

## **Union Notes – October 18, 2021**

### **Visiting Teacher Shortage**

Members have shared concerns around the difficulties in securing a visiting teacher for absences and leaves. Our union negotiated the Resident Visiting Teacher agreement which has brought a lot of support to our school sites. However, the problem is still persistent. SDEA will engage with the District again on this topic and work towards further solutions that will hopefully bring more visiting teachers into our system.

In the meantime, a recent executive order from the governor's office allows for recent retirees to work as a visiting teacher without having to wait out the traditional 6 month period. If you know of any recent retirees who may be interested in working as a visiting teacher, [please encourage them to apply using this link](#).

### **2% Bonus for Summer School Work**

Have you received a bonus for your summer school work? Educators were eligible for a stipend if they worked 90% of their summer school program. Exceptions to this 90% threshold may have been made for exceptional circumstances and/or attending the NEA-RA. Bonus payment should have been no later than the September 30, 2021 pay warrant. If you believe you are owed a bonus, but did not receive one, [please fill out this brief survey](#). *Note: If you have already submitted a survey response from Union Notes - 10/8/21, you do not need to fill this out again.*

### **K-2 Workload**

After hearing from members about the increased workload coming from the New Fountas & Pinnell Literacy Assessments, SDEA leadership met with SDUSD to discuss the impacts of this new assessment. We shared the increased time it requires to administer the assessment and that the administration and data input timelines had been changed, while not providing any support for educators to meet the new deadline.

We will start the workload dispute resolution process with the District over this issue. SDEA will continue to push back on the District around implementing new programs this year, especially when the necessary supports for the programs are not offered (i.e. subs to cover classes for assessments and PLCs, the Accelerated Literacy program, etc.).

### **District Process for Requesting Medical Accommodations or Religious Exemptions Vaccine Exemption Request Process**

On Friday, the District released the process for staff to request medical or religious exemptions to the vaccine mandate. They are linked below.

## [DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION AND THE ADA PROCESS](#)

## [RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION REQUESTS](#)

[SDEA members can use this video to learn more about how to navigate the medical accommodations process.](#)

Note: While the District uses the word “accommodation” for religious exemptions AND medical accommodations, these are two different District processes. While a member may be granted a valid religious exemption, the ADA accommodations process only applies to valid medical exemptions.

## **SDEA Election Results**

The results from the 2021 SDEA Fall election are in!

The SDEA Constitutional Amendment passed with 89.8% voting yes and 10.2% voting no, with 3.4% of voters abstaining. Along with other changes, this vote means that members on the SDEA Board of Directors will be able to run for reelection every two years, without a limit to how many times they may run.

Stacy Hernandez, a 2nd Grade teacher at Dailard Elementary, was elected as the SDEA Treasurer.

Chase Fite, a History teacher at Hoover High School, was elected to the SDEA Board of Directors, Area 1, Seat 1 (Secondary) serving Crawford, Hoover, and Morse clusters.

Jessica Moore, 4th Grade Teacher at Chesterton Elementary, was elected to the SDEA Board of Directors, Area 3, Seat 9 (At-Large) serving Clairemont, Henry, Kearny, La Jolla, and Pt. Loma clusters.

Kyle Weinberg, the current SDEA Vice President and middle school teacher, was elected to CTA State Council Seat 4.

## **Free Youth Bus Pass Pilot Program**

On October 22nd, the SANDAG Board of Directors will vote to approve the [Social Equity Transit Pilot](#) which includes free transit for all youth (18 and under) throughout the county(!) and improvements to public transportation that are vital to providing access to schools AND combating climate change. This approval is a huge step forward on the path toward permanent free transit for students in SDUSD and beyond. We need your help to ensure that the SANDAG Board of Directors approves the funding for the Social Equity Transit Pilot: [click here to send a letter to the SANDAG Board of Directors.](#)

## **Upcoming CTA Conferences**

CTA is excited to announce our second **Special Education Conference – Home Edition!** This conference has been created specifically for CTA members working in either

general education or special education and will have sessions and workshops that were designed to meet the changing and demanding needs of our members as they work to support, educate and serve all students regardless of their circumstance or situation. Registration is free for all CTA members. [Sign Up Here!](#)

**CTA's New Educator Weekend (NEW)** is a conference for new CTA members. This NEW conference will be hosted virtually and will have a special focus for educators in their first few years of teaching but offers professional development and instruction that is useful for all educators. The conference has everything that educators need to be successful, including sessions about classroom management, creating engaging classrooms, lesson plans and ideas, connecting with your union, student loan forgiveness information, member benefits, project grants and more. [Sign up Here!](#)

As a benefit to members, CTA will cover the cost for up to three university credit units with CSU Chico, normally \$75/credit. The professional growth hours can be accumulated by attending conferences live and/or by watching recordings. [Click here for more information on how to claim the credit.](#)

## **Second Chance Standard Enrollment**

You may not be aware of the Special enrollment happening NOW that requires **no** medical underwriting.

With everything going on last year, some members may have missed SDEA's special enrollment opportunity for CTA-endorsed Disability and Life insurance. We want to give you a second chance to enroll in coverage – **with no health questions asked and guaranteed enrollment** for eligible members.

This is a rare, limited-time opportunity that's too important to miss.

**You can enroll from October 1 through November 30, 2021. To learn more and enroll, visit [standard.com/cta/secondchance](http://standard.com/cta/secondchance).** Need help enrolling? [Schedule an individual virtual appointment.](#)