

sdta HOTLINE

August 24, 2016

CTA • NEA

16/17 – 1

Message from the President

This fall finds me beginning my twentieth year in the Sequoia district and my sixth as President of SDTA. I am excited to be back and working to make sure your years are the best they can be. To our returning members, welcome back to another school year! This year has seen the biggest hiring boom in recent memory with some ninety or more new hires district-wide. Hopefully you are all taking the opportunity to get to know our new colleagues and welcoming them into our district. Hopefully I have already gotten an opportunity to meet you over the past few years or at the new teacher luncheon last week. If not, please don't hesitate to stop me in the hall if you see me on your campus. I look forward to getting out to all our sites over the next month.

-Edith Salvatore

ATTENTION NEW MEMBERS

As a new employee of the school district and a member of CTA, you are entitled to certain benefits that expire after 120 days of employment. Chief among these is the opportunity to enroll in disability insurance with The Standard without any sort of medical exam or medical background check. This means you can qualify for coverage despite pre-existing conditions if you apply within the first four months of this year. To get more information about this and other benefits available to you, visit <http://www.cta.org/en/Member-Services/Member-Benefits.aspx>

TEACHER CONTACT LIMITS

A reminder to all teachers that we have limits to the total number of student contacts per teacher, but with the exception of a safety cap of 50 in PE we do not have individual class caps. If you are released from teaching for another duty (department chair, technology, coaching, etc.), then your limit is based upon the number of sections you are teaching. Full-time teachers should not have more than 172 student contacts over five teaching periods. This amount is prorated for part-time teachers and if you have an assignment split between the classroom and PE, it's as if you have two part-time assignments.

% of Full-time	Classroom	PE
100	172	231
80	138	185
60	103	139
40	69	92
20	34	46

CONSTRUCTION ON CAMPUS

We begin the school year under construction yet again. As always, we hope that the contractors and site management are able to work together to prioritize student learning and minimize disruptions. If you have had difficulty getting into your classroom or locating items that were packed because of summer work or relocation, please contact your site reps so that they can work with administration to rectify situations. As the year continues, do not hesitate to forward unanswered questions or concerns about construction to your site reps so that we can assist in uncovering the answers.

CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS

Negotiations for the 2016-17 contract began last spring and will continue this fall. This means that there have been no changes to the terms of the contract nor the salary schedule from last year at this point and that all the provisions of the 2014-16 agreement are still in force. If you moved to a new step or column on the salary schedule, your August paycheck should reflect that, but otherwise your salary will be the same as it was last year.

LOUISIANA FLOODING VICTIMS

More than 20,000 Louisiana residents have been rescued over the past few days and more than 10,000 are in shelters, mostly in the Baton Rouge area. Several of the state's parishes have been declared disaster areas, and more are likely to be soon. NEA is encouraging members and others to use this secure web site (<http://www.neafoundation.org/pages/louisiana-flood-relief-fund>) to make donations to LAE members and schools who are in need. All donations will be directed through LAE and routed to those most in need. We appreciate anything you can do and please consider sharing the link to the donation page on your social media platforms.

SDTA THURSDAYS ~ Show your SDTA pride on Thursdays this school year!

SDTA representatives hope you'll join us in supporting your bargaining team on Thursdays this year. If you need to get a new t-shirt, please email the office at sdta2@sbcglobal.net with your request. We have t-shirts in black and ash gray in a variety of sizes (though, sadly, women's small and medium shirts are limited and on back-order). If you are requesting a replacement shirt, we would appreciate a \$10 donation to cover the cost of the shirt. For new members, your first shirt is on us!

KNOW YOUR CONTRACT LUNCHES

GRAB SOME FOOD

GET SOME INFO

MEET YOUR COLLEAGUES

SDTA is continuing the tradition of the “Know Your Contract” lunch meetings. This meeting gives us a chance to review certain “high traffic” portions of the contract, including leaves and evaluations while getting together and having a bite to eat.

In the past we have heard from members that they had already met with their evaluator prior to hearing our clarifications and suggestions and so we have scheduled the meetings for earlier in the year this time around. We hope that you will be able to join us for some food, camaraderie, and information.

Date	Site	Location
August 30	Woodside	Room E-5
September 6	Redwood	Room P-2
September 7	Sequoia/District	Staff Lounge
September 8	Carlmont	Staff Lounge
September 13	Menlo-Atherton	Staff Lounge
September 15	EPAA	Room 208

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

Your SDTA Site Reps:

Carlmont

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

Menlo-Atherton

Tim Bowler*
Manuel Delgado
Karina Escobar-Weaver
Tania Kranzler*
Patrick Maier
Daryl Solomon
Liane Strub
Ana Ventura

Sequoia

Belén Álvarez-Iglesias
Debolina Dutta
Nick Muys
Guadalupe Navarrete
Octavio Rodriguez
Edith Salvatore*
Jasmine Schimek
Dylan Shelley*

Woodside

Greg Gruszynski*
Diana House
Alexandrina Pretto
Felicia Yang

East Palo Alto Academy

Caren McDonald

Redwood

Javier Galaviz*
Mike Martin
Maureen Svenson

District Office

(available opening)

*bargaining team