

Happy New Year! Please remind members that all paperwork for early retirement (SERP) must be received by the District this Friday, January 18.

Institutional

1. **Administrative Review Pilot.** Please fill out the review for your principal and vice principal by 1/25/19. If you have difficulty with the link, please contact us at smmctamembers@smmcta.com.
2. **Negotiations.** Ongoing - Lots of work on the issues of Salary, Class size, Sped Collab, Assigned Days and Hours of Work, and cleaning up archaic language and more.
3. **SERP - Early Retirement.** **If you intend to partake in the program, the deadline to turn in your paperwork is January 18. Twenty certificated members must partake for the program to be go forward.**
4. **Online Learning/SAMO Summer School.** Meetings are taking place to allow for more equity and better student outcomes for these programs, and so no one department bears the brunt of effects these programs have on students and teachers.
5. **Union Dues for Taxes.** \$1074.80 (It's in the December 5 payroll check).

Instructional

1. **SPED.** All Afterschool meetings (other than occasional IEP's) are voluntary. If you are being required, let me know. You should be paid the hourly for that time (unless you volunteer).
2. **Ed Specs.** We are still waiting on a survey from Carey Upton and Ed Services for specifics and will then ask for those interested to meet.
3. **Interim Assessments.** The District is convinced both lead and lag data are necessary to improve teaching and learning. However, they are not tied to a particular test. If you feel there is a more helpful instrument and are willing to work on it, let your PLC's and Admin know.
4. **SAMO Block Scheduling Pilot.** They are giving the pilot another chance the last week in January.
5. **Head Start.** The Board of Ed will vote on whether to continue as most students don't qualify for it. If they elect to jettison the program, the District will take over the school program which may qualify more of our students.

Social Justice

1. **EASE Program is the Employee Assistance Service for Education** and it is a free, fully confidential service provided by LA County (unrelated to our District) for our members who need help with family issues, emotional distress, drug alcohol problems and job stress. Their number is **1(800)-882-1341**. Please give this number to anyone you think might need it. Leave a message and they will call you back.
2. **UTLA Strike.** We will adopt one or two schools in UTLA to support during the strike. And we ask, if you can drop by any striking school before or after school-, lend you support on the picket line. I did this morning and it was received with much love and enthusiasm! We are also contributing \$500 to the UTLA Solidarity Fund. Find out more at: wearepublicschools.org
3. **IISS- Summer School** - will take place with some changes this year- more to come.
4. **Diversity Dinner-** at Bay Valley in Culver City January 28. If interested in attending, please contact Liz Cowgill at elizabetcowgill@gmail.com.
5. **At Large Council Rep/ Tees-** If you ordered one and didn't get it or changed your mind, we may put in a second order. Contact Larissa at smmctamembers@smmcta.com with name and your site needs.

Election of State Council Representative – At-Large Seat-District I
Election of State Council Representative – At-Large Alternate

Declaration of candidacy forms will be available on our website when we receive them.

The term of your At-Large State Council representative, Sarah Robinson, expires June 25, 2019. Therefore, an election will be held for one (1) representative At-Large seat and one (1) alternate; terms June 26, 2019 through June 25, 2022.

In keeping with the desire of CTA to ensure that all chapters involved are given an opportunity to nominate a candidate and vote in the election for this position, the Bay Valley Service Center Elections Chairperson, will coordinate the election.

Any member of a chapter and CTA may file a Declaration of Candidacy form. The winner shall be determined by plurality vote. The alternate shall be the runner-up.

The Declaration of Candidacy form must be received in the Bay Valley office, 6095 Bristol Parkway, Suite 100, Culver City, 90230-6601, no later than 5:00 p.m., Thursday, January 31, 2019.

Ballots, biographical sketches, registration sign-up sheets, and tally sheets will be prepared and mailed by February 20th. Elections should be held February 21 – March 15, 2019. Ballots, sign-up sheets, and tally sheets are due in the Bay Valley office before 5:00 p.m., Monday, March 18, 2019.