

# TCEA NEWS LETTER

## Temple City Education Association [Union Members]

Website  
[www.tcea9.com](http://www.tcea9.com)

March  
2019

President

Ellen Laughlin

Vice President

Kyla Hjertstedt

Secretary

Samantha Jennings

Treasurer

Sandy Johnson

Membership

Maria Ioele



## [ A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT ]

Hello,

I'm grateful to all the members (and retired members) that volunteered at our Camellia Festival Booth. The families in our community were appreciative of the 875 books that our union donated to them.

Thirty TCEA members and ten Arcadia union members attended our CTA Member benefit event. I learned that our CTA and NEA membership affords us all many discounts. I logged on to the CTA member benefit site and saved 15% on my AT&T bill. It was easy! Try it.

Some of our bargaining team members met and discussed TCHS Athletics class and stipends with the district. Our discussions are cordial and on-going.

It's always great to venture out, meet members, and see familiar faces. The executive board visited members at La Rosa. We brought sandwiches for the entire staff at DDSCLC and ate lunch together with our members this past month. Let your building representative know if you'd like to have us out. We have time built in to our schedules to meet at your site and we'll work to accommodate your schedules. We can meet your school, team, or department. large, medium, or small groups: we'd like to visit and hear from you!

In March there's a short survey going out to members. Please, take the time to respond thoughtfully. Your input is important. It gives us direction and guidance. The survey results inform us as to which three articles of the contract the bargaining team should open for future negotiations.

Twenty-one working days until we're off for the five days Spring Break. :)

Ellen

## 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:

April 8, 2019



## Featured Member

**[Jennifer  
DeVito]**

Hello, My name is Jennifer DeVito. This is my 20<sup>th</sup> year of teaching in Temple City. I have been so fortunate to be at Longden in Kindergarten for all of my 20 years.

When I first started at Longden, I was blessed to learn from and teach with some of our greatest teachers: Debbie Maichrowicz, Karin Stewart, and Leah Newsom.

At Longden and throughout TCEA I get to work with some of my best friends and truly dedicated colleagues that make Temple City Unified a wonderful place to work.

I have been married for almost 20 years to my husband Anthony and have 2 fantastic kids. My son, Jack, is 16 and my daughter, Brooke, is 12. During the summer my family loves to travel all over the United States in our motorhome.

I have been out on medical leave this year receiving treatments for colon cancer. I am so grateful for the support, friendship, and care I received from my TCUSD family. I am genuinely thankful to be apart of Temple City Unified.



## [ Election Committee]

Thank you to Evan Dagger (TCHS) , Pati Harrison (Oak) , and Susan McGee (Emperor) for agreeing to be our election committee. There are many ways to be more active in our union. One way is to serve on a TCEA committee, and another way is attend a CTA conference. Or, you could consider running for an elected position. All positions have a term limit of one year. Please, be on the lookout for information regarding nominations for executive board and building representative positions. Consider running!

CTA GO [www.CTAGO.org](http://www.CTAGO.org) is a terrific resource. It's where CTA promotes its conferences. Here's a list of some upcoming conferences. CTA's Good Teaching Conference, South is located at the Hyatt Regency in Orange County during March 22, 23, 24 2019. It never hurts to ask a principal to pay your way to attend a "Good Teaching" conference and it's a good bargain at \$190.

There's also a hands on training at UCLA during the week of July 28 - August 1, 2019. Finally, there's a Leadership Conference for Region 3 union members in late September 2019.

Take a look at the site and get informed about what CTA has to offer. If you're interested in the Summer Institute, or leadership conference contact a building representative.

## Important Dates:

**First Monday of each month** - Wear YOUR TCEA shirt to support the TCEA Rep. meeting [@TCHS, Rm. 216]

**March 13 and 27** -  
School Board Meeting - Your attendance is appreciated!  
Closed Session Time – 6:00PM  
Open Session Time – 7:00PM



Camellia Festival Booth – Giving the gift of reading.

Mary Sneed and Debbie Dorazio

## New Educator Laws

My name is Shannon Findley and I am the supervising teacher for the Independent Study program. TCEA kindly awarded me a grant to attend the California Consortium for Independent Study 2019 spring conference, which was truly an informative experience for me. The conference is designed to inform attendees of the latest legal and operational practices for districts and school sites. Day one included workshops and presentations of topics relevant to the independent study program that are beneficial to the supervising teachers, counselors, and administrators. My favorite presentation from day one included a comprehensive legislative update, which highlighted changes we can anticipate in 2019 for California Educators.

With the changes at the federal and state level, the presentation gave pertinent information to recent changes and future judicial developments. Some recent legislative changes that were presented include: **AB 2019 (O'Donnell)** which allows an LEA to continue to enroll a student with temporary disability receiving instruction at a hospital in order to: (1) Facilitate timely reentry into student's prior school after hospitalization has ended; or (2) Provide a partial week of instruction to the student, for fewer than five days of instruction per week. This law also authorizes an LEA to award an honorary high school diploma to a student who is terminally ill. Previously, the law entitled a student with temporary disability to receive individual instruction in a hospital provided by the school district.

Student mental health is another area where several new laws have been created, which include **AB 8 (Chu)** that requires a school to have at least one mental health professional for every 600 students generally accessible to students on campus during school hours. **AB 258 (Jones-Sawyer)** which declares intent to increase in-support school services to students in order to break down barriers to academic success. Additionally, **SB 12 (Beall)** declares intent to authorize state and local governments to establish a series of at least 100 centers statewide to address the mental health needs of youth in the state.

Some returning issues are Grade II testing alternatives and school start times. **AB 1951 (O'Donnell)** would have allowed local school districts to offer alternative state-approved test in Grade II, but the bill was vetoed. Current law requires administration of Smarter Balanced Assessment, but O'Donnell is expected to reintroduce the bill this year. Middle and High School start times are another returning issue. **SB 328 (Portantino)** would have prohibited middle schools and high schools from starting earlier than 8:30, but this was also vetoed. This would exclude zero period and "rural" schools, but unclear language is problematic in that there is no definition of "rural" school in Ed Code, and several definitions at federal level. However, this is an important issue to Senator Portantino, and it is expected to return in 2019.

The second day of the conference was the "Compliance Workshop" for districts, County Office of Education, and charter schools. The morning and afternoon was spent reviewing the 2019 compliance changes to Independent Study along with the State Education Codes governing Independent Study. The compliance session was especially enlightening in taking inventory of our program's current practices and procedures to ensure they align with Ed Code mandates. The session's presentation was a comprehensive outline of program procedures that should be currently in place at the site level, district office, and in board policy, which lends itself to the preparation of state audits. I learned a great deal at this conference and left feeling more confident in performing my duties with greater proficiency. I highly recommend this conference and hope to attend next year. Thank you TCEA!