



Etiwanda



Teachers Association

...representing the teachers of Etiwanda School District

ETA EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Sonya Scott

Secretary
Susan Ralston –
Williams

Treasurer
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Grants for Teachers

Apply Now for 2009-2010 Field Trip Grants

Ready to get inspired? Target will award 5,000 grants of up to \$800 each for the upcoming school year. So put on your thinking caps and complete an application online anytime between now and Nov. 3, 2009. Only one submission per applicant, please.

Visit www.target.com



Special Education Committee News

Over the past year, the Special Education Sub-Committee members have been diligently working on the creation and development of a user friendly Special Education Handbook. Many procedures and best practices have been outlined to make the "paperwork" side of the job more manageable for Special Educators throughout the district. With the direction of our new Director of Special Education, Dr. Jean Martin this handbook is sure to be a very handy tool for all.

In addition, our fabulous Tech Department will assist in making the handbook available online and on the school drives. The new handbook and documents will be located on a drive location which is accessible at any school site. It will also be available online via your ESPRI account under the tab- Resources. More information will be announced at a later date.

Thank you to the Special Education Sub-Committee Members for all their hard work!

Gina Beaman, Candra Loftis, Kelly Guadagnoli and Sonya Scott

It is amazing to think that we're already ten weeks through this year!! I don't know if it is because of the early start, but I feel as if we are just racing through the 09-10 school year. With our first district benchmark completed, the end of the first trimester only two weeks away, and the holiday season just around the corner- I am at times afraid to even blink because I might miss something!!!

I know that all of us have been "eye ball deep" in making sure we are doing all it takes to be the best educational professional we can be. And in doing this, we often lose track of what our union has been doing. Please consider this as your Reader's Digest Version of the current events concerning your Etiwanda Teachers Association:

I. Grade Book

ETA has been actively involved with the district, the technology department and others to begin the creation of the Grade Book User Group. It is the hope of ETA that our involvement will more clearly voice the concerns of teachers, as it relates to our online grading system.

II. Site Rep Meetings

ETA has already had 2 Site Rep Meetings this year and we have successfully handled several Site Concerns with very positive outcomes. As always, everyone is welcome to attend. These meetings are every 2nd Tuesday of the month. Look forward to seeing you there!!

III. 2009-2010 Negotiations

Your Bargaining Committee and Negotiating Team are working many long and hard hours to ensure that our ETA constituency is being fairly represented and protected. I wish I could give details of progress made, but when in negotiations, there is a constant sense of "give and take" and so what may be so one day, could absolutely change the next. I would encourage you to attend our Bargaining Committee Meetings if you would like to know more, as they are always open to all ETA members. Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 19, 2009 from 3:30 to 7:30PM at Summit Intermediate in Room S3.

IV. Miscellaneous Items

As your President, I want you to know that every member of your Executive Board has been busy working for you. Susan RW has been putting in many hours getting CTA cards to all members, going through address/name changes for those who are in need, working on new memberships, making sure all teachers are aware of any new open enrollment availabilities for those who qualify, etc. Sonya Scott has been the crusader of Communication by continuing to create, maintain and improve the new ETA website. She has also put ETA on cutting edge Technology with Face Book and Twitter. We should also give Sonya a huge "thank you" for continuing to filter through the vendors that want to put flyers in your box (it is because of her, your staff box isn't full of flyers that are many times put directly into the circular file). Pat Horton has also been extremely busy dealing with the IRS, preparing the ETA taxes, and dealing with me always asking for more money!! That poor guy has probably spent more time budgeting and re-budgeting due to my spending!! And as for me, I have been going to as many conferences and meetings as I can to make sure that the 640+ teachers here are facing the same difficulties as teachers throughout all of Los Angeles and San Bernardino counties. I am on the phone weekly with CTA trying to effectively handle difficult issues for teachers within our district. I continue to help research for the Negotiation Team and Bargaining Committee and also try to keep communication as frequent as possible to all of you.

