

PETALUMA FEDERATION OF TEACHERS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

JANUARY/ FEBRUARY 2017

This is my first chance to wish everyone a Happy New Year. I hope everyone had a happy and restful Winter Break.

Negotiations Update

Your Negotiation's Team has been busy. We met with District Negotiators on January 24. Unfortunately, we did not reach any new agreements. In addition, the District informed the Federation that it is their intent to **not** offer a retirement incentive or the Willie Brown (reduced work load) option. The Federation has not agreed to the district's offer.

The Negotiations Team has scheduled visits for every site in our district. It is time to discuss where we are with regards to negotiations in person. Please see your site rep about the day and time for your site's visit. It is important for all our members to attend these meetings. It is your chance to hear from our negotiators firsthand and ask questions. We must all be informed and united. We must stand strong and support our negotiators so that together we can reach the best possible agreement.

Our next negotiation session is February 15. We are asking our members to wear blue on that day to demonstrate support for our negotiators. Suzanne Garcia, our Chief Negotiator, sends an update after each negotiation session via your private email. Please take a few minutes to read these updates. If you are not receiving these updates, email Sandra Larsen at pftoffice775@gmail.com to be added to our list.

PERB Update

Many of you may remember our last contract campaign. A big part of our efforts was focused on educating parents and the community. Flyers were designed specifically for that purpose. Many teachers distributed these flyers before and after school. The District attempted to stop this very successful practice . In doing so, they denied our members their First Amendment Rights. We filed an unfair labor practice with the PERB (Public Employees Relations Board). The charges were initially dismissed, but were reinstated last year. The Federation attended a settlement hearing at the PERB office. The District did not attempt to reach a settlement that day. We are waiting on the PERB Board to schedule a hearing date. We look forward to settling this matter. The bottom line is we have the right to distribute flyers to parents and members of the community. The Federation will not agree to any settlement that limits our First Amendment Rights.

Support Our Classified Colleagues

The Federation continues to meet with our CSEA colleagues. We are actively exploring ways we can support each other through these challenging times. Together we are stronger!

T-shirts

We are in the process of getting new t-shirts designed thanks to Molly Eckler(wife of Doug Emery, Valley Vista) . The Federation will be providing a new shirt to each member as well as to each member of CSEA (classified staff).



STRENGTH



SUPPORT



SOLIDARITY

PFT dues are deducted from 10 paychecks every year. If you are a full time employee, you will have \$90.15 deducted from your August through May pay warrants. Dues are not deducted from your June pay. Although dues are only collected from our members for ten months a year, the Federation must pay dues to AFT during the summer months. Part time teachers have the amount they pay reduced to half or quarter depending on their percentage of employment. Here is a breakdown of how your dues are disbursed.

Full Time Per Capitas

PFT sends the following amounts per member for 12 months a year.

American Federation of Teachers 22.84

California Federation of Teachers 54.88

California Labor Federation .84

Occupational Liability Insurance .42

North Bay Labor Council .70

Total sent out per per member \$ 79.32



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