



HAYWARD EDUCATION ASSOCIATION



93 Jackson St. Hayward, CA 94544 * Phone: 510-538-1051 * Fax: 510-538-9427

E-mail: president@heahayward.org (best way to reach Mercedes) or office@heahayward.org

Website (announcements, forms, contract, etc.): www.heahayward.org

October 29, 2021 – Friday Follow-up



(Photos from a few Stop School Closures Rallies)

Rainy Day Considerations

Attached is the [Rainy Day Lunch Considerations document](#) that was provided by HUSD. As a reminder, your site's SBDM (or Curriculum Council for site's without SBDM) should meet to establish the site's rainy-day operations and schedules.

MLK Threat to School Site

Yesterday, MLK received a threat (a threat of a school shooting) to occur on Friday. By Thursday night, HEA was on the phone with Superintendent Wayne because parents were expressing concerns that they had heard about the threat through social media, rumor mills etc. prior to any messages from HUSD (if any were received at all). We also shared our concern that messages had been sent to Mt Eden instead of MLK and created confusion. HEA members were concerned for the lack of a substantive plan. Later, when the message was retracted, and sent to MLK, not all MLK parents received the message before 10pm. Eventually, Hayward PD determined the threat was not credible and the Superintendent shared that they would still go forward with HUSD's assurance that they would have District Administration and Campus Safety Officers present. When the morning arrived, there was not a campus safety police presence and only a few administration. In response to the lack of a plan, HEA members did what HEA members often find themselves doing in and for HUSD - they leafleted a neutral message, letting parents/guardians know about the incident so that they could make an informed decision and not be told what is best for them by the District – namely, to come in to the school. Many parents/guardians took their students home since they had either not heard or recognized that what had been promised (the campus safety officers presence) had not been provided. Again, the seeming inability of the Superintendent to put together a meaningful plan puts us all at risk. Typically, it is educationally related – this time it was our very lives.

Speaking of lack of a plan that would benefit students, labor groups, and programs...

School Closures

Despite Townhalls, School Board meetings, rallies, site meetings with staffs and community members, all overwhelmingly carrying the message of opposition to school closure and placing a pause on next steps -- the district continues to move forward with its timeline to close schools. They seem to be convinced that they have found the response to their enrollment and related budget woes on the backs of our community through 9 school closures. Throughout their many meetings, the Superintendent and his staff defend their decision rather than listen to the constructive criticism regarding the impact upon our students, neighborhoods, programs (such as bilingual and DLI programs), and the pleas to "think of something else, something better!"

Instead of looking at enrollment through the lens of how to make improvements e.g. increase preschool enrollment (creating a sustainable foundation to our school population), or improving our programs through a review process where folks could discuss areas of improvement, reviewing budget priorities and expenditures (including admin hiring practices and gains to our students education through those hiring practices), etc., the Superintendent and his representatives appear to be fixated on their one-stop shop of a response: close 9 schools to solve the budget issues. The Superintendent and his staff need to take the time to make decisions inclusive of the community and in the best interest of our students and our programs that we offer them, for the benefit of our students, present and future – not just HUSD's present budget.

We continue to carry the message for a pause in Matt Wayne's next steps and to get folks in the room to work collaboratively and collectively with the district for the benefit of our students – educationally and emotionally.

Thanks to everyone for the rallies, the candid yet fierce conversations with the district, and doing the district's work: advocating for our students as our priority. They are the prize on which we must keep our eyes!

VISP

Thank you for the questions and concerns that have been voiced at the FRA meeting and via email regarding VISP. We are trying to untangle the ball of yarn that this has become. We will keep you posted as we receive answers.

Congratulations, Edgar Monroy!

Congratulations to Edgar Monroy, teacher at Bret Harte, for earning the 2021-22 Project Lead the Way National Gateway Teacher of the Year award! [Click here](#) to learn more about the great work Edgar is doing and about Project Lead the Way.

Virtual Retirement Workshop

CTA is offering a virtual retirement workshop on **December 7, 2021 from 4:30pm-6:30pm**. There will be materials and discussion of the CalSTRS retirement benefit formula, options, Defined Benefit Supplemental program, survivor benefits, legislative changes, and Social Security Offsets. You're never too young or old to learn about these benefits, programs, and services!

For workshop registration, please [click here](#) or click the "REGISTER HERE" stamp on the [attached flyer](#). Space often fills up quickly for this workshop, so register early!

CTA Special Education Conference - November 5th -7th

CTA is excited to announce our second Special Education Conference – Home Edition! This **free 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. Opportunity for university credits available for participants. [Click here](#) to register.

AlCosta Service Center Council

Grants are still available to cover the costs of attending CTA Conferences. CTA Conferences are a great place to learn about our Teaching Practice for practicing teachers and/or the issues we face as a profession and how to address them. Please see the attached flier for where to apply or get help applying.

CTA State Council of Education

State Council met this past weekend. The full report on what was worked on is broken up by committee name and is available for download at: <https://www.cta.org/about-us/leadership/state-council>. An online accessible version will be available soon.

A couple of items of particular importance are in the reports from the Political Involvement Committee and the Early Childhood Education Committee. PIC is making us aware that there are four proposed ballot initiatives concerning education. None have made the ballot yet PIC and will present more information as this develops. Of special concern is one that would ban public sector unions, and two are voucher initiatives. ECE reported on a change in California law that requires Districts to phase in Universal TK with wraparound services. Over the next four years this will change required class sizes, credentialing requirements, and the age of the students that can attend. Please see the reports at CTA.org or contact your State Council Reps with questions.

CTA Conference Incentive Grants

CTA is offering incentive grants for several of their conferences this year! See [attached](#) for more information about which conferences, the grants available, and how to apply.

Additional CTA Grants and Scholarships

See [attached](#) for this week's CTA Mailing with multiple scholarship and grant opportunities!

California Casualty Holiday Gift Card Giveaway

California Casualty (a 70-year CTA partner) is running a Holiday giveaway specifically for HEA members! Our local Field Manager, Steph Whitmore, is planning to award 3 HEA members a \$50 Gift Card on Friday, November 12th. [Click here](#) for more information about how to enter.

**We are stronger when we
Stand Up! Stand Strong! Stand Together!**

 **Mark Your Calendar** **Mark Your Calendar** **Mark Your Calendar** **Mark Your Calendar** **Mark Your Calendar** **Mark Your Calendar** **Mark Your Calendar**

- HEA Board of Directors Meeting – Monday, 11/8/21 @ 4:00pm
- School Board Meeting – Wednesday, 11/10/21 @ 6:30pm
- HEA FRA Meeting – Monday, 11/15/21 @ 4:00pm