

## December 15, 2023 – Friday Follow-up



### December Checks

As a reminder, our "December" check will arrive by Jan. 2<sup>nd</sup> (some sooner per the bank deposit practice).

### Happy Holidays from HEA!

In keeping with the alliteration of our Friday Follow-ups, Monday Mop-ups, etc...

This Friday Follow-up takes pause to bring you hope of:

Happy Holidays!

Warm Winter Wishes!

Cozy Cocoa Comfort!

Family and Friends!

Rest and Relaxation!

And may Peace Prevail throughout the world!

We will continue the good work upon our return on Tuesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>!



### 2024 CTA Special Education Conference - Call for Presenters

CTA is seeking engaging presentations for the 2024 Special Education Conference. The conference planning committee will review all applications and select the presenters based on the following criteria: relevancy to the conference program and attendees; inclusion of hot topics outlined below: evidence of knowledge of the subject matter; and prior presentation success.

[Find out more about how to apply to be a presenter here!](#)

### CTA Conference Incentive Grants

Did you know that CTA also offers incentive grants to attend CTA conferences? These CTA statewide grants are a great opportunity offered by our CTA Board of Directors. [Please follow the CTA guidelines and apply if you are interested.](#)

CTA Grants are available for the following Conferences:

- Equity & Human Rights Conference, Los Angeles, CA, March 1-3, 2024
- Good Teaching Conference – South, Garden Grove, CA, March 22-24, 2024

Also, keep any eye out for our local HEA sponsorship opportunities in the Friday Follow-ups!

### New Educators: CTA Classroom Setup Grants

The CTA Classroom Setup Grant is a special program for brand new educators to provide financial assistance of **\$300** towards the purchase of materials, resources, supplies, tools, and other educational instruments used by the educator to create and promote a positive learning environment in a classroom(s)/designated learning space(s). **The program is effective for Employment Start Date starting June 1, 2023.** See the attached [Classroom Grant Flier](#) for more information.



### **CalSTRS and Your Retirement Benefits Planning Session**

Would you like to explore your CalSTRS benefits and services with the help of a benefits specialist in a confidential, yet interactive, small group setting with fellow educators?

The CalSTRS and Your Retirement benefits planning session covers:

- Your personalized CalSTRS benefit estimates.
- Beneficiary options and how to leave a lifetime benefit to your loved ones.
- How to purchase service credit and what happens to your unused sick leave.
- Considerations pertaining to health benefits, Medicare and Social Security.

CTA has returned to offering in-person planning sessions in their San Leandro office with the **January 17 session open for enrollment!** [Click here to learn more about how to reserve a slot and find additional locations.](#) You're never too young or too old to make plans for your retirement.

### **CTA Member Benefits**

CTA offers so many member benefits including university credit options, savings in shopping and travel, premium subscriptions, and more! They also have short virtual meetings once a month to further explain how to maximize these benefits. [Find out more about these benefits and trainings here!](#)



### **NEA Press Releases**

[Click here to see the latest NEA Press Releases](#), including NEA calls to action, position statements, event announcements, and more.

### **NEA Member Benefits**

Did you know that NEA offers all kinds of member benefits including retirement options, no-cost life insurance, and discounts for travel, shopping, and more! [Click here to learn more about your NEA Member Benefits!](#)

## ***HEA Stands Up, Stands Strong, and Stands Together!***

***We support each and every student to the best of our ability, no matter their background or identity. We work every day to provide quality public education, support our students' mental and physical wellbeing, and help students reach their fullest potential.***

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

- **HEA Board Meeting – Monday, 1/8/24 @ 4:00pm**
- **HUSD School Board Meeting – Wednesday, 1/10/24 @ 6:30pm**
- **HEA Virtual FRA Meeting – Monday, 1/22/24 @ 4:00pm**