

IN THIS ISSUE

- President's Message
- Negotiations
- Contract Reminder 10.3.1
- The Standard Campaign
- HDTA Conference App
- New HDTA Site Reps
- Fall Break Selfies

HDTA on the Web

- hartdistrictteachers.org
- [HDTA Facebook](#)
- [Twitter @HartDTA](#)
- [CTA Website](#)
- [NEA Website](#)
- [HDTA Mailchimp](#)

Helpful Links

- [Conference Request Form](#)
- [Grievance Form](#)
- [CTA Instruction & PD](#)
- [Membership Benefits](#)
- [CTA Invest](#)
- [The Standard](#)
- [WiSH Foundation](#)

HDTA EXECUTIVE BOARD (2019-2020)

President:

John Minkus

Vice President:

Wade Williams

Treasurer:

Gary Schulman

Secretary:

Jennifer Davidson

Member-at-Large:

Kellie Kontis, Christine

Livermont & Dianna

Rose

Chief Negotiator:

Michael Copenhagen

Membership:

Christina Tolisano

Grievance: Sean O'Brian

Elections:

Cassandra Perez

Webmaster: Tom Gavin

State Council Rep: Cesar Arevalo & Andrea Molina



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings to all, As I sit in the office contemplating that Friday will be November 1st, we are fast approaching our first Thanksgiving week break. Amazing, isn't it? As was relayed at Rep Council, we understand there has been much dialogue among our members regarding this new calendar and we are waiting to put out our bargaining survey until after the week off. Please be reminded that our HDTA by-laws recognize the importance of hearing our members voices and the bargaining survey is one of the most important ways you can participate. More on this will follow as we get closer to December when the district's 1st Interim

budget report is released and we have experienced the new break.

On a sour note, these past few weeks I've hit a rough patch where it seems that administration is doing what I preached against in my first board speech. There seems to be a concerted effort by administration to set-up teachers vs. teachers, counselors vs. teachers and students vs. teachers. I understand it is not this way at all sites, but this is NOT what the Hart district is all about. Please don't fall into this trap, we must stay united and continue to improve teaching and learning.

With that being said, I want to issue a stern warning in regard to your words and actions. Although Ed Code is explicit about recording

without permission, we know students record anything and everything. These actions are not necessarily nefarious, yet often are seen out of context and can portray what I call "typical student/teacher interaction" in a negative light. Assume you are always being recorded.

Finally, I want to say thank you to all of our reps, especially our newly created position of At Large, who have been vigilant in their support of our members and our contract. Our meetings come with excellent dialogue and keep people informed about what is going in the Hart District. Keep up the good work. Happy Halloween, only six more weeks of classes.

Together,
John Minkus

Did you know?

For ANY changes to your health benefits, please contact Melissa Hernandez at the district office.

Special Education Teachers - IEP LEA Coverage

IEP coverage should be spread equally between administrators and counselors; counselors should not be the only ones called on to serve as the LEA representative for the meeting. You should be asking the administrators to cover your IEP's in equal distribution to the counselors.

NO MONKEYING AROUND | Negotiations on the Horizon



The survey for negotiations will go out right after Thanksgiving break. Know that salary and benefits are always important and are always on the bargaining table. The district budget has historically been off by 3%, which is within the margin of error, but now it is off by 7%, meaning that the district has a lot more money than they claim to have. This favors

us in terms of negotiating for salary and benefits. For the survey, please list things specific areas of the contract you would like to see changed.

Please sign up for [Mail Chimp](#) so you can receive and then submit back the survey. You will have to enter a private email account, and not your one through hartdistrict.org. You will not be receiving tons of emails, just a few every so often that are relevant to HDTA business.

SITE REPRESENTATIVES

Academy of the Canyons & Learning Post:

Don Musella

Arroyo Seco:

Thomas Van Dyke

Bowman: Mike Coombe

Canyon: John Albert & Cesar Arevalo

Castaic: Lori Hermelin

CEPA: Christy Lennarz

Golden Valley: Darren

LaRue & Michael Bunch

Hart: Sam Modugno &

Lynn Yale

La Mesa: Kathy Gettman

CEPA: Christy Lennarz

Placerita: Edward Carr

Psychologists: Eboni Shields

Rancho Pico: Doug Smith

Rio Norte: Julie Schneider

Saugus: Megan Botton & Marty Fricke

Sequoia: Fidel Garica

Sierra Vista: Skye

Ostrom

SPL: Kaitlyn Wilson

TLC: Anna Bettencourt

Valencia: Maya Loch,

Gene Truex-Hill &

Stephen Whelan

West Ranch: Laura

Erickson & Mike Kane



The Voice

Christina

Tolisano

Editor-in-Chief

HDTA Headquarters

26111 Bouquet Canyon Rd.

Suite H-2

Santa Clarita, CA 91350

661.255.0311

info@hartdistrictteachers.org

Office Hours

9-4pm

*Feel free to leave a message by phone or email. We will be in touch as soon as possible.

