topic for the committee.

PLEASE COMPLETE OUR ONLINE SURVEY OR CONTACT THESE FOLKS SO THE STEERING COMMITTEE CAN BE RESPONSIVE!

TVEA members who are on the Steering Committee are (in alphabetical order): **Sina Albertoni-2nd Grade, Carleen Cook-5th Grade, Karen Hoskins-Middle, Chris Lindberg-TVEA, Kristin Morales-High, Cara Ramsey-High, and Katie Vanderhorst-Middle.**

Please contact a steering committee member through email or call TVEA at 699-9970 if you have feedback/concerns/thoughts about assessments you'd like us to be aware of or you can complete our Common Core Assessment survey at www.tveducators.org.

Common Core News

Webinar

"Assessment Literacy," Thursday, January 16, 2014, 3:30 pm

This is an overview of the components of a balanced assessment system that are aligned to the CCSS for ELA/Literacy. Assessment as an integral part of the instructional cycle and the roles of formative, interim, and summative assessments in that cycle will be addressed. This is the fourth webinar in the Secondary Literacy Partnership's free series, "Transitioning to the Common Core State Standards: Spotlight on Instruction, Assessment, and Equity." To register for this event, please visit the [SchoolsMovingUp Webinars Web page](#).

FAQs about Usability, Accessibility, and Accommodations Guidelines for Smarter Balanced Tests

Smarter Balanced has just released a set of frequently asked questions (FAQs) and answers to accompany the Usability, Accessibility, and Accommodations Guidelines. The document provides three categories of support for students taking the Smarter Balanced assessments: universal tools, designated supports, and accommodations. Access info here: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sa/access.asp>.

New Resources Available on CA Dept. of Education Website for ELD Instruction

The California Dept. of Education has compiled a list of resources to support the teaching of the CCSS with the California English Language Development Standards—including links to archived webinars, professional learning modules, and instructional resources. To view, go to <http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/cc/eldresources.asp>.

CDE Learning Modules—for ELD, Language Arts, and Math

"Getting Started with English Language Development Standards" is now available online at <http://myboe.org/portal/default/Group/Viewer/GroupView?action=2&gid=2996>. This module is part of the "CCSS for California Educators" series and was developed by CDE and WestEd. Another module will continue this presentation in a few weeks. The website has many other professional learning modules as well.

Confused about how insurance is showing up on your paystub?

In the center of your check there is a column entitled, "Net Pay Summary." If you look under "Payroll Deductions," you will see the name of your Medical Plan (i.e. Blue Cross PPO Plan B, Blue Cross HMO, Kaiser, etc.), and next to the Medical Plan Name will be your medical premium. There may also be a deduction shown for Delta/VSP. If you add the 2 dollar amounts together, that should equal the total amount of your monthly premium. Note the district pays \$743.50 towards the insurance premiums of each full-time employee, per our contract.

A void is left in our hearts...

Pamela Cantor July 19, 1962- Dec 24, 2013

By Helen Schlansky

It is hard to put into words how much Pamela Cantor is missed by her friends, parents, and colleagues throughout the district. To speak of her in the past tense is difficult and tragic. She has left an indelible mark on all whom she touched with her positive attitude, perseverance, courage, and charisma. She taught at Nicolas Valley Elementary School for 18 years and continued at Temecula Elementary School for another 5 years. She was passionate about what she did for students and went the extra mile always trying to bring joy to others whether it was creating poems for individual staff members that she'd present or doing adjunct assignments such as Spirit Week activities, or providing treats at PLC meetings.

During her third bout with breast cancer, Pamela remained positive and courageous. She took her illness in stride. Her terrific commute each day to school, coupled with her strong desire to pursue her Master's Degree in education all the while teaching, being a wife, and mother to 12 year old Derek, and going to chemotherapy treatments did not dampen her spirits to give of her best. She persisted and earned her Master's Degree despite it all. Pamela earned our love and respect and Temecula applauds her for her dedication and 23 years of service in education.

I owe it to her to write a poem in her honor. Such would she have done for any of her friends...

You have sowed and watered,
You have loved and are loved
Life was good and God is pleased.
The tracks you leave it's true
Will be so ingrained as to stand the harsh winds of time
And they shall not fade as the evening sun
Perhaps if only in thought
One pausing o'er you should question,
"Who was Pamela?"



