

LVEA TODAY



Parcel Tax Renewal Update

Our District's Parcel Tax, Measure E, is set to expire in June 2016. It provides \$2.3 Million every year to our district. As an association, we must help convince our community to extend this measure which will require a 66 2/3% affirmative vote to pass. It will provide financial stability to our district and directly enhance educational programs for our students. Losing this revenue source would have the same financial impact as increasing K-3 class sizes from the current ratio of 24:1 to 31:1 OR losing 175 sections at the secondary level. Either scenario could lead to the loss of up to 35 teaching positions.

LVEA shares the District's desire to continue this revenue source for many years. The District recently contracted a Revenue Measure Feasibility Study from a company called True North. Over the course of one month this spring, True North conducted a phone survey of 611 Las Virgenes residents, and reported that an astounding 78% of our community favors extending Measure E! This is great news that such a large percentage of our community supports our schools! If it gets on the ballot, we must get those people to vote. All local elections hinge on OUR collective efforts of phone calls and community outreach. Please plan on participating in the fall to help get this crucial measure passed. The District will decide by July whether to put Measure E up for renewal – stay tuned for updates and get ready to campaign for our schools!

SPSA – Your input is very important!

All schools create a Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) at the beginning of each school year. These site plans have become increasingly important in recent years, and it's very important that all employees take this seriously. The SPSA is something that, by law, you must follow. If you are not giving input into the development of the plan or are not reviewing it with your colleagues, you may have to live with something you don't support or want. Your input and approval of your SPSA is essential! PLEASE take an active role in creating this site plan and make sure you review and approve it *before* your principal sends it to the district. All schools will begin work on their 2015-16 SPSAs soon – get involved!

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We Honor Our Own (WHO) Award

LVEA honored Diane McEvoy of Calabasas High School for her long-term support of her colleagues at the April 27 Bay Valley WHO awards in Universal City. WHO stands for We Honor Our Own, and Diane is truly deserving of this honor. Here is the honoree description that was read about her – note that the reference to “administration” was past leadership from about fifteen years ago:

Diane has been active with LVEA for over 30 years. She has been a true advocate for certificated employees during her entire career. Years ago as a site rep, she challenged the overreaching and disruptive influence of the administration at her school and district. This resulted in her transfer to a different site for her LVEA activities and support of another rep. With the help of CTA, it was fortunately reversed half-way through the next school year. Diane has since been active on our Executive Board as Recording Secretary and has stood up for teachers in English Language Arts to make curriculum more relevant for students while maintaining rigor. She has served as an ethical backbone for the association for years as well as the official “grammar checker” for major LVEA correspondence. Recently, she attended a CTA Human Rights conference and joined our Bargaining Team. Diane’s influence has expanded along with her experience and contributions, and we truly appreciate her efforts as one of our best and most articulate role models.

Workers Comp

Most of our members don’t think about Workers’ Comp (WC) until they get hurt on the job. Don’t let this be you – plan ahead! Over the last few years, LVEA leaders have had to represent several teachers with WC issues. Most of the time we are getting called in after the situation has gotten so bad that the LVEA member can’t stand it anymore. Please use the following tips to ensure your rights are being protected:

- 1) You can get YOUR doctor to be your WC doctor. There is a form he/she needs to fill out (go to LVEA’s website “documents page” at http://lveateachers.com/?page_id=14 and click on Workmans Comp form) that allows him/her to be your primary care giver through the WC process. If you do not have this form filled out, you will be assigned a doctor by the district. This form must be filled out and on file PRIOR to any injury.
- 2) Fill out an incident report when you get hurt at work. If you don’t do this, you will not be covered by the WC system.
- 3) You will also need to fill out a workers’ comp claim (your office manager will have them). BE SPECIFIC in your description. Make sure you describe how the injury occurred and list all of the body parts involved. For example, if you fell and hurt your knee, think about the fall- did you stop yourself on the ground jarring your wrists? If you did, make sure you put that in the report.
- 4) PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE overly communicate about what is going on with your treatment, concerns, or questions. Make sure you contact Lori Fitzpatrick in the district office. She is LVUSD’s point person for WC issues. Also, contact LVEA so we know what is going on.
- 5) When you get a doctor’s note give it to your principal, give it to the DO, and CHECK to see that they got it. Let LVEA know what is happening too.
- 6) When you are taken out of work by a doctor (either for an injury, illness, pregnancy, ANYTHING) upon your return you must have an “accommodations meeting.” This meeting MUST occur before you step foot back into work. It is a meeting to discuss the recommendations your doctor has made for you to come back to work. PLEASE contact LVEA when you are about to have one of these meetings.

New laws have been passed for the WC system to benefit the WC insurers- NOT YOU. If you aren’t vocal and aren’t reaching out to LVEA, you will likely fall through the cracks. If you have any WC questions please contact Lori Fitzpatrick in the DO at 818-878-5209 or LVEA.