Union Notes - Oct. 31, 2012

NEW POLL SHOWS PROP 30 CAN WIN WITH AMPED UP VOTER MOBILIZATION

Only 7 days until Election Day! A new poll shows that support for Prop 30 has fallen to 48%, but it still leads over the opposition. Decline in support is perhaps due to billionaires dumping in out-of-state money to defeat it. It's going to be close, but we can push Prop 30 over the finish line. The pressure is on, but history has taught us one thing - if we can get education supporters to the voting booth, we can win! Now's the time to make sure your school's parent community has heard from you about Props 30 and 32. A few minutes before or after school passing out flyers and having short conversations can make the difference. Parent flyers are available through ARs, and at the SDEA office for pick-up or call to arrange drop-off. Remind your friends and family to send in their absentee ballots or help them find their polling place – AFTER you share with them this new Prop 30 TV spot paid for by CTA members like us!

JUDGE DENIES SDEA PETITION TO ARBITRATE GRIEVANCE ON SDUSD UNDERSTAFFING OF NURSE & COUNSELOR POSITIONS, PUTS STUDENT WELL-BEING AT RISK

SDEA members' union contract requires schools to staff counselor and nurse positions based on student enrollment. SDUSD has been violating this section of the contract for well over a year. Nurses, counselors and teachers fought back with a grievance, but SDUSD, under the guidance of Chief Counsel Larry Schoenke, refused to go before a neutral arbitrator who would rule on the matter. SDEA filed a petition in court to force SDUSD to appear before an arbitrator. In a disappointing decision this week, the judge ruled not to force SDUSD before an arbitrator on the nurse and counselor staffing grievance. SDEA leaders, staff and attorneys are researching the possibility of an appeal. While this ruling is a setback, it will not stop SDEA member's fight to protect student health, safety, and well-being with nursing and counseling services in every school.

CHECK OUT THE SDEA WEBSITE FOR UPDATED CONTRACT & OTHER RESOURCES

The 2008-13 union contract is available on the SDEA website here. Printed editions are on the way, and will be delivered to members at school sites by SDUSD. You might also want to check out the Contract Resources page, which features 1-page educational flyers on particular workplace rights issues.

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