P – is for Perfect, you were the best!
A – is for Always, forever we'll be friends
M – is for Memorable, how could we forget?
E - is for Excellent, we are happy you were with us.
L - is for Laughter, nothing was as infectious as yours.
A - is for Aware, did you know that you were so loved?

Technology Reminder!

Computer files and electronic communications on district technology tools (this includes voicemails and email) are not private. You should not use technological resources to transmit confidential info about students, employees, or district operations without district (administrative) approval. Your communications may be monitored by the district. We always encourage you to use your personal email when contacting TVEA about questions or concerns.

Also, please remember you should not be using your cell phone during instruction or while on duty for personal business. Avoid disciplinary problems by confining cell phone use to emergency situations or scheduled work breaks.

Time for a website upgrade!

Have you worked with Joomla?
Our office manager is looking for someone to help with the migration of our TVEA website to a newer version, and spruce it up a bit! If you, or someone you know, could offer some assistance, please contact Lisa at lhtvea@verizon.net or call the TVEA office 699-9970. We really appreciate your help!

Time to Apply for a CTA Scholarship for Your Child?

Because you are a working and dues-paying member of TVEA/CTA, your dependent child might qualify for a college scholarship, and now's the time to get started on an application! All applications are due to CTA for consideration in February. Please go to www.cta.org/scholarships to apply electronically for any of the scholarships below.

CTA offers scholarships to graduating high school students:

Dependent Children—This scholarship is for students with a high, un-weighted grade average and high academic achievement. Up to 35 of these are awarded at \$5000 each year. Applications are due Feb. 7th. This scholarship requires a recommendation from an educator (not family) and a community member. There is an opportunity to explain how medical, physical, or emotional difficulties may have affected grades. The essay requires a discussion of personal vision, unique qualities, and future goals. School and community activities are a factor in the points system that the application is judged on. The highest scoring applicant is granted an additional Ralph J Flynn Memorial scholarship.

Del A. Weber Dependent Children for Children Attending Continuation High School/Alternative Programs—CTA offers one scholarship in the amount of \$5,000 to a dependent child of an "active," retired or deceased CTA member who is attending or attended a continuation high school or an alternative education program. Students must have a GPA of at least 2.0. Applications are due Feb. 7th. This scholarship requires 2 letters of recommendation from educators (not family). The essay requires a discussion of personal vision, unique qualities, and future goals. School and community activities are a factor in the points system that the application is judged on.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Scholarship—This scholarship is to aid and encourage members of ethnic minorities in preparing for teaching-related careers in public education. (Ethnic minority groups identified are African American/Black, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian/Pacific Islander, or Hispanic.) The number of scholarships offered each year varies, depending on donations from CTA members to the fund. (Last year, 2 \$6000 scholarships were awarded, 16 \$4500 scholarships were awarded, and 9 \$3000 scholarships were offered.) Applications are due Feb. 21st. One letter of recommendation is required. The personal statement requires discussion of how the scholarship will support the student's goals, how the student plans to complete the program of study being undertaken, and the personal attributes and unique qualities that will help the student succeed as a professional in public education. Note the Martin Luther King, Jr. scholarship requires the ethnic group applicant to either have a parent living in CA who is an active member of CTA, be a member of CTA, or be a member of SCTA.

If your child is presently in college, pursuing a career in public education—and a member of Student CTA, these scholarships are offered:

Gordon Bittle Memorial Scholarship for SCTA—3 scholarships of \$5000 are awarded. Applications are due Feb. 7th. This scholarship requires a recommendation from an educator (not family) and a community member. Students must have a high, un-weighted GPA. There is an opportunity to explain how medical, physical, or emotional difficulties may have affected grades. The essay requires a discussion of personal attributes, unique qualities, and future goals. School and community activities are a factor in the points system that the application is judged on.

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship can apply to a dependent of a TVEA/CTA member who is one of the identified ethnic groups and who is pursuing a degree or credential in public education and is currently in college. Deadline to apply is Feb. 21st.

Are There Any Scholarships from CTA for ME?

Yes, CTA offers scholarships to members, too.

