

May 6, 2019

Good morning! It's Teacher Appreciation Week! I hope you know that you are appreciated and valued, although there are days where it certainly doesn't feel like it (hopefully those are few and far between). Site Reps have a small token of appreciation to give you from your CVTA Executive Board. Thank you for all you do every day!

CVTA Spring Social

Please join us on May 17th from 4-6pm at Trilogy at the Polo Club, June Hill's Table. This is a members only event, and we hope to see you there!

Online Voting begins today!

Please check your personal email today for a direct link to your ballot. All members get to vote for the vacant State Council seat, and members at TC will also see their ballot for site reps. Please contact Sarah Chavez at cvtaelections@gmail.com if there is an issue with your voting email. The number one issue is that the email often goes to junk mail, so please check there before contacting us. The email will come from "Coachella Valley Teachers Association" with the email vote@simplyvoting.com.

PBIS TFI (Tiered Fidelity Inventory)

The PBIS TFI will be conducted over the next few weeks. There will be PBIS Leads walking classrooms to collect baseline information, which will be used to determine the implementation of PBIS. This is not a reflection of your performance as a teacher.

A few examples of what information will be collected: positive to negative ratio, positive classroom environments, and classroom procedures. This will be the first time we are conducting the TFI, so as mentioned this will be our baseline data. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact karina.vega@cvusd.us.

The Standard Disability Insurance

Right now, through May 31st, members can switch to the only CTA endorsed disability insurance without answering any health questions. [Visit this page](#) to get more information. It is worth investigating, because The Standard offers more benefits specifically for educators than other plans.

Site Reps still needed

Unfortunately there were several sites that did not have any nominations for site rep. This means that those sites will not have any representation at our Rep Council meetings next year, which is concerning because members at those sites won't get a say in decisions made by Rep Council. Please contact me if you would like to be a Site Rep for next year and missed the deadline for nominations.

AE - 1 rep needed - no nominations

BD - 2 reps needed - no nominations
CC - 2 reps needed - no nominations
CVHS - 5 reps - no nominations
DMHS - 4 reps needed: 3 nominated, one still needed
DO - 2 reps needed - no nominations
ECE - 1 rep needed - no nominations
MA - 2 reps needed - no nominations
MV - 2 reps needed: 1 nominated, one still needed
OA - 2 reps needed: 1 nominated, one still needed
SM - 3 reps needed - no nominations
TC - 3 reps needed: nominated - Diane Mayfield, Margie Avina, Pilar Schlickemayer, Luis Barraza, Mike Seeger (online election will be held at same time as State Council Election)
VDS - 2 reps needed: 1 nominated, one still needed
VV - 2 reps needed - no nominations
WS - 2 reps needed - no nominations

Volunteers Needed for CVTA Committees

We are looking for more people to volunteer to help out on CVTA Committees. We often have a committee of one, which is not a good practice, and makes a lot of work for just a few people.

Please consider donating some of your time to be part of one of these committees...membership participation is the key to strengthening our union! Your name will be considered when the CVTA Executive Board meets during the summer. [You can find the list of committees here.](#)

Professional Library:

Don't forget to take a look CVTA's professional library! We have books available for you to borrow if you want to learn new techniques, stay motivated, and more. If you have any books you would like to donate for the library, please let me know. [You can find the list of available books here.](#) The list should also be available on your site's CVTA bulletin board. Happy reading!

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:

- **May 6th** - Online voting begins for State Council and TC Site Reps
- **May 8th** - CA Day of the Teacher
- **May 8th** - Rep Council Meeting, CDA Library 4:30pm
- **May 9th** - CVUSD School Board Meeting, 5:30 @ WSHS
- **May 10th** - Online voting closes for State Council and TC Site Reps
- **May 10th** - In-person voting at CVTA Office 2:30-4:30 (State Council and TC Site Reps)
- **May 17th** - Spring Social 4-6pm (members only, see flyer above)
- **May 23rd** - CVUSD School Board Meeting, 5:30 @ DO
- **May 27th** - Memorial Day, no school
- **May 28th** - CVTA Executive Board Meeting, CVTA Office, 4:30pm
- **May 29th** - Final Rep Council Meeting and Dinner (including new 2019-2020 reps), 4:30pm, location TBD
- **June 6th** - Last day of school

PBIS Tip: www.pbisworld.com

Week of May 6, 2019:

Universal Expectation : Hallway

Classroom Survival Skill: Resisting Peer Pressure

Growth Mindset Affirmation: I will keep going.

Restorative Question: Who is someone you miss?

A Tip from Technology Services:

If you need any assistance with incorporating technology tools into your lesson design, don't hesitate to [book a member of our iCenter Team](#).

A Tip from EL Services:

If you would like assistance in your classrooms, please schedule an appointment with one of our EL TOSAs by clicking the links below:

Araida Flores araida.flores@cvusd.us, araidaflores.youcanbook.me/

Maribel Carrillo macarrillo@cvusd.us, maribelcarrillo.youcanbook.me/

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."