

LVEA TODAY



Thanks for a Great 2014-15!

Thanks to ALL employees for another great school year! It's been a tough one with all the curricular changes, CAASPP, Common Core (now called CA State Standards – CASS), Ren Star, LCAP, SPSA, NGSS, Writers Workshop, Core Lit, Math Adoption, Writing Assessments, etc...wow – I can't believe you survived all of these and other changes! As we visited all campuses, we saw dedicated employees strategizing on how to integrate these new changes into curricula in creative ways to help our students. YOU are the backbone of this district that will lead LVUSD to continue as one of the best districts in the state of California!

Once again we want to thank our retirees for their years of service! Twenty-six certificated members as well as other managerial and classified employees are moving on to another chapter in life this June. Together, these retirees have dedicated over 1,000 years of service to our students, schools and colleagues.

As we wind down the school year, it's time to reflect on your accomplishments, learn from your challenges and get some hard earned rest this summer. Whatever you do and wherever you travel this summer, have a fantastic, relaxing and satisfying break!

Negotiations Update

The LVEA/LVUSD Negotiating Teams have begun working on our new contract that begins July 1, 2015. All contract articles are open for discussion, and there are many important issues; however, our members clearly stated in recent survey results that increasing salaries is crucial! Your negotiating team of Joanne Kress (Chair), Lisa Hatfield, Michael LaFrenz, Diane McEvoy, Darci Miller, Joan Woods, Christine Zahka and Jake Anderson (CTA Staff) is meeting with the District two days in mid-June and two days in early July. During each of the past two summers, we reached salary and benefit increase settlements during the month of July for the following school years. If that happens this June/July, we'll inform all members via personal email and probably conduct an electronic ratification vote during the summer – not in late August with paper ballots as we've done the past two years.

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We need your personal email address!
If you received this newsletter electronically, then you're one of the 90% of our membership that has already provided us with one. If the negotiations team reaches a settlement this summer, we'll need your input. If you only received a paper copy of this newsletter, then we need your personal email address, so we can keep you informed and possibly conduct an electronic ratification vote on a salary/benefits increase this summer!

California Teachers Association State Budget Update - Take Action!

This is a critical time in the legislative process as lawmakers are entering negotiations on the budget that they must adopt by June 15th. We appreciate the work some of you have done thus far to help our lobbying efforts aimed at urging the legislature to keep the promise to California students.

As we said earlier this month, the governor's May Revision is very good for schools and we continue to support his proposal. Schools are getting the bulk of the revenues to restore funding cuts shouldered during the toughest recession years. The money going to Prop. 98 is funding that is owed to our schools and students, mandated by law, and helps keep us on the road to recovery.

Unfortunately, there is disagreement in the legislature on how to fund child care.

The governor and the legislature took child care out of the Prop. 98 side of the budget in 2011 and the Education Coalition, of which we are a part, supported that action. The governor kept child care out of his May Revision proposal and the Assembly Budget Committee did the same yesterday. However, the Senate voted to put child care back into Prop. 98. Child care is a mixture of programs including licensed exempt providers, private child care providers, and licensed center care.

The Senate Budget recommendation puts a nearly \$1 billion burden for child care back into Prop. 98 (**which reduces the amount of money coming to K-12 schools**). We support child care and are advocating for more money that comes from outside of Prop. 98. However, if child care is put back into Prop. 98, the expense of child care, in future years, will limit our ability to restore K-12 programs such as lower class sizes and hiring much needed counselors, nurses and librarians for our students and schools.

How you can help: We need to send a strong message to lawmakers that, like the governor, they too must keep the promise to California's students.

Call your legislators at 1-866-553-8040 today through June 15th.

Simply dial 1-866-553-8040 and you will be connected to your Assembly member. Make a second call to speak with your state senator. Urge them to keep the promise to California's students and make sure all Prop. 98 funding stays in Prop. 98. Use these talking points when you make your call.

Receive updates by text message.

Right now, on your cell phone text the word Prop98 to 69866. This will sign you up for text alerts. In June we will send text updates which can also connect you to your legislators.

This collective action will help make sure the state will restore some of that funding that our students lost during the toughest economic years.

Thank you for taking action!

CTA Benefits

Are you heading out of town or going to an amusement park this summer? CTA Member Benefits has a website for you to get discounts on tickets, car rentals, hotels, and travel planning. Check it out at:

www.cta.org/en/Member-Services/Member-Benefits/Discounts-and-Travel.aspx