Scholarship for Members—This program offers up to five scholarships in the amount of \$3,000 to current active CTA members completing college coursework. In addition, the highest-scoring applicant is awarded the Alice Piper American Indian/Alaska Native Memorial Scholarship for the highest scoring member applicant. Applications are due by February 7th. This scholarship requires a recommendation from an educator and a community member. College coursework must show high achievement. There is an opportunity to explain how medical, physical, or emotional difficulties may have affected grades. The essay requires discussion of future aspirations in the field of education or training and how the scholarship will benefit the applicant. A school and community professional record is a factor in the points system that the application is judged on. College transcripts are required.

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship can apply to a TVEA/CTA member who is one of the identified ethnic groups and who is pursuing a degree or credential in public education. The deadline for applying is Feb. 21st. See information above.

TVEA “Dollars for Scholars” Scholarship Applications Are Available!

You can encourage your high school senior (dependent child)—or senior students interested in going into public education as a career—to apply on-line for a TVEA scholarship through the “Dollars for Scholars” program. To fill out the application, go to:

http://cms.dollarsforscholars.org/index.php?section=chapterWebsite&action=student_parent&fwID=2038

A TVEA committee of members (that does not include any parents of seniors) convenes to review all applications this spring and award scholarships. Students must have a GPA of 3.0 or higher to qualify for this scholarship. Through your membership dues, TVEA awards scholarships to children of members (highest priority) and students interested in going into public education.

An essay rubric is available on the website to guide the writing portion of the application, along with guidance in the application process and FAQs. Applications MUST be submitted by February 1, 2014 at 11:59 P.M. We recommend getting started on this application NOW!

In addition to the TVEA scholarships, individuals, school sites, PTA, and community groups offer many scholarships that your child can apply for at the same time!

Athletics Grant Can Subsidize PE Expenses

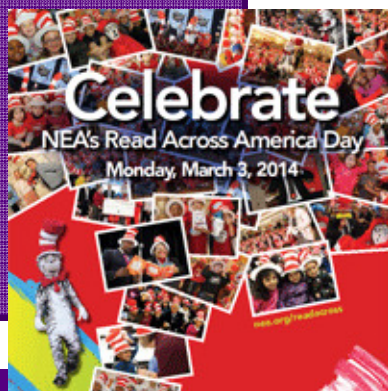
California Casualty offers the Thomas R. Brown Athletics Grant annually to provide support to public high school sports programs that have been negatively impacted by reduced budgets. Awards are granted to select public high school athletics programs. The grant must be used to help subsidize school sports programs in ways such as purchasing new equipment or paying for competition travel costs, and it can't be used for individual student awards.

January 15 is the deadline for grant consideration in the current school year. Applications received after January 15 will be considered for next year's grant program.

For more information, go to <https://www.calcas.com/web/calcasathleticsgrant/>.

Read Across America Planning Meeting Coming Up!

If you're interested in helping make plans for fun and easy “Read Across America” events in early March, please be part of a planning meeting at 4 pm on Wednesday, Jan. 29th at the TVEA office. We'll discuss possible events and simple ways to join in the nationwide celebration of reading.



Winter Student Writing Competition

As you plan your winter curriculum, consider including the YES! National Student Writing Competition, where students read a selected YES! Magazine article and respond with a 700-word essay. The essays meet Common Core standards.

This winter, students will respond to the YES! article, “Heal the Warrior, Heal the Country.” Ed Tick’s story is about the many veterans he sees physically and emotionally wounded from serving in a war, and how we, as community members, can help these warriors heal. Your students will have plenty to write about as they imagine what it’s like to serve in a war, and how they might help a veteran find acceptance and peace when that soldier returns home.

The deadline for registration is January 24, 2014. Essays must be submitted no later than February 21, 2014.

For more information, go to:

http://www.yesmagazine.org/for-teachers/for-teachers/essay-bank/for-teachers?utm_source=EdNews&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=20131211

Help a talented student with a disability win \$2,500 for college

The Standard is once again partnering with Incight, a nonprofit dedicated to reducing barriers between high school and college for students with disabilities, to offer one-time scholarships in the amount of \$2,500 each to eight students nominated by California Teachers Association (CTA) members.

