

LVEA Today

August 24, 2011

Las Virgenes Educators
Association

Welcome Back!

Welcome back! In May we reported that ALL Pink Slips were rescinded. This came from lots of generous support from our community and constant encouragement from LVEA – including our Early Retirement Program where 28 teachers chose to take the Retirement Medical Benefits incentive which created openings for our newer teachers. LVEA considers this a successful “team” effort that included our community, employees and administration!

Aeries/Internet Security

Phil Scrivano, our district’s Chief Technology Officer, plans to visit secondary schools soon (followed by elementary schools) to discuss new security measures with Aries to hopefully eliminate unauthorized access to our student data system. One option is the use of a “key fob” – a small device that can fit on a key chain that electronically displays a different access code every 30 seconds. Entering this code will be necessary to access the Aries data base. Stay tuned!

Parcel Tax (Measure K)-

This summer the LVUSD School Board voted to put a parcel tax on the November 8, 2011 ballot. They did this in response to the dramatic cuts that have been coming from the state. LVUSD has been cut over \$10 million since 2008 and we’re all living the impact as a result- larger class sizes and caseloads, budget-cut days, fewer support staff, and fewer supplies.

The tax, if passed by a 2/3 majority of the community, will be \$95 per parcel. This will raise roughly 2.2 million dollars per year. The money will be used to prevent lay-offs, restore class size, restore programs, and maintain materials.

The LVEA executive board and rep council will be voting in September on what our level of support will be for the campaign. Stay tuned for more info!

Rep Council and Executive Board Nominations

Because of all of the changes going on in the district, at the end of last year the Rep Council voted to extend the nominating and voting process for Executive Board until this fall. If you would like to run for an Executive Board position, please let LVEA know by September 9. We strongly encourage you to get involved.

Some of our schools do not have site reps. As a result, these schools do not have a voice when decisions are made in LVEA. If your school does not have a rep, please volunteer so your school can get information and give input on things happening in the LVEA and the school district.

5308 Derry Ave #L103
Agoura Hills, CA 91301
818-889-4377

president@lveateachers.com
craighochhaus@yahoo.com

Your Executive Board:

| | |
|---|--------|
| Sandi Pope Co-President | Willow |
| Craig Hochhaus Co-President | AHS |
| Chris Sale 1 st VP | LCMS |
| Andrew Staiano 2 nd VP | AHS |
| Pat Brooks Treasurer | AHS |
| Diane McEvoy Recording Secretary | CHS |
| Liberty Logan Corresponding Secretary | LCMS |

Negotiations Update-

During the summer, LVEA returned to the bargaining table to work on issues like distance (on-line) learning, evaluations, extended-day kindergarten clarification, comp time and transfers. Our most significant accomplishment for students and employees, however, was the likely elimination of State Reduction (Furlough) Days for this school year! The agreement was posted on our website in July for everyone’s review. In essence, we will have NO State Reduction Days unless there are significant mid-year cuts from the state. This is great news for our students and employees! PLEASE make sure your ratification ballot is returned by Sept 2nd.

Twelve-Month Paychecks

Each year, certificated employees ask why our paychecks aren’t spread out over twelve months. Our paychecks are processed by Los Angeles County which requires all employees be paid on the same cycle. That means that all employees would have to be paid over twelve months – obviously decreasing the amount of everyone’s monthly earnings. For years, LVEA has recommended that employees arrange for a summer savings account with First Federal Credit Union at 1-800-537-8491. The employee selects a desired amount to be withdrawn each month. These funds can then be put into two CDs – one that matures at the end of July and one that matures at the end of August. This approach puts employees in charge of their summer finances, and employees keep the earned interest on the accumulated funds – not the district.

CTA History

In 1863 CTA was formed as a professional organization for educators in the state of California. It originally allowed administrators to be a part of it (administrators were kicked out in the late 1960s) and had a mission to advocate for education and educators.

Throughout the course of the year we will highlight some of the fights and victories that CTA has had in the course of our 150 year history.

-In 1866 CTA successfully pushed the CA Legislature to make public education free in our state.