



MVTA Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome back from what I hope was a very restful Spring Break. It's hard to believe that it is already April. June will be here before we know it, and there is so much to be done in between. We've got a lot on our plates with PBIS, SEAL, SBAC, CST, and ELL redesignations. There is a lot to do, and it can be overwhelming. But it seems that we are poised to finish strong. Juntos podemos.

There has been quite a bit of discussion regarding PBIS in our local as well as at the regional CTA meetings I have been attending. The roll out of this Positive Behavior Intervention System is designed to occur over a three-year period. In the meantime, while the program is crafted by our school site team and rolled out a little at a time, the question of consequences keeps arising. The focus on positive rather than negative interventions arises from the passing of AB420, in September of 2014, designed to amend Section 48900 of the Education Code. Specifically, it eliminates "the authority to *suspend* a pupil enrolled in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 3, inclusive, and the authority to *recommend for expulsion* a pupil enrolled in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive, for *disrupting school activities* or otherwise *willfully defying* the valid authority of those school personnel engaged in the performance of their duties." This bill does NOT do away with any other "reasons" for suspensions or expulsions. This bill does try to address the disproportionate number of students of color, both male and female, who are being suspended or expelled.

We are currently circulating petitions for the Children's Education and Health Care Protection Act. Please read the excerpt from a letter by CTA President Eric Heins in this newsletter. If you have not been offered the opportunity to sign a petition, please talk to your faculty rep. We are just beginning to recover from the recession and need your help to keep the progress going.

An excerpt of a "Message from the President" letter by CTA President Eric Heins

State economic projections show a \$5 billion hole for public education in just two years. To prevent what would be a devastating blow to our schools, your fellow members and representatives on CTA's State Council of Education voted on Sunday, January 31, 2016 to support a new initiative, [The Children's Education and Health Care Protection Act](#).

The Children's Education and Health Care Protection Act initiative:

- Temporarily extends the income tax on California's wealthiest individuals and couples for 12 years.
- Is expected to raise \$8-11 billion a year, which would free up money in the general fund for other programs like higher education, childcare, low-income children health care and seniors.
- Will NOT increase the sales tax and would take effect in 2018 (when Prop. 30 sunsets).

We are working with a coalition of education and healthcare organizations to qualify this new initiative for the November 2016 ballot. To qualify the initiative, CTA needs to collect 150,000 signatures and we need YOUR HELP. Please sign today; we have a short timeline!

Time Management Tips from CTA Member Benefits to Help Achieve a Work-life Balance

You don't have to choose between being a good parent and being a good teacher with these helpful productivity tips.

For Mike Anderson, fatherhood felt like a second full-time job. He would come home from a long day with his fifth graders, and his wife would hand off their two-year-old and newborn to him, leaving him with no time (or hands) to grade papers or plan lessons.

"Up until I had kids, I always had this luxury of time," says Anderson, who authored "The Well-Balanced Teacher" and now works as an independent education consultant. "I could go into school on the weekends or bring work home. All of a sudden, when I became a dad, I felt like I had to choose between being a good father and being a good teacher. And I thought, I don't want to make that choice."

It's a familiar struggle for many educators. If you're one of them, try these tips.

- Find your most productive time
- Prioritize
- Disconnect during dinner
- Ditch the guilt
- Remember to enjoy parenting!
- Take care of yourself

CTA and NEA Member Benefits and resources are designed to save you time and money - helping you, your family and your career. Find out more about your Member Benefits at www.CTAMemberBenefits.org and www.neamb.com. [MORE](#)

IFT Grants - Last Month to Apply

The CTA Institute for Teaching has established a competitive strength-based grant program for CTA members and chapters to demonstrate what teachers can do when they have the freedom to create and invent. The grant application process is open to individual CTA members, small teams of educators and affiliated local chapters. Applications can be submitted online from January 1 through April 30. Detailed grant information can be found on the IFT website: www.Teacherdrivenchange.org - then click on the grant link. Grant proposals need to reflect innovative efforts to enhance student achievement. Applications must specify how the proposed project is strength-based and how it will improve teaching and learning conditions.

- Competitive educator grants will be awarded in amounts up to \$5,000
- Competitive impact grants will be awarded in amount up to \$20,000

MVTA BOARD MEMBERS

Laura Gaber, President - Miramonte Elementary

Leticia Urias, Vice President - Madrid Middle School

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Nancy Ruiz, 4-6 Member at Large - Voorhis Elementary

Maria Aguilar Pre-3 Member at Large - MV Head Start

Editor's Note: As part of an ongoing series, entitled, "A Day in the Life Of..." here is an article from TK teachers Deanna Gast and Diana Villagran-Basil. Stay tuned next month for a glimpse into the daily life in the an intermediate school.

A Day in the Life of TK Teachers by Deanna Gast and Diana Villagran-Basil

Busy, busy busy... that's what a day in TK looks like. Here are some of the activities that occur during an average day.

1. Calendar
2. Counting
3. SEAL Strategies/Oral Language Development
 - Daily message
 - Draw and Label
 - Think, Pair, Share
 - Chants
 - Directed Read Aloud
 - Graphic Organizers
 - Author Study
 - ELD-Farmer in the Dell based on the theme
4. Alphabet/Sound recognition
5. Number recognition
6. iPad skill support activities/Waterford Computers
7. Second Step pro-emotional skills development
8. Purposeful play centers-Fine and gross motor development
9. Handwriting w/o Tears prewriting penmanship activities
10. Songs/chants to enhance the curriculum and early childhood development
11. Art-visual and spatial relations
12. Read Aloud
13. Free play-peer interaction and social development
14. Library and Computer Lab (once a week)

Hello Leaders of SCONE,

It is time....our Common Core Training Day registration is open!! Please get this amazing opportunity to every member you have contact with. The training will be awesome and the day is free.

This is a wonderful opportunity to engage some members that aren't very involved with the association. It's a professional day to work on our craft and the presenters are all teachers themselves!!

We want this event to be bigger than ever! Please get the word out. Please distribute attached flyer.

Dani Tucker, Service Center One Council Chair



CTA Event
Common Core Summit
Service Center One



Orange Grove Middle School
 14505 Orange Grove Ave,
 Hacienda Heights, CA 91745
 Time 8:30am-2:30pm

April 30, 2016

Want to learn strategies and tools to enhance your teaching from educators? Come and attend a day filled with teacher-led sessions for grades TK-12 in all subject areas. Session topics will include:

- **ELA/ELD**
- **Math**
- **Science**
- **Art Integration**
- **Special Education and more...**

- **Free Lunch**
- **15 Sessions**



Space Limited - Register Early!

Visit the event website at: <http://ctajay.wix.com/scone2016> Register today at the link below: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SCONE2016>

| April 2016 | | | | | | |
|------------|-----------------------------|-----|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| | | | | | 1 Special Board Meeting - Roofing | 2 World Autism Awareness Day |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 Executive Board Meeting | 7 | 8 | 9 MDA Muscle Walk |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 Representative Council Meeting | 14 Board of Education Meeting | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 Combined Band Concert | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 Earth Day | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 SRLA Night at Dodger Stadium | 30 CTA sponsored CC training 8:30-2:30 |