

CTA Berryessa



The Official Newsletter of the California Teachers Association of Berryessa CTA/NEA

June 2011

Association Newsletter

June 2011

Negotiations Continue

Our negotiators will be meeting into the summer to come up with an agreement. You may be contacted during summer to ratify the contract. Make sure we have your current address.

News Updates On Our Website

Check our association website which is updated weekly.

Check it out at:

www.sjteach.org/ctab.html

BUSD Board Meetings

The upcoming BUSD School Board Meetings are:

-June 7th, 7pm

-June 28th, 7pm Approve Budget

Taking A Stand for Public Education



David Neighbors addresses the Town Hall on May 12th while Presidents of CTAB, CSEA and Teamsters listen.

Bargaining Update

Last week, members received an update on Bargaining. Our negotiations team will be meeting several times throughout June, including after school is out. Be assured that our negotiators will work towards a contract that advances the interests of our membership.

Veteran teachers and association activists Sandra Main and Katie Angarano have stepped forward to co-chair our Organizing Team. Their first task was a huge one, organizing our local actions for the statewide CTA State of Emergency week, May 9-13th.

Our major local activity was a forum/town hall meeting “*What the California Budget Crisis is Doing to Berryessa*” which was held on Thursday, May 12th, from 6-8p.m. at the Berryessa Branch Library. Besides hearing about the impact of the budget crisis, the 60 or so participants were encouraged to email and call legislators' offices from the forum. The event was moderated by community activist David Hernandez and it featured a panel of the presidents of our 3 local unions-- CTAB, CSEA and Teamsters. Several school board members were also in attendance.

Throughout the bay area and throughout the entire state, teachers and their allies rallied and demonstrated and reached out to the public to help raise the awareness of the dire situation in school funding.

Check for continued updates and photos of the Town Hall at www.sjteach.org/ctab .

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Below are the minutes from the May 12th Town Hall Meeting, an event during the CTA State of Emergency week.

BUSD TOWN HALL MEETING

CTAB PANELIST- Maria Smith,
President

May 12, 2011
6:00-8:00 PM

CA State of Emergency: How CA Budget Cuts Impact Teachers and Students in Berryessa

GOAL- Demand lawmakers to pass the tax extensions to prevent more cuts.

Background

In the past 3 years, \$20 billion has been stripped from education:

- vital student programs have been eliminated
- average class size is 35, even in the lower grades
- 40,000 education jobs are gone
- Districts have shut down schools for about 5-6 days = loss of learning, which impacts test scores

and Program Improvement status for schools that receive Title I funding

Governor's Budget Proposal

Extending temporary taxes from 2009, expires June 30

- increases to sales, income, and vehicle taxes
- will not pay more than what you pay now

Berryessa Union School District

- possibility of furlough days increased to 5 (+2 days for 2010-11) for 2011-12 = loss of instruction
- 96 RIF notices were given for reassignments and layoffs
- 39 certificated employees are still RIFed: K-5 teachers, music and PE teachers, counselors, Vice-Principals, Psychologists, Social Worker, and District Librarian
- class size increase 30:1 in K-3
- more prep time needed for increased class size
- overcrowding, lack of or limited space, furniture, and supplies
-

Update as of June 1, 2011

- As of 5/24, the School Board approved to rescind 35.5 FTE multiple subject classroom teachers, 3.0 FTE counselors, Teacher Advisors, Program Specialist, and CO-Administrators/Vice-President. The rest of the counselors, elementary music and PE teachers, and District Librarian have not yet been rescinded.

Town Hall Meetings With Trustees David Neighbors and Khoa Nguyen

BUSD Trustees David Neighbors and Khoa Nguyen held a second Town Hall meeting, open to the public, on May 26th at Vinci Park and a follow-up session on June 6th. These meetings are a beginning of what we hope will be a regular series of dialogues between our members and our school board members.

David welcomes direct email input from members to his personal email at

DavidNeighbors2010@yahoo.com.

Get Involved -- This is YOUR Union!

Your union depends upon all of us to work collectively. Besides your elected Executive Board, our members have been encouraged to get involved in several ways.

- Organizing Co-Chairs Katie Angarano and Sandra Main are looking for Organizing members from each site. Let your site rep know or contact the Co chairs (at the emails listed on page 3).
- Superintendent Search Committee has had MS teacher Andy Maino on it as the CTAB representative.
- Grievance Committee composed of Chris Davis (PM), Ginger Jensen (VP), Marlene Teehan (CW) has been recently trained to assist with grievances starting in 2011-12.
- Negotiations Team Alternatives for 2011-12: , Tammie Irvine (TY), Tina Nguyen-Lee (MMS)
- Attending school board meetings, State of Emergency activities and town hall style meetings

We can also have a public relations committee (newsletter and website) as well as an External Organizing committee. If interested, contact Vice President Rob Curry at (650)763-7526 or at rdcurry@sjteach.org



STATE OF EMERGENCY

State of Emergency Week of Action Applies Pressure on Lawmakers Just the Beginning

By Joe Hermann, CTAB's CTA State Council Rep

The State of Emergency (SOE) week of action (May 13-17) was very successful throughout California. Thank you for all of your hard work to educate and engage public support for revenue extensions to prevent further cuts. The Berryessa Organizing Team coordinated a community Town Hall meeting that included a distinctive panel fielding questions from a concerned audience at the Berryessa public library. Many CTA of Berryessa members also participated in the Eastridge Grade In and the May 13th rally in San Francisco.