Any active CTA member in good standing may nominate up to three students for the 2014 Incight Scholarships sponsored by The Standard. To be eligible, the student must have a documented physical, learning or cognitive disability, be at least a senior in high school and plan to enroll full-time in a vocational school, two- or four-year college or university for the 2014-2015 school year.

The deadline to nominate your students is March 1, 2014, and student applications must be completed by April 1, 2014.

To learn more and to submit your student nominations, visit www.standard.com/cta/scholarship.

Seminar Offered for Financial Planning

“Demystifying CalSTRS,” a free workshop intended for those early in their career who want information on financial planning will be held in Conference Rooms A,B, C at 4 pm on Thursday, Feb. 27th. TVEA encourages you to attend to make plans for your future! Your spouse or domestic partner can attend with you. This workshop describes the basics of CalSTRS as the foundation of your personal retirement planning. You will learn about the defined benefit program, ways to increase your benefit, and the benefits available to you, including workshops and on-line tutorials.

RSVP to Nancy Mireles at (951) 294-6213 or nmireles@tvusd.k12.ca.us

Don't forget your \$250 deduction for classroom supplies on income tax form!

If you are a teacher, and you paid for classroom supplies and other materials out of your own pocket, then you can claim those expenses as a tax deduction.

Limits: You can claim up to \$250 of classroom expenses for supplies, materials, books, software, and so forth. If both you and your spouse are educators, you can both claim up to \$250 of expenses for \$500 total on a joint return. Any classroom expenses in excess of these limits can be deducted as an employee business expense, which is a miscellaneous itemized deduction subject to threshold of 2% of adjusted gross income.

Qualifications: You are a teacher, aide, instructor, counselor, or principal, and worked in a school at least 900 hours during the school year. Only grade school and high school educators qualify (kindergarten through 12th grade). If your aides spend money on supplies, make sure they know about this!

From the IRS:

"If you are an eligible educator, you can deduct from gross income a portion of your qualified expenses. You can deduct these expenses even if you do not itemize deductions on Form 1040, Schedule A. This deduction is for expenses paid or incurred during the tax year. Previously, these expenses were deductible only as a miscellaneous itemized deduction subject to the 2% of adjusted gross income limit." (Educator Expense Deduction, Tax Topic 458)

Tax Law: The deduction for educator expenses is found in Internal Revenue Code Section 62(a)(2)(D) and Section 62(d)(1).

Note at this time the legal deduction is not scheduled to continue for 2014.

Dues deduction on your taxes

You can also deduct the dues you pay for union membership. Full time employees paid \$1064 in 2013 towards TVEA, CTA & NEA Dues. If you are a job share or part time employee the dues you paid are proportionate with the amount you work. (IE. 50% job share paid \$532 in dues for 2013).

Teaching ELD Students?

Express your opinion on the Draft ELA/ELD Framework for California Public Schools! The first draft of the English Language Arts/English Language Development Framework is now available for public review and comment. The draft ELA/ELD Framework was developed to serve as a resource for teachers and other educators as they implement the California Common Core State Standards for ELA/Literacy and the California English Language Development Standards. Public comments will be presented to the Instructional Quality Commission in spring 2014 for review and possible inclusion in the final ELA/ELD Framework. The draft is available for review and comment digitally [here](#). Public comment on this draft will close February 13, 2014.

If you have questions regarding the draft ELA/ELD Framework, you can contact Cynthia Gunderson, Education Programs Consultant, Curriculum Frameworks and Instructional Resources Division, by phone at 916-319-0451 or by e-mail at cgunderson@cde.ca.gov.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Drive Kicks Off on January 15th!

The birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr. marks the start of a fundraising campaign for the CTA scholarship in his name. The scholarship is a living memorial to aid members of ethnic minorities in preparing for teaching-related careers in public education. TVEA encourages you to make a personal donation to this scholarship fund, which benefits ethnic minority members and their dependent children, along with ethnic minority Student CTA members currently pursuing a degree in education.

California has a drastic shortage of ethnic minority teachers, and this scholarship helps recruit more ethnic minority educators to the profession.

