

Letter from the President

Hello!

By now we're all hopefully setting in to the school year and have new routines down. Among all the "busyness" that comes with this time of year, I find myself full of so much hope. With the appointment of our new superintendent, I am hopeful that we can start working to repair much of what been a struggle for us over the past several years.

Dr. Cuhna has history here in TCUSD, and has chosen to return to a place that he feels is "home". Temple City is known as a district where so many of us have grown up, gone to school, continued to live in, work in, etc., so I know that there are is a large number of us who know the feeling of home that TCUSD brings. I am confident that having a superintendent who knows and shares that feeling will go a long way in building trust and strengthening our district. The future is bright!

Shelley

IMPORTANT DATES

Upcoming TCUSD Board Meetings:

All meetings begin at 6:00pm, and then return from closed session at 7:00pm. Meetings are held in person at the District Office, or you can watch the live stream using the qr code below.
The next few meetings are on: 10/26, 11/9, and 12/14

TCEA Site Rep meetings:

All are welcome to attend. Meetings take place on the 1st Monday of each month, and are held via Zoom.

11/7/22, 12/5/22, 1/9/23, 2/6/23, 3/6/23, 4/3/23, 5/1/23, 6/5/23

Your TCEA Representatives

President
Shelly Scanlan

Vice President
Elias Bourjeili

Secretary
Lisa Hoiby

Treasurer
Ellen Laughlin

Membership
Maria Iolie

Join us for
our monthly
TCEA meeting!

The first Monday
of each month at
3:30 pm
On Zoom (look for
an email from
TCEA with the link
each month)

We cant wait to
hear from you!

Teacher of the Year

TCUSD Teachers of the Year!

We wish to congratulate our Teachers of the Year for the 2022-2023 school year, who were voted on by their sites and awarded this honor back in April.

We are so proud of you and thankful to work alongside you each and every day!

Christy Taylor - Longden
Ashley Dimkich - Emperor
Kim Justiniani - LaRosa
Celia Amaya - Cloverly
Ann Lozier - DDSLC
Stephanie Sy - Oak
Michael Liu - TCHS
Shannon Findley - TCVA



Ashley Dimkich went on to receive the title of TCUSD's district Teacher of the Year, and moved on to the LA County competition, and was recently named one of 16 LA County Teachers of the Year! Shelley sat down with Ashley to ask her about the process:

What / Where and How long have you been teaching?

I'm just beginning my 10th year! I've taught all ten years in TCUSD at Emperor! Go EAGLES! I taught 3rd grade my first year and have been in 4th grade ever since! :)

What was the process after becoming an LA County Teacher of the Year?

The Los Angeles County Teacher of the Year Application process was quite lengthy and took place over the summer, but it was also such a fun and memorable experience! We had to submit a number of essays, lesson plans, a recorded video, and other materials to LACOE. The process followed a VERY strict format and so much as one word beyond the word count limit on an essay would have been cause to be eliminated from the competition! The judging panel narrowed the field of the 66 district-level teachers of the year who participated in the competition down to a semifinalist group of 28. We then completed a round of panel interviews where we were asked to expand on our philosophy, demonstrate a lesson, and more! Then, on September 23rd, all district-level teachers of the year were honored at a beautiful Awards Banquet at the Universal City Hilton. This is also where the top 16 LA County Teachers of the Year were named, I was so honored to represent Emperor and TCUSD as my name was called!

What's next?

All 16 Los Angeles County Teachers of the Year now advance to the California Teachers of the Year competition this fall. The competitors are made up of the teachers from across the state. We already had to submit our written application to the state, and from there they will be notifying a group of semifinalists. Those semifinalists would have a classroom observation and from there the judging panel would select a group of finalists who would advance to another round of interviews including one with our state superintendent, Tony Thurmond! After that, 5 California Teachers of the Year would be named and one would advance to the National Teacher of the Year Competition representing the state of California.

Congratulations to Ashley on this huge honor! We are so proud and rooting for you as you move to the California State competition!

Bargaining Update

With the new superintendent starting in just a couple of weeks, the TCEA negotiations team is eagerly anticipating the start of negotiations. Since Dr. Cunha is slated to start on November 1st the district has decided to hold on submitting items to sunshine so that our new super has input on the direction TCUSD goes.

We are looking to expedite our negotiations this year and hope to be concluded with the majority of the items before we head off to winter break. With this in mind, the TCEA executive board met this week to discuss what 3 items we would like to sunshine for this round of negotiations. These items will be presented to Dr. Cunha within a couple weeks of his start date. Additionally, the TCEA negotiations team has started meeting regularly with our CTA representative to determine roles in negotiations and what each member's strengths are and what they would like to contribute in addition to looking at state COLA's, comparable districts, and expanding our strategy with current TCUSD administration.