In Sacramento, CTA President David A. Sanchez urged an estimated 3,000 rally participants to keep the pressure on Republican lawmakers to provide the votes needed to extend the state's temporary taxes and approve a budget that will prevent another \$4.1 billion in cuts to education and other public services. President Sanchez spoke to the crowd after spending a night in the Sacramento County jail with 27 other colleagues. All were arrested Thursday night, May 16, for refusing to leave the Capitol after hundreds of CTA members were exerting pressure on the Republican leadership inside the Capitol to pass the tax extension and the budget.

This was an important step in our work to protect educational funding for public schools and colleges, but we can't stop. We need your help to stave off additional devastating cuts to public education and other public services. Please use CTA's toll-free number **1-888-268-4334** – to call your local Assembly Member and state Senator, and urge them to support Gov. Jerry Brown's proposal to extend the state's temporary tax measures.

Here's what you can do to help:

Use CTA's toll free 888 number to call both your local state Senator and Assembly member. Dial **1-888-268-4334** from your home phone and you will be put through automatically to one of your two state lawmakers.

Know Your Contract

See the contract online at: http://sjteach.org/CTAB_contract_2010-2012_V_5a.pdf

Be aware of unclear article language: For example--

Moving classrooms for involuntary reasons: any packing & moving pay has to be approved prior to the actual moving with Personnel

The middle school bell schedule is developed between site staff and the principal not the DO, so district does not get involved even if teachers & principal disagree. The bell schedule is a site based decision on which the staff and administrator have to come to consensus, not a majority vote.

Starting at the beginning of 2011-12, CTA of Berryessa will have a grievance committee to help members file grievances. However, members are encouraged to try to resolve issues with their administrator with the help of their site rep before filing a grievance.

Contact Your Executive Board

President Maria Smith (TOSA - District Office)
mssmith619@yahoo.com

Vice President Rob Curry (Teacher- Piedmont MS)
rdcurry@sjteach.org

Secretary Amy Swain (Teacher - Morrill MS)
akashu@gmail.com

Treasurer Melanie Ontiveros (Teacher - Sierramont MS)
mejcro@yahoo.com

Elem. Reps.
 Becky Hansen (Teacher - Laneview)
becky.ctab@ehansen.com

Rebecca Costello (TOSA - District Office)
majesticmonarch@sbcglobal.net

Middle School Rep. Liz Karzag (Teacher - Piedmont MS)
ekarzag@gmail.com

State Council Rep Joe Hermann (Teacher - Brooktree)
j.hermann@sbcglobal.net

Organizing Team Co-Chairs

Katie Angarano kangarano@yahoo.com

Sandra Main mainsandra@ymail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, June 9 Last Day of School

Friday, June 10 Furlough Day
 4:00pm MEET/GREET- STATE SENATOR JIM
 BEALL @ 34 S 2nd St , Campbell Room 210

Monday, June 13 2:45pm EvBd meets w/ Khoa Nguyen:
 4:00pm ExBd Meets w/ David Neighbors:

Tuesday, June 14 NEGOTIATIONS @ DO

Thursday, June 16 NEGOTIATIONS @ Mt Ham
 4:30pm ExBd Meets w/ David Cohen

Wednesday, June 22 3:30pm ExBd Meet w/ Richard Claspill:

Tuesday, June 28 7:00pm BUSD Board Mtg.

Wednesday, June 29 -JULY 5 NEA Representative Assembly
 CHICAGO (Rob, Joe, Manny L, Gary G)

July 18-22 President's Conference (Maria and Rob)

Summer Institute at UCLA July 31- August 5

Friday, Aug 12 Ex Board All Day Meeting/Retreat

Tuesday Aug 16th ExBd Meet with New Teachers

Wednesday Aug 17th CTAB General Meeting at BYC

Stay Informed Over The Summer-- Our website
 at www.sjteach.org/ctab will be updated regularly

Decision May Be Near On New Superintendent

The Superintendent Interview Committee, en-paneled by the BUSD Board of Trustees, met on June 3rd-4th. It is anticipated that the Board of Trustees will visit the selected candidate's district and make a decision in the very near future. We are all hopeful that they select the very best candidate to lead our district.

CONTACT OUR SCHOOL BOARD

Khoa Nguyen, President Khoa.Nguyen@berryessa.k12.ca.us
 Linda Chen Linda.Chen@berryessa.k12.ca.us
 David Neighbors david.neighbors@berryessa.k12.ca.us
 or DavidNeighbors2010@yahoo.com
 Richard Claspill richard.claspill@berryessa.k12.ca.us
 David Cohen david.cohen@berryessa.k12.ca.us