Your voluntary contributions to the CTA Foundation for Teaching and Learning go towards these scholarships. You can contribute a personal donation by mailing a check (memo line should indicate MLK Jr. scholarship fund) to:

CTA Foundation
Human Rights Department
PO Box 921
Burlingame, CA 94011-0921
Attention Janeya Dawson

Carrying on Proud Traditions

Even before the Civil War, NEA called for education for ALL students.

NEA fought against child labor—and fought FOR universal high school, Title I, the GI bill, the Civil Rights Act, and the Voting Rights Act.

What is CTA's Negotiations and Organizational Development Department?

Local associations receive advice, resources, expertise, and financial analysis from the Negotiations and Organizational Development Department (NODD) of CTA. NODD works in the areas of bargaining, training, budget analysis, mediation, fact-finding support, organizational development, and health benefits strategies to assist our CTA staff in local and regional offices -- and local association leaders-- to achieve the best possible contracts for our members.

The department:

- Supports local bargaining teams during mediation, fact-finding, and organizing around bargaining issues. In addition to School District Budget Analysis, Bargaining Advisories are sent to staff on topics that may arise during negotiations
- Analyzes the State Budget for staff and members and explains the implications and uses for this information for chapter activities.
- Coordinates and implements training for the Presidents Conference, Summer Institute, and CTA Issues Conference.
- Develops, coordinates and delivers multi-day training sessions for CTA staff members to help ensure they remain current on relevant issues.
- Uses 2 CTA software programs that are designed to assist CTA staff and bargaining teams. Budget Essentials for Negotiations (BEN) analyzes school district budgets and Salary Schedule Analysis (SSA) allows staff and leadership to accurately cost out salary, benefits, step and column, and other aspects of the salary schedule.
- Maintains CTA Search, an additional resource available to chapter presidents, bargaining chairs and CTA staff.
- Provides assistance as consultants to CTA workgroups and State Council committees.
- Responds to requests from leaders, members, staff and the general public for research about California public schools, public education and other topics of interest.

Without the continuing expertise and resources NODD provides local associations, our members would be unable to negotiate with “hard” and critical information.

In addition to using NODD for advice in negotiations, TVEA leadership also consults with other local associations regularly to be “up” on what is happening in the moment with negotiations in other districts.



Consider Running for State Delegate to NEA RA!

Declaration of candidacy forms for the NEA convention in Denver this summer are due to the CTA San Geronio Service Center by 5 pm on Jan. 31st. Information is available in the Dec./Jan. edition of the *California Educator*, CTA's magazine. You can also access the information and form at www.cta.org/racandidacy. Seventy or Eighty votes across the Riverside and San Bernardino counties could be enough to get you elected! Note this process does NOT go through TVEA.

CTA Leadership Held “Town Hall” Phone Call January 7th

CTA President Dean Vogel and other state leaders held a meeting with interested CTA members across the state on January 7th. You probably received a phone call that you could join in the discussion. Vogel and others took questions on a variety of issues (including special education, retirement/STRS, preparing our students for the 21st century, parental involvement in education, organizing charter school teachers, and social justice) —although the phone call was primarily to address questions and concerns about the CTA long-term strategic plan. More phone calls like this are being planned for the future. If you're looking for a chance to speak to Executive Director Joe Nunez, President Dean Vogel or other state leaders, watch for the next opportunity to be part of a “town hall” phone call.

Remember that contacting your TVEA leadership (Executive Board officers/members or State Council reps) is as easy as a phone call or email—see back page of newsletter for all names!

Interested in Attending a “Savings and Investment for Retirement” Seminar?

On 2 Fridays, February 28th in Irvine and March 14th in Anaheim, CTA is sponsoring educational “pre-conference” events (before the Equity & Human Rights Conference and the Good Teaching Conference) about “understanding 403(b) and 457 plans and saving for your future.” CTA will sponsor attendance (including the cost of a sub for you) for 3 TVEA members who are willing to share info with membership at a later date. (TVEA will reimburse for mileage) If you’re interested, please contact Lisa at lhtvea@verizon.net for an application and president’s approval (required). We’d love to see some members attend this! If you have questions, please call 650-552-5200 or email business_initiatives@cta.org.

