

sdtaHOTLINE

September 22, 2014

CTA • NEA

14/15 – 2

Message from the President

Why Your Voice Matters

Dear Members,

In this Hotline, you will see a number of meetings SDTA is holding at your sites where we will be bringing you information about our contract, the November election, and benefits available to you through your CTA membership. In addition, you will see mention of two meetings where SDTA members have a chance to give input to the SUHSD.

The first is through the monthly consultation meeting SDTA holds with the District. This month we will be discussing the hurried implementation of School Loop and the need for increased training opportunities, among other pressing, district-wide issues. As members, this is an opportunity for you to share your concerns with your representatives and for them to address them directly to the Superintendent and his staff. If you are concerned about anything on a district-wide level, please don't hesitate to bring it to the attention of a site rep for inclusion in one of these monthly discussions.

The next opportunity is one that is being made available through the District's strategic planning process. This Strategic Plan will guide the Board's and District's priorities over the next many years as we prepare for demographic and physical growth. It is crucial that teachers, counselors, librarians, and Special Education staff make their voices heard about the issues facing our students and our sites so that they may be incorporated into such a plan. Without our input, the District and Board will continue to make priorities and decisions based upon their individual experiences and understandings of the issues that confront us daily. We must grab hold of this opportunity to become involved and join the conversation.

-Edith Salvatore

KNOW YOUR CONTRACT MEETINGS COMING TO YOUR SITE

SDTA President Edith Salvatore and our CTA Executive Director Halimah Mekki will be visiting sites over the next two weeks to discuss our current contract, especially leaves and evaluations, as well as the important race for State Superintendent of

Public Instruction coming up this November. This is also a great opportunity to meet your site reps and get your questions answered. And as if that isn't enough, we're bringing food!

Date	Site	Location
Tuesday, September 23 rd	Menlo- Atherton	Staff Lounge @ lunch
Wednesday, September 24 th	Sequoia & District Office	Staff Lounge @ lunch
Tuesday, September 29 th	East Palo Alto Academy	???* @ lunch
Tuesday, September 30 th	Woodside	Room E-5 @ lunch
Wednesday, October 1 st	Redwood	Staff Lounge @ lunch
Thursday, October 2 nd	Carlmont	Staff Lounge @ lunch

*Call the office and let us know where we can meet at EPAA!

SCHOOL LOOP

There continues to be a lot of confusion and frustration among members about our recent move to School Loop. Chief among these seems to be a desire for increased training opportunities offered during the work day and a quick-reference text manual (as opposed to videos and slide shows) available. SDTA will be addressing this with the District at our upcoming monthly consultation meeting on Monday, September 29th. If you have specific concerns, please pass them along to your site representatives to bring to the meeting. Members are also invited to attend the meeting in person if they are interested.

SIGN UP FOR DISABILITY INSURANCE WITH THE STANDARD!

SDTA is happy to announce that we are doing a special campaign with The Standard to offer our members the opportunity to enroll in disability and / or life insurance without answering health questions. This means that you can qualify for disability or life insurance despite pre-existing conditions or other questions. All we need to do is meet our goal of 25 new enrollees during the month of October. You will be receiving documentation at home from The Standard and you can sign up online at their website,

but for those of you who have specific questions or who want help filling out the paperwork, we will also be hosting lunch meetings at each site with a representative from The Standard. And there will be pizza, too!

Date	Site	Location
Wednesday, October 1 st	Sequoia	Staff Lounge @ lunch
Thursday, October 2 nd	Woodside	Room E-5 @ lunch
Tuesday, October 7 th	Menlo-Atherton	Staff Lounge @ lunch
Wednesday, October 8 th	Redwood	Staff Lounge @ lunch
Thursday, October 9 th	Carlmont	Staff Lounge @ lunch
TBD	EPAA	TBD @ lunch

STRATEGIC PLANNING

As you may have read in a recent email from the Superintendent, the Board of Trustees decided at a recent meeting to embark upon a strategic planning process over the next few months. The final product will be a plan that will guide the District and the Board as they set priorities and follow them to chart the course of our district, new small school sites, and other initiatives. If you have input to give about issues in your subject area, at your site, or in your communities, please make a point to attend.

