

TCEA NEWS LETTER

Temple City Education Association

[Union Members]

October
2018

President

Ellen Laughlin

Vice President

Kyla Hjertstedt

Secretary

Samantha Jennings

Treasurer

Sandy Johnson

Membership

Maria loele

Important Dates:

October 3 Negotiations

Please wear your pins!

If you have not done so, please complete our survey : <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Y58Y5ZR>

October 3 Rampage Hosting a forum
for the School Board

Candidates @ TCHS,
Room 601, 6:30pm

October 17 TCUSD School Board
Meeting @ 7pm

Monthly TCEA Meetings

At Temple City High School
Kyla Hjertstedt's Rm. 216
FIRST Monday
every month @ 3:30pm

Everyone is welcome to
attend our next meeting is
November 5, 2018

What are the benefits of CTA membership?

In addition to being part of one of the most influential organizations in California, as a CTA member you have access to benefits and programs designed to enhance your financial security, health and lifestyle. Check the Member Benefits section and the Member Engagement Center to learn more about the benefits of CTA membership.



[A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT]

It's hard for me to believe that it's already October. These past few months have been *busy!* Beginning in August, the PAC formulated questions and interviewed all nine school board candidates.

Due to the high qualifications of each of the nine outstanding candidates, we were unable to select just three candidates to endorse. Therefore, TCEA has chosen not to endorse any candidates for the November election. TCHS's Rampage will be holding a candidate forum on Wednesday, 10/3 in Room 601 at TCHS beginning at 6:30 pm. Please consider attending this important event!

In September, members of the executive board visited six of seven school sites to let them know we are there for them. We listened to concerns and gave members time to ask questions of us. It was a great chance to interact with each site personally and address their specific needs. We look forward to returning to your sites and having further conversations.

As members of Cal STRS, we do not pay into the California State Disability Insurance (CA-SDI). The executive board thought it was important to inform members that there are options for disability insurance and requested *The Standard* (CTA's endorsed disability insurance) hold a campaign for our members. The campaign runs through 11/15. Although, the district's Open Enrollment is commencing, members can still choose to enroll in disability insurance with *The Standard*. Contact a building rep or executive board member if you would like more information.

Kyla Hjertstedt created a member survey so that the bargaining team would have even more information from members to take to negotiations. Thank you to those who have already submitted responses to the short survey. Here is link to the survey;

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Y58Y5ZR> Also, check our union's board at your school site for additional information regarding the survey. We welcome and appreciate all responses.

However, the negotiations team needs more than answers to the survey. They need your support! The team is going to the table on October 3rd. Afterwards, TCEA and the district will be releasing a joint statement to keep members updated on the discussions. Please wear your pin on Wed. 10/3 to show your support!

Last week, over 20 unit members attended the school board meeting! I feel attending these meetings is necessary to demonstrate our unified professionalism. It's important to continue to work together to strengthen and advance our union and district. When we are united and support one another, we can move forward toward a bright future with TCUSD.

I wish you all a wonderful October!

Ellen

Featured Member

[Cindi Young]

Hi! My name is Cindi Young, and I just started my 23rd year of teaching at La Rosa. Last January I started a TED-Ed club at La Rosa with nine 3rd grade students. TED-Ed is TED's youth and education initiative that aims to spark and celebrate the ideas of students around the world and is designed to create a generation of creative problem solvers. My students worked together to discuss and celebrate creative ideas and were supported in discovering, exploring, and presenting their big idea in the form of a TED-style talk. They identified and researched the ideas that matter most to them. They had a hands-on opportunity to work on storytelling, writing, researching, and communication skills. Thanks to an incredible team of phenomenal teachers at each of our elementary schools, this year there will be a TED-Ed club at every elementary school in our district with over 100 students participating in sharing their passions. I am so proud of our students and look forward to offering this opportunity to every student in our district.



It's a fact. Teachers in Arcadia, San Marino, and South Pasadena earn a higher salary than Temple City educators. In South Pasadena, health benefits are fully funded for employees with partial coverage for dependents. The two main differences between TCUSD and these districts are that they all have passed a parcel tax and all have household median income far higher than California's average income.

Parcel taxes assess a flat fee on each property in the community and require two-thirds of the vote to pass. In 2009, voters in South Pasadena agreed to be taxed at \$288. Then again in 2018, they voted to increase the amount to \$386 for seven additional years. San Marino's parcel tax rate of \$865 has been in place since 2009. In 2017, residents of Arcadia approved extending an expiring parcel tax for 18 years at a rate of \$288 per parcel. As you can see, parcel taxes annually generate several million more dollars in income for a school district.

Overall, the funds from a parcel tax are used to mitigate the negative effects of California school funding reductions. Specifically, school districts have implemented parcel taxes to preserve core academic curriculum, including English, math, social studies, history, and science, and including teachers of those subjects; continue advanced academic programs in math, science, and technology; attract and retain qualified teachers, maintain manageable class sizes, and prepare students for top colleges and careers.

Arcadia, San Marino, and South Pasadena are economically different cities from Temple City and the difference is most notable in our salary. When comparing salary schedules of local districts, many factors come into play including parcel taxes and Title 1 monies. Your TCEA negotiations team is mindful of these factors and is working to make sure that the hard-working teachers are compensated fairly.

parcel Tax

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