CONTRACT REMINDER

10.3.1 Evaluations

Each permanent unit member who has been employed at least ten (10) years with the District, is properly credentialed and whose previous evaluation rated the member as "Meets District Standards" shall receive a minimum of **one (1) written evaluation every five (5) school years at a conference between the unit member and the evaluator.** This process may only be used if the evaluator and the unit member being evaluated agree.

Either party may withdraw consent at any time. If only the minimum of one (1) required evaluation every five (5) years is given, it shall take place prior to March 1st of the school year in which it is given. Nothing in this paragraph shall preclude the evaluator or designee from conducting observations and/or evaluations each year.

[Request for 5 Year Evaluation Program.](#)

For more information regarding the contract, visit the [HDTA Site](#).

*Active Links in Section



Campaign Oct. 1-Nov. 1

CTA-endorsed Disability insurance from Standard Insurance Company (The Standard) replaces a portion of your income when an illness or injury keeps you out of work for an extended period of time. **If we have 5 percent of total HDTA membership sign**

up for disability insurance through this enrollment campaign, then you can get this insurance with no questions asked about any prior health conditions.

Contact your site rep to the time and location for the upcoming visit to your campus. **No appointment is necessary.**

BETTER THAN DISNEYLAND | Money for Conferences

HDTA unit members can request funds to attend a conference. The [form](#) must be received at least 45 days before the 1st day of the conference by our HDTA treasurer, Gary Schulman. This ensures timely approval by the HDTA Executive Board and HDTA Council. There is a maximum available of \$3500 per school year for each unit member. The unit member must be in good standing to request conference funds.

Did you know?

Since August 2019...

4 HDTA Approved Conferences

\$4,250 Total Expenses Covered

*Active Links in Section

All ABOARD New HDTA site representatives



Lori Hermelin, Castaic

"When I started teaching 20+ years ago, I went to class every day excited and energized. I was a member of the union, but not very involved. Starting at a new school with a very small staff has reenergized that spirit. I volunteered to be the site rep as a way to help our professional community at Castaic grow. I have always appreciated the hard work that the union does on behalf of all teachers. It happens a little bit behind the scenes, but seeing the work of our union leaders first hand emphasizes to me the importance of getting involved and contributing. I'm glad to be part of that support network."



Fidel Garcia, Sequoia

"The years go by so fast that before I realized, I had been teaching 19 years. There are only five teachers on our site and as the senior teacher with no children still living at home and having completed my credentialing education, I felt I had the time to dedicate to attend HDTA meetings and disseminate information from the meetings to my colleagues at my site. This is the main reason I decided to volunteer as a site rep. Because I do have more disposable time than my colleagues and I am approaching retirement in the next 4 to 8 years I felt it would be important to understand the union better and how it can support my colleagues and me in the classroom and out of the classroom."



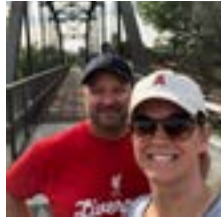
SEL(IE) CARE

Our members submitted photos to represent how they embrace R&R and a little bit of fun over break.



Kevin Flores (Valencia) - "I like to rest by watching a movie with my family at home."

Julie Schneider (Rio Norte) - "Lunch with an old high school friend at Lucille's on Sunday to catch up."



Laura Arrowsmith (West Ranch) - "Todd and I love to walk on the many trails throughout our city. Lots of sightings of fellow Hart District folks!"

Kathlee Coleman (Sierra Vista) - "Powerlifting meet at my gym (lifting is part of my self care)! Set two new personal bests! Nice to have Monday off as another recovery day!"



Gene Truex-Hill (Valencia) - "My spouse and I went to South Lake Tahoe to winterize her family's house there and saw this coyote in the neighborhood."

Mindy Moore (Rio Norte) - "Loved watching the Oregon State Beavers Football team (my son included) beat the UCLA Bruins at the Rose Bowl."

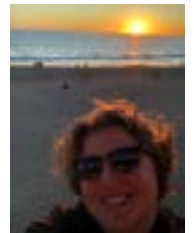


Marzena Langdon (Valencia) - "Visiting 'my college peeps' - Magda and Justin - at West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV."



Laura Solarez (West Ranch) - "Family at the Rose bowl for UCLA football!"

Karen Long (Placerita) - "This picture was taken from the balcony of my favorite Ventura getaway spot...it's like water to a weary soul!"



Rachel (DeMik) Berger (Placerita) - "I got married on October 5th!"

Sarah Goodwin (Arroyo Seco) - "I helped out in my Kindergartner's class for a few hours (which we both loved) and then got myself a pedicure."



Ryan Correll (West Ranch) - "My wife Lexi and I relaxing for Fall Break with our view of Riviera beach in San Clemente."

Sami Coe (West Ranch) - "Maddi and Mommy day!"



Brianna Mowry (Sierra Vista) - "When I'm not conducting band or choir, I love spending time at Disneyland, especially during the holidays! I love munching on popcorn or dole whip while we watch the Disneyland Band, or cruising the shops looking for a new set of ears to add to my collection. It's my favorite place to spend a day enjoying the beautiful California sunshine!"