



Standing Room Only



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Chapter 579

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2nd Vice President

Ricardo Foreman

Secretary

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Tom Andrews

Presidents Message

When does common sense and good business practice apply to a community college? It doesn't appear that there is any common sense being used as some of the decisions being made by Santa Ana College that could and will impact our Grounds Dept.

They are already short handed and can barely keep up with all the landscaping now at the site and the unbridled leadership wants to add more!

There is now a plan to remove the perimeter walls around the campus and in its place put in landscaping – you read this correctly – landscaping! I spoke to a retiree a few days ago and was told that prior to the walls being installed there was landscaping and it was constantly being trampled by the students. The walls are certainly a deterrent to uninvited guests to enter the campus. Has no one thought about how easy it would be for

these guests to enter the site, vandalize cars and immediately leave? Does anyone care?

Santa Ana College will be 100 years old in 2015 and the leadership of the college has determined that it needs beautification. Never mind that it has existed this long with fencing around the campus which identifies very clearly that you are entering an institution of higher learning. Students do not come to SAC because of the outside perimeter. We attend because of the curriculum and the high caliber of faculty. Having beautiful plants around the outside perimeter and pavers at the entrance are not on our priority list.

It gets worse! They apparently plan to use Measure "E" money to fund this fiasco. I supported this bond and even did some phone banking in support of the district. Had I known that any money from

the taxpayers would be spent to replace landscaping, I can assure you that I would never have supported asking taxpayers to pay for it.

Makes me wonder when the name of the Bond Oversight Committee is going to be changed to the Mushroom Committee – you know what happens to mushrooms – keep them in the dark and feed them manure!

CSEA will support our Grounds staff by working toward increasing staff or stopping the madness before it gets totally out of hand.

Marti Reiter

Chapter 579 Job Stewards— We can help you!

Marti Reiter
714-480-7512

Sean Small
714-564-5667

Ricardo Foreman
(out on sick leave)

Judy Arroyo
714-564-6211

Sylvia Gordon
714-564-6004

Tom Andrews
714-564-6310

Bilbrey wins spot in runoff election



*Michael
Bilbrey*

CSEA's Michael Bilbrey received the largest share of votes in the CalPERS Special Election, earning a spot in the runoff election that will begin at the end of June.

CalPERS requires a true majority of more than 50% of the vote to win outright. Bilbrey, who was the candidate with the highest vote total, will face the candidate with the second highest total. Bilbrey received 46,032 votes. The next highest

vote total was 26,522.

All CalPERS members will receive runoff ballots beginning June 30th. Ballots must be returned by July 28.

CSEA thanks you for supporting Bilbrey, a 22 year employee of Citrus College and the only classified school employee on the ballot.

Members of the CalPERS Board of Administration are responsible for the management and control of CalPERS,

including the exclusive control of the administration and investment of the Public Employees Retirement Fund.

"I will be accessible and listen to members," said Bilbrey, who wants to increase transparency and input from CalPERS members.

We need Michael Bilbrey on the CalPERS Board. Your vote for him will help protect our retirements.

May revise provides more funding for schools

"increased revenue and cuts already made have reduced the deficit from \$25.4 billion to \$9.6 billion."

Last month, Governor Brown released his May budget Revision and revealed the state revenues had increased \$6.6 billion above his January budget projection. Schools will receive about \$3 billion of these revenues. The bulk of this funding will go towards paying deferrals that were proposed in the January budget.

The additional revenues, along with cuts already made, have reduced the deficit from \$25.4 billion to \$9.6 billion. Without the extension of the current taxes, schools may be subjected to additional cuts to balance the budget. This is why the governor is still asking for a tax extension.

CSEA members should continue to write, call or visit both Republican and Democratic legislators and remind them of the cuts their local schools have taken and urge them to pass the tax extensions.

School Funding 101

Although few of us understand the school funding process that results in a local district's budget, it is important to know that we are a part of it. As a voter, you determine the fate of school budgets— and ultimately even your own pay and benefits.

- You vote for state and federal representatives
- You vote for initiatives

- You vote for school board members who determine how money is spent at the local level.

There are two major types of state funding : general purpose and categorical. The majority of money we receive is general purpose, which basically means "no strings attached". Districts determine how to best use this money. Each district has a base amount of general purpose

money it spends per student. That amount is called a "revenue limit", which were originally based on 1972 spending levels and have been updated ever since with COLA adjustments. A district's total revenue limit is primarily based on how many students it has, or its average daily attendance (ADA). Categorical aid is earmarked for targeted programs, such as (continued pg. 3)



Chapter News

The last meeting was held at SAC on Tuesday, June 21. Here are the highlights:

Reclassifications were requested to be extended. At the EERC meeting on June 29, the district did not deny the reclassifications, but asked for the time to create a new class called "Division Secretary". While we were told that those applying would advance, they wanted more time to be sure that the new structure would be correct. Advancement would be retro, but we must make sure that their proposal is

fair to our members, and not cause too much confusion. We will watch this closely and keep you informed.

SAC has cancelled their ride-share program. They will purchase "credits" which, according to Administrative Services, will save the district money. Some members feel these calculations are based on numbers that are not accurate, but we have no recourse to argue.

You may notice a slight change in the order of Chapter meetings. We voted at the SCC

meeting to change the rotation of sites so that each service area would have at least one meeting in their area every other month.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS !

Please email the CPRO, Tom Andrews, if you can volunteer 2-3 hours on ratification/ election vote days as a Voting Teller. We have amended our constitution so we can have on-site voting. This will only work if we have help from members each site.



Negotiations Update

Certain requirements still have to be met before we can sit down to negotiate with the District. The District must submit their proposal to the Board of Trustees for a period of 2 Board meetings. Once that is completed, we then must calendar negotiation dates. Given that the Board only meets once per month during

the summer, that the District has not submitted their proposal, and the two lead negotiators for CSEA and the District are on vacation until late August, we probably won't sit down to negotiate until late August or early September.

Faculty received a 1.053% salary increase retroactive to July

2010. Our L.R.R., Guillermo Santucci is issuing a demand to bargain this with the district, in addition to our other proposal.

The negotiating team members are: Marti Reiter, Sean Small, Judy Arroyo, Esmeralda Abejar, and Tom Andrews.



School Funding 101 (continued)

(continued from pg. 2) federal Title I Program, special education and child nutrition. Categorical programs are largely funded by state and federal sources, which come in the form of grants or conditional funding. For example, the federally funded Title I program has resulted in a list of qualifications that teachers as well as paraeducators and other instructional assistants must

meet in order for schools to receive that money.

Most of the funding for school facilities comes from state and local bonds. A school bond, like a home mortgage, enables a district to borrow money to finance the construction of a new school or make major improvements over many years. Bond money is restricted and cannot be used to pay for salaries or employee benefits.

However, it can alleviate the burden placed on a district's general fund, freeing up money to pay for those needs.

(Let me know if you enjoyed this article. If so, I will expand in future editions - CPRO)



CPRO's CORNER

Chapter 579 celebrates California School Employees Week with Area H at Linbrook Bowl!