It is my sincerest wish that each of you are making an effort to take some time to breathe!! This year seems to be going at a lightning pace and so, do yourself a favor and do your best to stop for a moment and look at the scenery!!

*Have a wonderful October!!
Michele*



Quick Question



Q. Can I suspend a student from my class?

- A. Yes, according to EdCode 48910, a teacher can suspend a student from their class for the day of the suspension and the following day. An abbreviated list of behaviors that are grounds for suspension include (for a detailed list see EdCode 48900):
- physical injury or threatening violence; including hate crimes
 - weapons or realistic looking fake weapons
 - drugs, alcohol, or tobacco
 - robbery or extortion
 - attempting to, causing damage, stealing, or receiving private or school property
 - disrupting school activities or willfully defying valid authority
 - intentional behavior that disrupts or creates a hostile educational environment; i.e ; bullying
 - habitual profanity or vulgarity, obscene actions, sexual harassment, assault or battery
 - terrorist threats against school personal or property

October Calendar

13 - Site Rep Meeting
17 - E3 Dynamite Dinner
19 - Bargaining Team Meeting
23 - Elementary Grade cut off

November 2 - 6
Parent Conferences



Reduce Your Water Bills By 20% or More

Water conservation saves you money and makes an important contribution to our environment. Here are 5 great tips to get you started:

- Fix Leaks** — Check appliances, sprinklers, faucets and toilets for leaks - and fix them. Common leaks waste 10% of the water used in many homes.
- Don't Over-Water** — Water your lawn only when it needs it. Step on your grass. If it springs back when you lift your foot, it doesn't need water.
- Run Full Loads** — Save 300 - 800 gallons per month by running only full loads in the washing machine and dishwasher.
- Think Low-Flow** — Install water-saving showerheads or flow restrictors; replace your older toilets with new high-efficiency models.
- Turn It Off** — Use a broom instead of a hose to clean sidewalks, patios and driveways. Use a bucket of water and a quick hose rinse at the end to wash your car. And turn off the faucet while you brush your teeth.

Friendly Reminders from The Standard

Hope you're having a great Fall! School's back in session and as always, The Standard is available to answer any of your questions about coverage. Their dedicated CTA Customer Service Department can be reached at 800.522.0406 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Pacific Time or write to ctaservice@standard.com with any questions or concerns.

Newly hired CTA member, or new to your district? If you're a newly hired CTA member, or transferring to a new district now's the time to get coverage. During your first 120 days of new employment, you have a one-time opportunity to apply for Disability Insurance and/or up to \$200,000 of Life Insurance - without showing proof of good health. Call The Standard's dedicated CTA Customer Service Department at 800-522-0406 for more information.

Fall wedding or baby? Congratulations! Don't forget that within 31 days of a Family Status Change, you can add or increase Life Insurance coverage up to \$200,000 and/or add Disability coverage, all without providing proof of good health. To get more information about filing a maternity Disability claim, visit us at www.cta.org and click through to The Standard to get our helpful Maternity Guide.

Do you have voluntary Disability or Life Insurance with another carrier? From October 1 to November 30, 2009 you can switch your coverage to the CTA-endorsed plans offered by Standard Insurance Company without proof of good health. Simply provide proof of your existing coverage with your application.

You can find forms online at MyCTA at www.cta.org. Call The Standard's dedicated CTA Customer Service Department at 800-522-0406, 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. with any questions.

Updating your records? Make sure to call The Standard if you're moving to a new address or needing to make changes to your beneficiary designation. It's important to keep your records up-to-date, and it's easy to do! Simply call The Standard's dedicated CTA Customer Service Department at 800-522-0406.

Questions? Call The Standard's dedicated CTA Customer Service Department at 800.522.0406 (TTY), 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Or, email ctaservice@standard.com. And, if you haven't taken a look at CTA's Web site, visit MyCTA at www.cta.org.

ETA Representative Council Meetings are held at Summit Intermediate School in Room S-3, located by the Home School Offices on the southeast section of the campus off Banyan.