Presidents Message

January 17, 2021

Dear Members,

Welcome back to a new semester. I hope that you had a restful break and are coming back refreshed for the second semester. There are many items that I have had questions about, so I want to share some information that I have.

Calendar for next year
Each year the Association negotiates the breaks and inservice days for the following year. A big shout out to our calendar expert, Al Ohlendorf, Bonita Vista HS. Al’s counter proposal starting next year for teachers on a Monday instead of the previous Thursday was voted on by Site Representative Council and accepted by Cabinet. It will be officially approved by the Board on January 25, 2021. [Linked here](#) is a copy.

Vaccinations
At this point, many of you have heard that the Governor has moved educators up to the Tier 1B for vaccinations. The County of San Diego is the primary force for vaccinations and the District and Association are waiting for the word for them when we will be eligible. The Association will not negotiate return to the classroom beyond limited supports by volunteers until members have a chance to be vaccinated.

If you have questions about the vaccine and the risks and benefits, VEBA is offering a live webinar on January 25, 2021 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm where you will be able to ask questions from a specialist, Shane Crotty, Ph.D., La Jolla Institute for Immunology. Here is a [link](#) to the flier where you can RSVP.

Bargaining
SEA received a proposal for an “Early Tell” for retirees. This is not an early retirement incentive like was offered in 2018 (they must pay that off over 5 years before offering another). This would be an amount negotiated to let the District know if you are retiring this year by February 28, 2021. Those who have already put in their letter of intent will receive this bonus.

CTA Conferences
Remember that CTA conferences are free this year and members just need to register to attend. Also, if you need units, CTA is also paying the fee for units from CSU Chico. What a great deal! Here is the [link](#) to the CTA website where you can view upcoming conferences.

Ones to highlight:
February 18 - 21, 2021 New Educator – Home Edition
February 24-27, 2021 Equity and Human Rights
March 11 - 14, 2021 Good Teaching Conference – Middle &Secondary Home Edition
April 30 – May 2, 2021 NEW! Special Education Conference

Scholarships, Grants and Awards
You can find information about CTA Grants and Awards at the CTA website. CTA offers scholarships for both members and their dependents. Scholarship applications are due by January 29, 2021. SEA scholarships will be announced during next semester.

https://www.cta.org/for-educators/scholarships-awards Some examples are:
LGBTQ+ Grant & Scholarship Information
Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta Memorial Education Awards
Human Rights Award

Yours in Unity,

Julie Walker
President