“Seminars Abroad” Offers Summer Adventure

The Fulbright-Hays Seminars Abroad Program provides K-16 educators the unique opportunity to work overseas, primarily in non-western countries, each year. Topics and host countries vary. The program is open to K-12 teachers and administrators with responsibilities for curriculum development in fields related to humanities, languages and area studies. A seminar is being offered this summer in China, with 14-16 positions, subject to the availability of funds. The deadline for applications is February 5, 2014: <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/iegpssap/index.html>

NEA Foundation Calls for Nominations for Awards for Teaching Excellence

You can nominate an excellent educator for the Award for Teaching Excellence. The nominee should have outstanding professional practice, be an advocate for the association, engage the community, exhibit professional development leadership, and pay attention to diversity.

Five winners from across the nation will receive expenses-paid travel with a guest to the “Salute to Excellence in Education” gala in Washington, DC and \$10,000 each from the *Horace Mann Awards for Teaching Excellence*, and one of these will be selected for the *NEA Member Benefits Award for Teaching Excellence*, along with \$25,000.

Nominations are due to CTA by Feb. 10th. All TVEA members qualify for nomination, and the process goes through approval by the local association, and then the state association, so the process needs to start NOW. Contact Chris Lindberg for more information at tvea@verizon.net.

Attend a CTA Conference in 2014!

You may be interested in attending one of two upcoming CTA conferences in Southern California. TVEA sponsors a limited number of attendees, covering registration fees, mileage, accommodations, and meals that are not included in the conference program. If you haven’t attended a CTA conference before, we encourage you to “make it a resolution” to do it this year. Conferences start in the evenings on Fridays, so you won’t miss any school days. You choose the workshops you’d like to attend.

The **Equity and Human Rights Conference** will be held Feb. 28 to March 2 in Irvine. This year’s theme is “Power Up: Harnessing Community Partnerships to Access an Equitable Future.” Workshop topics include: Transitioning to Common Core Standards, Parent University: How parents and teachers are working together to help students achieve, Understanding and Embracing Diversity in the Community, Workplace Bullying, and Suspensions.

The **Good Teaching Conference** will be held March 14 to March 16 in Anaheim. This conference gets great reviews every year, and many folks attend over and over. Some of the workshops include: Common Core Writing for English Learners, Drawing Out the Best in Your students, Integrating Free On-line Interactive Content in the K-12 Classroom, Making Music Matter in the Content Areas, Making Sign Language Fun, The Power of Intrinsic Motivation: Building Character While Addressing the Common Core, Rick Morris presentations, Yoga for the Brain, Special Education: Its Impact and Implication for All Teachers, and How Common Core Can Make You Clutter Free.

To register and request TVEA sponsorship to attend either conference, contact Lisa at lhtvea@verizon.net as soon as possible. Note that TVEA gives priority to those who have not attended the conference before, and sometimes attendees may be asked to share rooms with a colleague. The earlier you register, the better the chance that TVEA can sponsor your attendance. We ask attendees to share information they learn at the conference in the form of a presentation to site staff or the Leadership Council, or in an article for the **TVEA Advocate**. (If you have another idea for a follow-up project, let us know!)



Chris Lindberg, Bob Rollins, Mitch Brown attend a San G Meeting

EVENTS



Upcoming Events

Jan. 13	First Grade Teacher Meeting
Jan. 13	IAC Meeting
Jan. 14	Second Grade Teacher Meeting
Jan. 14	CTA Training: Teachers as Advocates
Jan. 14	Special Board Meeting
Jan. 15	LCAP Advisory Meeting
Jan. 15	School Services Presentation
Jan. 15	Leadership Council Meeting
Jan. 16	Third Grade Teacher Meeting
Jan. 17 – 19	CTA Issues Conference
Jan. 20	No School
Jan. 21	School Board Meeting
Jan. 21	Fourth Grade Teacher Meeting
Jan. 22	Fifth Grade Teacher Meeting
Jan. 23	Kindergarten Teacher Meeting
Jan. 23	Common Core Steering Committee Mtg
Jan. 24	Read Across America Workshop
Jan. 24 – 26	CTA State Council Meeting
Jan. 27	CTA Bargaining Info Session
Jan. 28	LCAP Advisory Meeting
Jan. 28	Special Ed Committee Meeting
Jan. 30	Negotiations Meeting
Feb. 3	Instruction & Prof. Dev. Committee Mtg
Feb. 4	School Board Meeting
Feb. 5	Co-Teaching Seminar at TVEA
Feb. 6	Executive Board Meeting
Feb. 10	Organizing Committee Meeting
Feb. 12	Leadership Council Meeting
Feb. 14 and 17	No School
Feb. 18	School Board Meeting
Feb. 27	Common Core Steering Committee Mtg
Feb. 27	Demystifying STRs at DO

Shouts

Steve Sloan's dad (Steve is at PVES)—Scott Sloan—was honored at the Dec. School Board meeting for his donations and volunteer work related to technology.

