

sdtahotline

January 29, 2016

CTA • NEA

15/16 – 7

Message from the President

This time of year is often hard for our new teachers as the March 15th non-reelection deadline looms. If you are a temporary or probationary employee, these are some basic facts you should keep in mind:

- By law, the district must notify probationary employees of their intention to non-reelect them prior to March 15th. This is done officially by the Board of Trustees at a regular business meeting. This year, the District intends to do this at their February 27th Board meeting. Employees who are being non-reelected will be notified by their site administration ahead of that date.
- The Sequoia District has long believed in offering its employees the option of choosing to resign in lieu of being non-reelected. This decision is entirely yours and has no impact on your ability to collect unemployment or qualify for COBRA benefits.
- The District has no legal responsibility to notify temporary teachers by the March 15th deadline. However, employees who are hired as Temporary under Education Code 44909 will receive notification similar to Probationary employees.
- Non-44909 Temporary teachers are considered to have signed a one-year contract and are not guaranteed a position beyond the last day of that year. Often temporary teachers are indeed re-hired by the district, but members should not rely on this as it has also happened often that employees have waited to hear from their site about their assignment for the next year while administration is actively interviewing and hiring their replacement. Until you have signed a contract for the next school year, you should consider that you do not have a job and should be pursuing openings in other districts. Talk to your site management and ask them their intentions. Don't let loyalty to your site prevent you from having a job next year!

If you have any questions or concerns about your employment status, please contact one of your site reps or contact me directly.

-Edith Salvatore

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS and TRAININGS

Planning for Retirement Workshop,

Tuesday February 9th 4:30-6:30pm, offered by Golden Gate Service Center Council at CTA HQ at 1705 Murchison Drive in Burlingame, Room 102. The workshop is designed to provide information to those for whom retirement is imminent as well as those not planning to retire for several years and even those in their first five years of teaching. Topics Covered include: STRS – Overview of The System and How It Works, Social Security – Effects on Teachers, and Current Legislative and Political Issues. RSVP by email @ GGSCC@cta.org or ask for Lynne at (650) 552-5571 by: **Thursday, February, 4, 2016.**

CTA GOOD TEACHING CONFERENCE

NORTH, APRIL 15-17: SDTA's Legislative Council voted to make 10 scholarships available for members wishing to attend the CTA Good Teaching Conference in San Jose April 15-17. Our hope is to to send members from each of our schools.

The CTA Good Teaching Conferences are designed to support excellent teaching and learning practices for classroom teachers. They offer a variety of diverse workshops in curriculum content areas for K-12 teachers, provide opportunities for professional development and offer time to network and share ideas with colleagues and experts in the field. For more information about the conference, visit cta.org/en/Professional-Development/Events/Conferences.aspx SDTA will cover the registration fee of up to 10 members. **If you are interested in requesting this scholarship, please email the office at sdta2@sbcglobal.net to put your name on the list!**

SPECIAL EDUCATION WORKSHOP,

APRIL 14TH from 4pm-6pm at our CTA Headquarters building in Burlingame. If you are interested in attending, please forward topics you would like to learn about to sdta@sbcglobal.net so that we can attempt to tailor the presentation to our needs and stay tuned for RSVP Information.

What SDTA Means to Me

Genevieve Tep, Carmont Music Teacher

SDTA has secured excellent health benefits for teachers. Last year my husband had major emergency surgery followed by a long hospital stay, physical therapy, daily lab tests, more emergency visits, etc. It was incredibly stressful, however, knowing that my health insurance was excellent gave my husband and I piece of mind. We have been able to focus on his recovery, and not worry about paying our bills. After six months of major use of our health insurance our out of pocket expenses have been less than \$100 in pharmacy co-pays. Without SDTA's excellent contract negotiation we would probably have lost our home due to hospital bills.

Tax Time

It's that time again. As you are collecting your receipts and W-2s, don't forget that if you itemize, your union dues are deductible. Below are the monthly amounts (based on category) for the 2014-2015 year and the 2015-2016 year. Because the dues amount changed for 15-16, the monthly amount for is slightly different. Most employees have dues deducted on an 11-month basis, regardless of whether they have elected to receive 11 or 12 paychecks. Some new members may have had dues deducted on a 10-month plan. If you did not receive a paycheck in August, or if you received a paycheck in August and there were no dues deducted, you should use the 10-month numbers.

11-month Plan

Category (% of full time)	Monthly (14/15)	6 months (Jan-June)	Monthly (15/16)	5 months (Aug-Dec)	Total*
60%-100%	105.09	630.54	105.82	529.10	1159.64
50%-60%	61.73	370.38	62.23	311.15	681.53
33%-50%	54.50	327	54.86	274.30	601.30
25%-32%	40.32	241.92	40.68	203.40	445.32
< 25%	36.73	220.38	37.02	185.10	405.48

10-month Plan

Category (% of full time)	Monthly (14/15)	6 months (Jan-June)	Monthly (15/16)	4 months (Sep-Dec)
60%-100%	115.60	693.60	116.40	465.60
50%-60%	67.90	407.40	68.45	273.80
33%-50%	59.95	359.70	60.35	241.40
25%-32%	44.35	266.10	44.75	179.00
< 25%	40.40	242.40	40.73	162.90

* This total only applies to those members who were on the 11-month pay plan for both 2013-14 and 2014-15. Remember that if you were hired new LAST year, you may have been on the 10-month plan then, and the 11-month plan now.

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/MySDTA>

Your SDTA Site Reps:

Carmont

Katya Burton
Connie Dominguez
Cary Milia*
Hai Nguyen
Genevieve Tep
Carolyn Wade*
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(communications)

Menlo-Atherton

Tim Bowler*
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Sequoia

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Octavio Rodriguez
Edith Salvatore*
Jasmine Schimek
Dylan Shelley*
Kate Sheehan

Woodside

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Rick DeFrancesco
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Diana House
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*bargaining team rep

Redwood

Javier Galaviz*
Mike Martin
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EPAA
Tamesha Wise