This year, we are looking deep into our Special Education and retention issues and trying to find meaningful ways to address our member concerns. Finding the ideal place in our contract to add language has become the biggest challenge to the team so far. The district and previous years negotiations teams have all agreed that this is something that needs to be addressed as soon as possible, finding how to add it has slowed the process though.

Finally, a small stipend committee has formed to work with district personnel to look at all of our stipends and the level in which they are paid out. There are a handful of stipends that do not apply or are no longer used- illuminating those will open up funding for other stipends that have presented themselves and become more relevant with the services we provide to our students. Once work is complete on the updated list of stipends, the TCEA negotiations team will present them for approval during bargaining.

Bargaining Unit comparable districts: Historically TCEA has used the following 6 districts as "comparable" districts when negotiating. These districts are considered comparable to Temple City because they all uphold high academic standards, are unified districts of similar size, and are located within the San Gabriel Valley. The districts are Arcadia, Claremont, Glendora, La Canada, San Marino, and South Pasadena.

Recently San Marino closed their negotiations for the 22/23 school year. They bargained for 5% off salary schedule (one-time bonus), a 7% on schedule salary increase but also INCREASED their work year by 3 days. Each day of work is .54% of a 1 % salary increase. This means that due to working 3 more days, the 7 % salary increase is actually only a 5.38% salary increase.

It appears that Glendora has settled negotiations for this year (22/23) and next year (23/24). They negotiated for 1% off schedule (one-time bonus) and 5% on the salary schedule for 22/23. For the 23/24 year they will have a 2% salary increase added to the salary schedule.

Member Updates



NGSS COMMITTEE

The district is ready to move forward with the NGSS committee. The positions were flown, and originally closed on Friday 10/14/22.

It was reopened for a few more days, in the hopes of getting more applicants, and closed again on Tuesday 10/18/22.

Usually, TCEA will hold elections for any paid committee work. However, in this situation, since all who applied are able to participate, the executive board decided that an election was unnecessary.

All who submitted for participating in the NGSS committee will be appointed. Thank you for volunteering to do this work for our students!

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Joe Turner teaches 5th grade at Cloverly Elementary. Joe has been in Education for over 26 years. 21 of those years have been with TCUSD.

He has been a TCEA site rep for three years a few years ago and is serving again this year.



Scan the QR
code for the
following links



Board
Meeting



TCEA
Meeting



TCEA
Website



Q & A
Form

CTA Voting Guide

Below are recommendations from the CTA for the upcoming election

Vote Initiative



Yes

Prop 1: Reproductive Freedom - Provides women equal access to healthcare services and prohibits the state from denying an individual's right to reproductive freedom.



Yes

Prop 28: Art & Music in Schools - Provides additional funding for arts and music education in PK-12 public schools without raising taxes. Nearly \$1billion from the general fund annually. Money is used to support arts programs and hire new arts staff. More money is targeted to low-income schools.



Yes

Prop 31: Stop Big Tobacco Referendum - Supports referendum to protect current law which bans the sale of flavored tobacco products and marketing to teens.



No

Prop 27: Online & Mobile Sports Betting - Legalizes online and mobile sports betting in California. Online gambling corporations would take 90% of the profits out of state. Not a single penny is directed to our students or our state's public schools. Could expose millions of kids to online gambling.



No

Prop 30: Stop the Lyft Tax Grab - Increases income taxes to pay for zero emission vehicle subsidies and infrastructure improvements. It is funded by the Lyft Corporation to get taxpayers to pay for improvements. The tax increase side-steps current law that requires half of any new revenues to go to public education. It also doesn't raise any additional money for health care and other essential services.

Recommended Candidates

Governor

Gavin Newsom

Lutenant Governor

Eleni Kounalakis

Secretary of State

Shirley Weber

Attorney General

Rob Bonta

U.S. Senate

Alex Padilla

State Treasurer

Fiona Ma

Insurance
Commissioner

Ricardo Lara

State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Tony Thurmond

State Controller

Malia Cohen

Assembly District 49

Mike Fong (D)

Board of Equalization
for District 2

Sally Lieber (D)



CALIFORNIA TEACHERS ASSOCIATION



Virtual

RETIREMENT TRAINING

You're never too young or old to learn about your CalSTRS benefits, programs, and services. There will be materials and discussion of the CalSTRS retirement benefit formula, options, Defined Benefit Supplemental program, survivor benefits, legislative changes, and Social Security Offsets.

Topics

- STRS - Overview of The System and How It Works
- Social Security - Effects on CalSTRS Members

Tuesday, September 6, 2022

Tuesday, October 4, 2022

Thursday, October 6, 2022

Tuesday, November 1, 2022

Thursday, November 3, 2022

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Thursday, January 5, 2023

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Tuesday, February 7, 2023

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Thursday, March 9, 2023

Tuesday, April 4, 2023

Each training is limited to 250 participants. If you receive a message that the training you selected is full, please select a different date.



ALL WORKSHOPS - 4:30 - 6:30 PM

If you need to cancel a training you registered for please email: gdomenici@cta.org