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CTA CELEBRATE 150 YEARS

1863
2013

AT CTA's urging, free textbooks were printed and distributed at state expense in 1911.

HDTA Bargaining Update

Bargaining next year's contract revisions has taken on a complex nature due to many factors, the largest being the Governor's proposal to radically change how school districts are funded. The Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) would give school districts additional funds based on the number of ELL students they have enrolled and the number of students that take part in the Free and Reduced Lunch program. There is much debate in the Legislature as to how this will look, if it is implemented. Thus, we do not have enough information to reach an agreement for next year.

With information from the Governor's Revised Budget (Mid May) and the legislatively approved budget (end of June), we will have enough information to bargain the best agreement possible for HDTA members.

HDTA leadership is aware that members want the security of knowing work days, salary schedule placements, etc. so that they may appropriately plan. At our April meeting the HDTA Executive Board authorized the bargaining team to negotiate throughout the summer with the hopes of reaching a tentative as soon as possible.

For members who wish to keep up to date on negotiations and other HDTA issues over the summer break, we will announce methods to do so at the end of May.

Your patience is needed and appreciated as we navigate a new budget process.

Jayme's Membership Corner

Finally! Tax season has come to an end and my anxiety level is back down to its normal frenzy. If you have come through this time of the year rather unscathed (thank you, tax dude!) and would like to do something interesting with your money to lower your anxiety and increase your investments, could I recommend a website to you? www.CTAinvest.org has great information. Speaking of investments in this age of cyber-crimes, you might want to consider CTA's ID protection services. Why anyone else would want to be me is beyond my imagination, though!

Summer vacation is right around the corner and it may be that time when you do those chores around the house that get put off during the year while you are grading papers. If so, both www.neamb.com and www.CTAMemberBenefits.org have oodles of deals for you to consider. If you are going to put those chores off again until the fall, travel opportunities and deals abound! Ordering theme park tickets through CTA Member Benefits takes a little bit of time so plan accordingly.

Did you get your copy of The HDTA Contract for some fun summer reading? The more our members know, the stronger we are as a union. So, join Jayme's Book Club and read! Remember that if you have questions about any membership concerns, please feel free to email me at jallsman@hartdistrict.org

Until next time! Jayme

Helpful Links

CTA Instruction & Professional Development
A plethora of resources to assist teachers with classroom instruction.

Dean Vogel, CTA President
Speech to CTA State Council on April 6, 2013.

Carolyn Doggett, CTA Executive Director
Speech to CTA State Council on April 7, 2013.

CTA Member Benefits
CTA site that lists and explains all of the benefits available to members.

Governor Brown as Robin Hood
LA Time column that discusses the Governor's LCFF proposal and some of its impact.

Strickland Resigns from WSHUHSD Board
Paul Strickland, first elected to the board in 2001, resigns to relocate out of state.

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State Council Report

CTA State Council met at the Westin Bonaventure on April 5 – 7, 2013. Some of the highlights of the weekend were:

- Dean Vogel (President) and Eric Heins (Vice President) were re-elected to two-year terms beginning June 26, 2013. They join Secretary/Treasurer Mikki Cichocki who was re-elected in January.
- State Council took positions on 150 legislative bills, including two bills that would streamline the teacher dismissal procedures while preserving due process rights.
- Heard speeches from President Dean Vogel (emphasis on impact of Prop 30 and CTA 150th anniversary) and Executive Director Carolyn Doggett (emphasis on the impact of union on the standard of living and middle class).

State Council meets again in Los Angeles on May 31 – Jun2, 2013.

President's Message

Common Core, Local Control Funding Formula, Teacher Evaluation, Standardized Testing, and the list goes on and on. It seems like every man, woman, and child has an idea about how we should do our jobs, educating the children in our classrooms. It is our new reality and we have to decide on what level we are going to participate. Do we continue to allow Sacramento, Washington DC, and other parts of the political machine dictate standards and practices for our classrooms, or are we going to demand to be part of the conversation? To me, the answer is obvious...we need to be involved at every step of the planning process. For many members that means getting involved at your site and/or the district when decisions are being made about curriculum and teaching practices. For those who want to be more involved, HDTA can provide avenues for training and participation at the county and state levels. HDTA will continue to publicize professional development opportunities available through HDTA and CTA. Much of this information is distributed through your site reps. So please get involved and stay engaged. We need to be the educational leaders when it comes to public education.

In line with attempting to practice what I preach, on May 22 I will be in Sacramento for CTA Presidents Lobby Day. This is an organized event where local presidents get the opportunity to meet with elected legislators that represent our geographic region. I am looking forward to the opportunity and I will report back on my experience in the May newsletter.

WSHUHSD Governing Board member, Paul Strickland has resigned from his position on the board as of May 1, 2013. Paul and his family are relocating out of state. Mr. Strickland has served on the board since 2001 and has been a tireless supporter of public education and the Arts. The remaining members of the Governing Board have options to consider in replacing Paul. These options will be discussed at the May 15, 2013 WSHUHSD Board meeting. If you have interest in the process I encourage you to attend the meeting, listen to the information, and comment if you see fit. HDTA leadership will be in attendance to participate in the process.

We are one week away from the Day of the Teacher. It seems fitting that while most professions get a week, education professional get just one day. To me it speaks volumes to the fact that our students are educated by unsung heroes that go about their jobs without much praise or fanfare. Thank you for your hard work and commitment to our profession. Please take the time that day to praise a colleague for the work we all do.

United,
Brian Breslin