

TCEA NEWS LETTER

Temple City Education Association

[Union Members]

Website
www.tcea9.com

March
2020

President

Ellen Laughlin

Vice President

Kyla Hjertstedt

Secretary

Samantha Jennings

Treasurer

Christy Taylor

Membership

Maria Ioele

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:

March 2, 2020

Upcoming Events

VOTE!

March 3rd – PRIMARY ELECTION

TCEA Union Meeting – March 2nd

TCUSD School Board Meetings

3/11 and 3/25

Closed Session 6 pm

Open Session 7 pm

RELEVANT INFORMATION

Contract piece -

Article VI Transfer and Reassignment

11. Seniority shall be determined by service in the district. Seniority shall be determined by the unit member's first paid day of certificated probationary service in the District. If two or more teachers have the same seniority date, then tiebreaker criteria will be used to identify seniority. See Appendix H for tie breaker criteria.

Featured Member

My name is Marlisse Reina and I have been teaching 8th grade science at Oak for seven years. I am also involved in all things STEAM! I have been the head coach of Oak's Science Olympiad team for the past 5 years, and our team is about to take on its 3rd State competition at Caltech! I have taken our 8th graders on a Spring Break Science trip to Florida for the past 4 years and this year we are going to...Costa Rica! I am our school's STEAM coordinator, and have run our STEAM Club. I also enjoy chaperoning the 8th grade weekend trip to Astrocamp every year. Aside from my passion for science, I am a huge film buff and my favorite season is...awards! I love watching all the nominated movies, and all movies in general (especially scary ones). I love snowboarding, furniture refinishing & DIY painting, fantasy football, going to live theater and live sporting events...go Kings, Lakers, & Dodgers/Angels (yes I am a fan of both)! I consider myself a thrill seeker and am up for any adventure. Most weekends I am spending time with my boyfriend, friends and my fun/crazy Italian family :)

**[Marlisse
Reina]**

Temple City children enjoying coloring and selecting a FREE book during the Camellia Festival at our TCEA booth.





[A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT]

Hello,

A lot of union business got done in February, our shortest month. TCEA passed out over 1,000 books at the Camellia Festival. (Yay! Sandy Johnson) Our negotiating team bargained twice (thankfully avoided impasse) and reached an outstanding tentative agreement. Our organizing team made FAIR SETTLEMENT NOW signs and purchased buttons. YOU rallied out front of your school and put a poster on your car. Pizza and burritos were had at the district office rallies. But most thrilling to our TCEA executive board was the overwhelming majority with which the tentative agreement passed!

The executive board wants to thank Maria Ioele, Kristen McClure, Susan McGee, and Scott Sherman for counting our tentative agreement votes. We also greatly appreciate all the building reps who held the vote at their sites, and turned in their ballot boxes in a timely manner.

All members of the executive board and negotiating team have received a lot of gratitude from our members for their work negotiating the contract. It means a lot to us that you reach out and show your appreciation. Some very kind and grateful people have sent us cards and emails and we wanted to thank YOU for appreciating the US! Gary Ledger, Kelly Priestly, Dawn Newfeld, Karen Campbell, Amy Gerling, Leila Herman, Baltimore Pineada, Maria Ioele, Kevin Slattery, and Randy Stiver are a few of the members who sent us cards or emails showing their appreciation. And THANK YOU to all of you that have stopped, chatted, and told us personally how much you appreciate OUR efforts on YOUR behalf. :))

There's always work to be done and March will be as busy as February. What is TCEA up to? Various members of the executive board, bargaining team members, and committee members have meetings to attend. The topics involve going over our collective bargaining agreement thoroughly and updating the language changes, preparing a new 3-year calendar, stipend committee, and attending the first of three superintendent budget advisory meetings. I'm grateful that March has 31 days in it. We'll need them ALL.



[A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT cont.]

