

Sweetwater Education Association

South County Teachers United UniServ Office
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sweetwater EA members to protest at “Respect Our Contract” rally August 17 Hundreds will picket prior to SUHS School Board meeting

CHULA VISTA – Hundreds of Sweetwater Education Association (SEA) members will demand “Respect our contract!” picketing outside the Sweetwater Union High School District (SUHSD) office Monday, August 17, beginning at 4:00 p.m., prior to a 5:30 p.m. SUHSD School Board meeting.

“Despite SEA’s offer of a realistic proposal that should be a ‘win-win’ during these difficult times, the District’s refusal to bargain with us in good faith appears to be motivated by their desire to take advantage of the economic climate to weaken our contract,” said SEA President Alex Anguiano. “But we’re not going to allow that to happen. We’ve printed 1,000 signs for the rally and I hope we run out!”

Anguiano added that SUHSD is breaking state law by imposing its “last, best” contract offer prior to fact finding, prompting SEA to file an unfair labor practice against the District. “We’re making preparations to ‘work to the rule’ beginning September 8, in addition to a variety of other measures to convince the Board to play fair and give the District’s teachers a reasonable contract settlement. Our goal is to get a fair settlement as quickly as possible so that we can focus on what we do best: educating students,” said Anguiano.

WHAT: “Respect Our Contract!” protest rally by hundreds of Sweetwater Education Association members and their supporters

WHEN: Monday, August 17, 2009, 4:00-5:00 p.m.

WHERE: Sweetwater UHS District office, 1130 Fifth Avenue, Chula Vista

VISUALS: Hundreds of protesters carrying signs, wearing “Respect Our Contract!” buttons

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The 2,100 hundred member SEA is affiliated with the 340,000-member California Teachers Association and with the 3.2 million-member National Education Association.