

December 16, 2019

Good morning! Your well-deserved break is almost here. I wish each of you a restful break, and Happy Holidays!

Your Workday on Wednesday 12/18/19

Article 12.1.6 gives you the right to leave with the students on a day preceding a holiday. That means on 12/18/19, an early release day, you can leave with the students. It is a staff meeting and PD day, but any meetings after school on this day must be voluntary (meetings before school are not affected by this contract language and can be held as usual). There are two exceptions to this language: 1) If you have after school duty, you must fulfill that responsibility, and then you can leave (15 minutes of duty only), and 2) If you do not have students on this day, this language does not apply because there would be no "end of the instructional day" (mostly our ECE teachers).

Consider Running as an NEA-RA State Delegate for CTA

This year the NEA-RA is being held in Atlanta, Georgia July 1-July 7, 2020. [Please see the letter here from CTA President E. Toby Boyd.](#) As CVTA, we can only send 6 delegates, but CVTA members can also run as a state delegate, and CTA gets a lot! There is a different timeline and procedure to follow, so look closely at his letter if you are interested in attending. NEA-RA is the place for CVTA to have a voice at the national level.

CA Standards for the Teaching Profession (CSTP)

[You can find a great interactive chart here](#) that shows all the standards, with links to more details about what this looks like in a classroom, both from the teacher perspective and from the student perspective.

This week we will focus on Standard 1:

* Engaging and Supporting All Students in Learning

The short version of what this standard means to you as a teacher is that you get to

know your students, both personally and academically, and use that knowledge to better inform your instructional strategies. Through the blended model of PBIS, Restorative Justice, and Transformational Learning, we are being provided the training to help us better meet this standard in our schools. (We do realize that the training needs to be ongoing, and more support is needed, but we will get there.) Please don't hesitate to ask your administrator for more support, or to invite someone out to your PLCs if your team wants more personalized support.

To Those of You Needing Units

You may want to consider taking some courses through University of La Verne. I am not endorsing them, but just sharing what I saw in a catalogue in the HR Department. They have some really interesting and pertinent courses, such as course in Motivation and Classroom Management, Educational Tools, Exceptionalities and Disabilities, Psychology, Multi-Cultural, School Violence and Legal Issues, and plenty more. Take a look at the courses offered on <http://pdc.laverne.edu> ...they are accredited and most are graduate level online courses. Don't forget to see if you need HR approval prior to enrolling in a particular course. [Check the specifics in the Salary Placement MOU.](#)

Next Pay Date

Just a reminder that our December payday is actually on January 2, 2020.

CTA Scholarships

[Click here](#) to get all the information about scholarships offered by CTA for those of you with college-aged children (or yourself if you want to go back to school).

Contractual Issues Happening Right Now

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

- 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. Sample grievance forms can be found on our website at www.mycvta.org under Documents. The Uniform Complaint Form can be found there as well.

- **[Williams Complaint Form](#)** - 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:

- **December 18th** - 1st Year Probationary Meeting Deadline
- **December 19th** - First day of Winter Break (back on January 6th)
- **January 6th** - First Day Back from Winter Break
- **January 8th** - CVTA Rep Council Meeting @ CDA Library, 4:30 p.m.
- **January 9th** - CVUSD School Board Meeting @ DO, 5:30 p.m.
- **January 22nd** - CVTA Eboard Meeting @ CVTA Office, 4:00 p.m.
- **January 23rd** - CVUSD School Board Meeting @ DO, 5:30 p.m.

[Click here to find an archive of our weekly emails.](#)

Carissa Carrera
CVTA President

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

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