You have a retroactive check to look forward to. :) TCEA is working with the CBO and the payroll office to ensure that retroactive salary and benefits checks, stipends, AND hourly pay are accurate. We hope your check will arrive in May, but if not, expect it before your last day of work on June 11th!

TCEA is looking ahead and sees a bright future. Our executive board and building representative elections will be forthcoming. Consider taking on an active role in TCEA. Reach out to any active member or the executive board to learn ways you can be an active part, or MORE active part of our union.

TCEA is grateful that the superintendent has created a budget advisory committee of which we will be a part of. We are hopeful this means input regarding our issues and concerns will be listened to. It's thrilling (to me) that the district office and school sites have a new method of tracking expenses which will not only enable the district and school board, but also TCEA to have an increased ability to track the revenue and the expenses.

TCEA has heard from our colleagues that they would like to retire and what can TCEA do to get the district to offer a retirement package. (In years past, the district has offered a small amount if a retiree told the district early that they were retiring.) TCEA passed our members' message on to the district and on February 26th the school board agreed to go ahead with PARS and offer members over 55 years of age, with ten (10) years of service in the district, 60% of their salary to resign from TCUSD. Interestingly, one does NOT have to simultaneously retire from CALSTRS which will allow an employee to seek employment in another district.

TCUSD needs a minimum of 14 certificated employees to make this become a reality. Be on the lookout for emails from the district. Certificated staff only have until the middle of April to make this important decision. Members of TCEA's executive board, bargaining team, and building representatives are not experts in the district's early retirement offer. Please ask the right questions to the right people: the district, your financial planner, your loved ones, and CALSTRS. I'm hopeful that 14 certificated members out of the 61 eligible will take the opportunity to resign and receive this reward for your service. You know you deserve it! You earned it!

Twenty-four full days and one minimum day until we're off for five days of Spring Break. Have a glorious break!

Ellen

SCHOOLS & COMMUNITIES FIRST

SCHOOLS & COMMUNITIES FIRST WILL RECLAIM OVER \$12 BILLION EVERY YEAR FOR SCHOOLS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES.

Most of us want similar things: good schools for our children, a healthy family, and safe neighborhoods. But for more than four decades, big corporations have not been paying their fair share, leaving California's school funding falling behind. California now has the most overcrowded classrooms in the U.S. and some of the worst ratios of counselors, librarians, and nurses per student. Schools & Communities First ensures that our schools and communities come first – with the resources to educate all of our kids and the services to support all of our families. It closes commercial property tax loopholes benefiting a fraction of corporations and wealthy investors, without affecting homeowners or renters, and reclaims \$12 billion every year to fund world-class schools and strengthen local economies to lift up all Californians. It's time to invest in California's future.

WHAT DOES SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES FIRST DO?



RECLAIMS over \$12 billion per year for K-12 schools, community colleges, and local communities.



INVESTS in educating all of our kids and in the vital services necessary to support our families and communities.



CLOSES commercial property tax loopholes and ends shady schemes that big corporations and wealthy investors use to avoid paying their fair share of property taxes.



PROVIDES one of the largest tax incentives in a generation to spur new investment in small businesses.



PROTECTS all homeowners and renters by maintaining tax protections for ALL residential property.



LEVELS the playing field for all the businesses that already pay their fair share.



ENSURES strict accountability so that money goes directly to our students and communities.

Join a powerful and growing coalition of labor unions, small business owners, elected officials, teachers, students, housing advocates, social justice groups, and faith-based organizations in supporting the first structural and equitable tax reform in four decades.

HELP QUALIFY SCHOOLS & COMMUNITIES FIRST FOR THE NOVEMBER 2020 BALLOT:

1. Collect petition signatures
2. Spread the word to friends and family
3. Follow the campaign on social media @Schools1stCA
4. Donate to help power our movement

Paid for by Schools and Communities First - Sponsored by a Coalition of Social Justice Organizations Representing Families and Students. Committee major funding from:
Chan Zuckerberg Advocacy (Nonprofit (501(c)(4))
The San Francisco Foundation
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