Oct. 22 2018

Good morning!   Saturday's Teach Like A Pirate PD was awesome!  This event was a free benefit to members from CVTA, DSTA, PSTA, MTA, and PVTA.  Thank you to those who came out to listen to Dave Burgess speak about engaging our students through creativity.

"It's not supposed to be easy.  It's supposed to be worth it!"

- Dave Burgess

Please watch for some more PD coming up for our members, such as Classroom Management (in two sessions, one for Elementary and one for Secondary).  Flyers will be posted soon.

On Saturday, November 3rd, there is a PD being offered for CTA Members on Teachers and the Law.  Find the registration information here.

There is also a New Educator Weekend in December being offered by CTA.  Find more information here.

Member Benefits:

CalSTRS Counselors coming to the CTA Palm Desert Office: Please keep an eye out for upcoming information.  You will be able to schedule sessions locally (usually we have to drive to either Palm Springs or Riverside).  Another way to schedule an appointment with these counselors is on the www.myCalSTRS website.  It is a good idea to visit that site soon, anyhow, to check your account.  They have recently posted last year's information.  You should also be able to schedule by calling (800) 228-5453 and selecting option 3.

New Benefits Exclusively for CTA Members

CTA is always looking for ways to enhance their member benefits. CTA understands the emotional and financial burden members may experience due to outstanding student loans or being out of work on a disability claim due to a Cancer diagnosis. That's why CTA created and is providing the Student Loan Benefit and Cancer Benefit for CTA members. These benefits will be available at no additional cost to Members enrolled in the CTA-endorsed Voluntary Disability Insurance plans from Standard Insurance Company (The Standard). MORE

California Casualty's $7,500 School Lounge Makeover is Back

Serving CTA since 1951, California Casualty knows the importance of a designated space where instructors and school staff can take time to relax, recharge and share with their colleagues.

Your school could join these California schools that have received a makeover: Warner Middle School in Westminster, Sunnydale Elementary School in Lancaster, Gilbert High School in Anaheim, and Madrid Middle School in El Monte

California educators can transform their school lounge by simply entering for a $7,500 School Lounge Makeover at www.NewSchoolLounge.com/CTA. All staff members can enter to increase their school's chances of being picked.

The deadline to enter is July 12, 2019. A winner will be announced later that month.

Founded in 1914, California Casualty has partnered with CTA to provide members auto and home insurance tailored to their professional needs since 1951. To learn more, or to request an auto insurance quote, please visit www.CTAMemberBenefits.org/calcas, or call 1.800.800.9410. MORE

Contractual Issues Happening Right Now (no grievances at this time)

Remember that the contract is an agreement between CVTA and the District.  That means that both sides agreed to abide by what is included in the contract.  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.

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:

October 23rd-31st - National Red Ribbon Week

October 29th-November 2nd - CVUSD Red Ribbon Week

October 30th - Middle School Parent conferences 4:30-6:30 pm

November 1st - High School Parent Conferences 4:30-6:30 pm

November 2nd - Secondary Minimum Day

November 8th - School Board Meeting @ VDS, 5:30 pm

November 14th - CVTA Rep Council @ CDA, 4:30 pm (Elementary and Secondary House meetings prior @ 3:45 and 4:00 respectively, open to all)

November 19th - 23rd - Thanksgiving Break

PBIS Tip:

Week of October 22, 2018:

Universal Expectation :Cafeteria

Classroom Survival Skill: Asking for Help

Growth Mindset Affirmation:WhenI put forth more effort I improve.

Restorative Question: Tell about your favorite childhood memory.

A Tip from Technology Services:

The iCenter Team has been working diligently on updating our iCenter Website (which can be accessed at bit.ly/cvusdicenter) to provide a new and improved tool for you to use in your teaching and planning. On the website, you will find EdTech Tools and strategies for Google Classroom, G Suite, Writing, and more! We are especially pleased to present our new Writing Page with ways to blend technology with our writing strategies. Under Professional Development, feel free to explore several opportunities for professional learning offered by the iCenter Team including SAMRai and ISTEcs! Learn about HyperDocs and Project Based Learning ideas under our Applied EdTech page. We've also created a webpage that contains all of this year's Tech Tips for easier access. We hope you find these resources helpful, and remember to book us if you'd like any assistance.

A Tip from English Learner Services: no tip this week

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 FBaccount.  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."