Date	Site	Location
Monday, September 29 th	District Office	Birch Conference Room @ 11am
Monday, September 29 th	Menlo-Atherton	Library @ 3:15pm
Tuesday, September 30 th	Sequoia & Redwood	MPR @ 3:50pm
Wednesday, October 1 st	Carlmont	Student Union @ 4pm
Thursday, October 2 nd	Woodside	Wild Cat Room @ 3:30pm

NOVEMBER ELECTION ENDORSEMENTS

Because our members live in many of the surrounding areas, we will be giving you information regarding ballot endorsements made by CTA and by our affiliates throughout the Bay Area. While all races are important and there may be many local races that have direct effects on our colleagues in the region, the biggest issue for education state-wide is the race for State Superintendent of Public Instruction. Current Superintendent **Tom Torlakson**, a former science teacher and California legislator, is being challenged by Marshall Tuck, a technology billionaire who openly supports corporately-controlled charter schools and the dissolution of teacher tenure laws. Torlakson, on the other hand, values the voices of educators and understands that in many cases the due process rights afforded to teachers with "permanent" status are often what allow them to speak up for their students and communities. If you do nothing else on the ballot this November, please remember to **VOTE FOR TOM TORLAKSON**.

CTA ENDORSES:

- **Jerry Brown** for Governor
- **TOM TORLAKSON** for St. Supt. of Inst.
- **Kamala Harris** for Attorney General
- **Dave Jones** for Insurance Commissioner
- **Alex Padilla** for Secretary of State
- **Betty Yee** for Controller
- **Gavin Newsom** for Lt. Governor
- **John Chiang** for Treasurer

CA State Assembly:

Tim Sbranti (AD 16)	David Campos (AD 17)
Rob Bonta (AD 18)	Phil Ting (AD 19)
Bill Quirk (AD 20)	Kevin Mullin (AD 22)
Rich Gordon (AD 24)	Nora Campos (AD 27)
Evan Low (AD 28)	Tony Thurmond (AD 15)

CA State Senate:

Mike McGuire (SD 02) **Bob Wieckowski** (SD 10)
 *More endorsements available at www.cta.org

Join our Facebook Group for Updates
<http://www.facebook.com/groups/MySDTA>

Your SDTA Site Reps:

Carlmont
 Katya Burton
 Connie Dominguez
 Maddie Fox
 Cary Milia*
 Hai Nguyen
 Carolyn Wade*
 Kelly Redmon
 (communications)

Menlo-Atherton
 Tim Bowler*
 Nancy Day
 Karina Escobar-Weaver
 Tania Kranzler*
 Patrick Maier
 Liane Strub
 (available opening)

Sequoia
 Belén Álvarez-Iglesias
 Debolina Dutta
 Jonathan Hoffman
 Guadalupe Navarrete
 Edith Salvatore*
 Dylan Shelley*
 Kate Sheehan

Woodside
 Adele Alvarez
 Rick DeFrancesco
 Greg Gruszynski*
 Diana House
 Tony Mueller
 Sue Rhodehouse
 Marian Welch

Redwood
 Javier Galaviz
 Mike Martin
 Devon Mullane

District Office
 (available opening)
 *bargaining team

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Maddie Fox
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Liane Strub
(available opening)

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Debolina Dutta
Jonathan Hoffman
Guadalupe Navarrete
Edith Salvatore*
Dylan Shelley*
Kate Sheehan

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Adele Alvarez
Rick DeFrancesco
Greg Gruszynski*
Diana House
Tony Mueller
Sue Rhodehouse
Marian Welch

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