

June 3, 2019

Well, we made it! The last week is here. This is a time that is bittersweet for many of us, because we've poured our hearts into these kids, and now they will move on from our classrooms. Congratulate yourselves for your hard work, and make the most of these last 4 days.

### **Schools First Summer Savings Account**

For those of you needing to set up an account to save for your July paycheck next year, a **Schools First Federal Credit Union representative will be at the CVTA Office on June 5th from 1:00-4:30**. All the necessary forms will be available for you to set up an account. They have a better interest rate than anyone else we've seen!

[Paycheck Planner information](#)

[Summer Saver information](#)

### **Insurance Information**

Plan changes are due to Risk Management by the first week of August. **If you are on an Anthem HMO plan, you will have to go in to Risk Management to select a new plan.** Please look carefully at the plan options and make your decisions soon, before you forget. Site Reps have some basic insurance information from our meeting last week. However, if you have detailed questions please contact Risk Management.

[See the plan comparisons here.](#)

### **Consider joining CTA/NEA Retired (as pre-retirement)**

On 7/23/19 availability for members (including those that are retiring this year) to buy CTA/NEA Retired Memberships at the current \$450 price will expire and the price will become \$550 on July 24 2019. \$450 sounds like and is in fact a lot of money, but if you join now, you are a member for life at this one time price. No monthly dues when you retire...you'd already be a member!

I have attached a link to the application to make it easier for members to take advantage of this price before it is too late. [Get the link here.](#)

There are several benefits of CTA/NEA Retired Membership. I suggest that you click on the link above and pay special attention to the "Be Protected" tab. I know that one of the most important benefits is the liability insurance that all members have enjoyed, but hopefully never needed. Let's face it, most teachers never need it. It is usually only when someone makes up a story that it is needed, but no one wants to hire an attorney to protect them for something they didn't do! You should know, that if you are ever going to substitute after you retire, the liability insurance is not available except to Members through their CTA/NEA Membership.

There are many more benefits, but if you do not get the form and the payment in by 7/23/19, it will cost you \$100 more later, or you will have to pay a yearly fee.

**Get insurance that covers your classroom from California Casualty**

After the classroom fire at VV last week, I received several messages about what happens if our personal items are stolen or damaged in our classroom. You need to know that the District most likely **will not** cover your personal items!!! Also, most homeowners insurance only covers what is in your home, and nowhere else.

[Please read the attached flyer from California Casualty.](#) This is a company vetted by CTA, specifically for teachers. You can only get this insurance if you are a CTA Member! Their homeowners/rental insurance covers personal items in your classroom. Their auto insurance has special coverage when your car is at work and damaged. They have a lot to offer to teachers. Please consider asking for a quote! Contact Chriss Renn at [www.CalCas.com/crenn](http://www.CalCas.com/crenn).

### **The Standard Disability Insurance**

CVTA will hold an enrollment campaign during the month of September. If you do not already have this insurance, please make sure to visit the rep when he is at your site to learn about this plan. It is geared toward teachers specifically, unlike those offered by other companies, and has several great benefits the other companies do not offer...pay attention to these special coverages just for teachers.

### **Upcoming STRS Meeting**

**CalSTRS Counselors at the CTA Palm Desert Office:** Now you can schedule sessions locally (usually we have to drive to either Palm Springs or Riverside). One way to schedule an appointment with these counselors is on the <https://www.calstrs.com/mycalstrs> website. You can also schedule by calling (800) 228-5453 and selecting option 3. **A real CalSTRS Counselor will never send you an email advertising his/her services via District email...those are spam and are usually salespeople.**

### **Contractual Issues Happening Right Now**

**Remember that the contract is an agreement between CVTA and the District and it was bargained in the best interest of students and teachers.** That means that both sides agreed to abide by what is included in the contract, so when something needs to be cited from the contract, it isn't what "the District said" or what "CVTA said"... it is what was agreed to and is therefore legally binding.

[Find the contract here.](#) Here are the things we are working on:

- **No CVTA Grievances at this time.**
- Grievances need to start at the informal level. This means that you have a conversation with your immediate supervisor, whether face to face or via email, in order to give them the opportunity to remedy the situation. It is important that you actually state, "This is my informal grievance." This will begin the timeline, and will ensure your administrator understands that there is a timeline to follow.
- **Williams Complaint Form** - Some of you have asked for this form, which can be used for complaints about facilities and textbooks or instructional materials. This

form could be an option when a grievance isn't the appropriate path to deal with a situation at your site.

**Here are some important dates to keep in mind:**

- **June 5th** - Schools First Federal Credit Union at CVTA Office for Summer Savings Accounts, 1:00-4:30 pm
- **June 6th** - Last day of school
- **June 7th** - Retiree Reception @ DO Board Room, 5pm
- **June 13th** - School Board Meeting @ DO, 5:30 pm
- **June 27th** - School Board Meeting @ DO, 5:30pm
- **July 11th** - School Board Meeting @ DO, 5:30pm

**PBIS Tip:** [www.pbisworld.com](http://www.pbisworld.com)

Week of June 3, 2019:

**Universal Expectation** : Review as needed

**Classroom Survival Skill:** Review as needed

**Growth Mindset Affirmation:** I am loved.

**Restorative Question:** What has been the most memorable thing about this year?

Please share this email with anyone you know that does not already receive it. There is a link near the top to sign up on our mailing list. These newsletters are always posted on our Facebook page, as well, which can be accessed even if you don't have a FB account. It is a public page and can be seen by anyone who visits it. Thank you!

Carissa Carrera  
CVTA President

"You can't do it unless you organize."