

# LVEA TODAY



## 2017 LVEA Climate Survey Questions

As reported in our February newsletter, LVEA and LVUSD agreed to merge 12 of our most pertinent questions from the 2016 LVEA Climate Survey into a 2017 shortened version of the Healthy Kids Survey for staff members. The survey is now live and your site administrator should have already provided you with an email link. PLEASE use this link to log into the survey and provide your input.

Why did your LVEA Rep Council agree to this revised format? We feel this will increase buy-in from certificated employees, the Board and administration. If we want our concerns and suggestions to be taken seriously then we need buy-in on the survey process from ALL parties. We want our input to spur real change where needed. We want to provide serious and constructive dialogue that will lead to meaningful and long term improvement in our great district. Every organization can improve and it's essential that LVEA is positive catalyst in this discussion!

We once again emphasize that your input is anonymous. Responses are collected and managed by a company that specializes in surveys called WestEd. They are tasked with maintaining the anonymity of responses from students, parents and employees.

We need your input to provide meaningful suggestions. That's why it's so important that you respond to the survey link that has been provided by your supervisor. Thanks in advance your survey response – it's very important!

## LVEA Executive Board Positions

The positions of LVEA President, Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary are up for election in odd years. The 2017 nomination window is NOW open and interested candidates will have no less than 14 days to indicate their interest. If you are interested, please notify LVEA at [lasvirgenesea@gmail.com](mailto:lasvirgenesea@gmail.com), our association office at 805-497-8220 and/or inform your LVEA site rep.

### LVEA Executive Board

Craig Hochhaus, President  
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(805) 402-7347

Brittany Stone, Willow, Vice-President

Robin Frank, Sumac, Treasurer

Carrie McClellan, AHS, Corresponding Secretary

Linda Kaplan, Round Meadow, Rec. Secretary

Amanda Hurley, Willow, SpEd Liaison

Kathy Heukrodt, CHS, High School Liaison

Darci Miller, AEW, Middle School Liaison

Sue Levy, Chaparral, Elementary Liaison

Joanne Kress, White Oak, Bargaining Chair

Catherine Foley, CHS, CTA State Council Rep

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### Las Virgenes Educators Association

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## Combo Teachers get Stipend AND Three extra planning days

Most elementary teachers are aware that teaching a Combo class earns an extra \$2,110 stipend; however, some are unaware that Combo teachers also get three (3) release days for the purpose of planning, observation and/or collaboration. If you are teaching a Combo class, please make sure you earn the extra stipend AND get your three release days – you've earned them!

## Negotiations and Benefits Update

Your Negotiations Team is already working on your behalf for the 2017-18 school year. We also have a Benefits committee that has met twice over the past two months. When compared to surrounding districts, we have great benefits for single party employees. It's expensive to cover yourself and someone else and even more expensive to cover a whole family! We are currently exploring whether our current medical benefits program (PERS) is appropriate for us going forward. The Benefits Committee and your Negotiating Team will continue to discuss the concerns that many employees with families have raised regarding their high premium costs.

## Credential Renewal

Please make sure your credential is renewed before it expires. Sherry Sonne for the district's personnel office sent you a reminder email on January 24 – please refer to this email for more information. Here is an excerpt:

*The CTC is sending e-mail notification to renew your credentials when it reaches 90 days to its expiration date. It is important that you maintain a current e-mail address on file with the Commission. Please go to [www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials](http://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials) and click on "Educator Login". Enter your Social Security number and Birthdate at the bottom of the page. Add or change personal information as needed.*

*If your credential expires any time in the next 12 months you can renew online and still retain the same expiration date plus five years. All renewals must be done online. If your credential is not renewed in a timely manner and there is a lapse in your credential, you will be ineligible to render services. You will be removed from the classroom until the document is granted.*

## Flex Spending Plan - Deadline to report 2016 expenses is March 30

If you participated in the TASC Flex Spending program for medical and dependent care, you have until Thursday, March 30, 2017 to report your 2016 expenses. If you submit after March 30, you will lose the money that was deducted from your paychecks in 2016.

If you have any questions, please visit [tasconline.com](http://tasconline.com) or call TASC at [800-422-4661](tel:800-422-4661). You may also contact Annette Trytten in our personnel office at [atrytten@lvusd.org](mailto:atrytten@lvusd.org) or [818-878-5210](tel:818-878-5210).

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