Rick Boyd (TMS) was recognized for his robotics club, and Dave Hinrichs (TMS) was recognized for his astronomy club.

TVEA sends a SHOUT out to all the teachers who worked in Common Core cohorts this first semester, and/or worked through the summer on DO Common Core projects, and who worked in last year's cohort teams. You all worked hard and gave all teachers pilot projects to get us moving along with implementing CCSS. Thanks.

Jeff Kingsberg's Advanced Placement Government and Politics class (CHS) won the "We the People" event in San Diego, qualifying for the state event.

Congratulations to Erika Doyle, who had a beautiful baby girl, Campbell, on December 12th.

Chris Shore did a great job speaking about the district's math coaching program at the last School Board Meeting.

Catastrophic Leave

FVES first grade teacher, Sandra Scott and DMS classified employee, Sheri L. Davis, and Transportation Department classified employee Michelle Henke, have all been approved for Catastrophic Leave for their current medical absences. Any TVUSD employees (classified, certificated and administrative) may now donate "sick leave" hours on their behalf by filling out the Cat Leave Donation form available from site secretaries or on the TVEA website under "forms," and then submitting it to Payroll. You may donate up to 2 days' worth of your own "sick leave" to an approved Cat Leave employee. You need to maintain at least 20 days' worth of sick bank leave for yourself in order to donate.

TVEA is on Facebook!

Please "like" [TVEA-Temecula Valley Educators Association](#), and you'll be kept up to date on events, relevant news to educators, and perspectives on education issues! It's more important than ever to be informed about public education!



Temecula Valley Educators Association

29377 Rancho California Rd. #206

Temecula, CA 92591

(951) 699-9970

(951) 699-4771

www.tveducators.org

TVEA Officers

Chris Lindberg, President

Edgar Diaz, GMS, 1st VP

Jeff Kingsberg, CHS, 2nd VP

Bob Rollins, RVHS, Treasurer

Carla Kestler, TES, Secretary

Area Representatives

Chad Yates, GOHS, High School

Jeanine Wulfenstein, Middle School

Theresa Thompson, PVES,

Upper Elem

Upper Elementary

Tammy Iverson, LES,

Primary Elementary

Karen Hogan, Special Interest

Committee Chairs

Edgar Diaz, GMS,

Bargaining

Marcia Varner, FVES,

Equity & Human Rights

Gary Check, VES, Insurance

Lynn Breen, LES, Insurance

Belisa Guerrero, TES,

Social Events

Traci Pawlak, VHES &

Mark Harnetiaux, GOHS, Elections

Alexa Ingram-Dupart, LES, &

Sean O'Hara, DMS, PAC

Robin Orner, LES, IPD

CTA State Council

Mitch Brown

Bob Rollins

Marcia Varner

NEA Delegate

Marcia Varner



CTA Regional Resource Center 25114 Jefferson Ave. #B Murrieta, CA 92565
Phone 951.461.2183 Fax 951.461.2797 www.cta.org



Education Forum



From Isolation to Collaboration: Strategies to Improve Co-Teaching and Collaboration between General Education and Special Education

This interactive training will focus on successful collaborative strategies between special educators and general educators in K-12 which have had a significant positive impact on student achievement. Challenges, best practices and strategies to improve co-teaching will be shared

February 5th at 4:15pm
Temecula Valley Education Association
29377 Rancho California Rd #206, Temecula, CA 92591

RSVP NEEDED BY JANUARY 29th: lhtvea@verizon.net
Presenter: Stacy Begin, CTA

Read the CTA Report

[www.cta.org/
specialeducationincalifornia](http://www.cta.org/specialeducationincalifornia)



Visit the support site

www.cta.org/IPD

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