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CTA CELEBRATE 150 YEARS

1863
2013

CTA and the Association of Mexican American Educators co-sponsored legislation creating Day of the Teacher in 1982.

Stay in Touch with HDTA Over the Summer

With bargaining going on throughout the summer we wanted a method to communicate with members during the break. HDTA members may register for summer updates via our MailChimp account at <http://eepurl.com/zMcIf>. You will need a non-school district email address. Please take this step to stay involved with our union over the summer.

Jayme's Membership Corner

My last message of the year! Before we all turn off the electronics in our rooms, toss out the last of the detritus from final projects, submit final grades and lock our doors for the last time for a couple of months, I have a few last words. Those who know me have just snorted and said "just a few?!" My first last words are about summer communication. Our president, Brian Breslin, has invited every member to join MailChimp so we can be updated over the summer regarding negotiations news. I'm always a little worried about signing up on line for things because I am basically inept in this arena. I did it, though, and it didn't hurt a bit! Be sure to use your home/personal email address and not your school email. Sign up today with MailChimp at <http://eepurl.com/zMcIf>

At our last Executive Council meeting, the good people from Logix gave a presentation about their services and products. Logix is now the CTA-endorsed credit union and I wanted to share with you that I have joined up and I am reaping the benefits. The process was easy (ask for Tina at the Bouquet Canyon/Newhall Ranch Rd. location – tell her Jayme sent you!) and the people are as friendly as can be. Before you go to the office, you might want to explore their website at <https://www.logixbanking.com/cta>

Our final round of elections have come and gone and we had almost 50% participation! Good for you all who got there and took part. Those of you who haven't yet managed to vote, I invite to join in the process; I promise it won't hurt and you'll feel better.

I have written about being back on line with CTA membership and once again having the ability to update our information in a timelier manner. I invite you to send me your address and name and work site changes over the summer. You don't have to wait until you get your new membership card to do this. Just be aware that not all of the changes will be reflected on your card that you receive in the fall. The information will be correct in my records and in the CTA records and that is what is important! ☺

Remember that if you have questions about any membership concerns, please feel free to email me at jallsman@hartdistrict.org

Have a great summer vacation! See you in August! Jayme

Helpful Links

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

LA Times Opinion piece on LCFF
The Governor's goal to simplify the system is the right one, but he should be open to refinements.

CTA Invest
CTA-sponsored website that gives members tools to plan their financial future.

LAUSD 5th Grade Teacher Wins Spot on School Board
Monica Ratliff, 5th grade teacher, runs low budget campaign for LAUSD Governing Board Seat.

Contact Us

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Bargaining Update

The bargaining team has started the negotiation process with the district, as we had our first meeting on May 20th. We exchanged proposals and explained our rationale to them and they explained their proposal to us. Questions were asked and answered and we felt that the first day was a step in the right direction. We will meet again at the end of June and in July once the state budget is finalized. It is our hope that we will come to the HDTA board at the beginning of August with a tentative agreement that will be a positive move in the right direction. Please sign up for MailChimp so that you can keep up on what is going on this summer.

President's Message

As I reflect on the past school year, I am reminded of the events that have impacted our lives as teachers. Campaign 2012 seems like a lifetime ago and I remember thinking that once it was over that I could take a moment to catch my breath. Well, that couldn't have been further from the truth. One thing I have learned in my first year as president is that it is doesn't matter what you plan for, it is the things you never see coming that keep you busy. I feel as if I have learned so much in the past 11 months and that I have experienced more than any one person should. The experience has helped this "old dog" learn some new tricks and I intend to put them to good use!

I also think about the tragedies we have seen take place across our country that have shown the true heroism that lives inside of each of us. Seeing and hearing about the amazing lengths that teachers took to protect their students in Sandy Hook and Moore, OK leave me both proud and humbled. These selfless acts are a tremendous reminder of who teachers are and what their true purpose is.

Being president also allows me to be a part of some very special accomplishments. In the past year I have been at ceremonies to recognize our Teachers of the Year, to see Vanessa Perez receive her Equity and Human Rights Award, to honor Gary Schulman for his work as our HDTA Treasurer, and to honor and recognize our many retirees as they move on to the next stage of their lives. These events bring special joy to my job and I feel lucky to get to be a small part of them.

As president, I also get to represent our views outside of the Santa Clarita Valley. My latest opportunity was last Wednesday at the CTA Presidents Lobby Day in Sacramento. It was there that I joined with other local teacher leaders to address our concerns about public education in California. Our focus was on the Governor's Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF). LCFF changes how schools are funded and places extra emphasis on students who are English Language Learners, impoverished, or party of the foster system. It is a funding formula that does not do well by our district or the other districts in the Santa Clarita Valley. I want to assure you that our message that adequate school funding for ALL students in California should be the goal of our governor and legislature was delivered that day and will continue to be delivered. I expect there to be a spirited discussion on LCFF at CTA State Council this weekend and I will keep you posted with any and all updates.

I would like to encourage all of you to subscribe to the HDTA MailChimp account. This will be our only means of communication with members over the summer break. You have my promise that we will only use the medium for HDTA information and there will be no political agendas expressed here.

I want to thank you for the continued honor of being your President. I wish everyone a safe and happy summer and I look forward to an exciting 2013/14!

United,
Brian Breslin