

No-Learning/Paycut Days

VEA and VCUSD agreed to take up to five "No-Learning/Paycut" days for the 2012-13 school year. Four of the five days do not have to happen if we organize and get the word out regarding Prop 30, "The Schools and Safety Protection Act." Without passage of Prop 30, school districts may receive a cut of up to \$458 in the Base Revenue Limit (BRL). This is the amount that districts receive per "average daily attendance," (ADA). Five days have been calendared with the first two occurring on the Thursday and Friday before the November election.

Unit members need to keep in mind that the District will start deducting for all five days starting in the September 30th paycheck. When Prop 30 passes, this money will be added back into paychecks and an additional day added at the end of the school year. By starting these deductions now over a 10 month spread, we hope to minimize the impact. If we wait until after the November election, chances are deductions would not have occurred until January. This is also when increased costs to our health benefits occur.

Evaluations

All unit members need to be notified by the third Friday in September if they are to be evaluated for the 2012-13 school year. Remember that under Process A, unit members are evaluated on three objectives jointly selected with their site manager from the CSTP's. Unit members who are to be evaluated under Process B jointly select with their site manager one objective from the CSTP's. October 15th is the deadline in both Process A and B for when objectives need to be selected.

NOTE: Remember that you do have a say in your evaluation process. No plan should be handed to you from your site administrator with predetermined objectives. Our contract is very clear on this. It states under 11.5 that "the evaluator and the unit member shall jointly design a plan."

Permanent status unit members should only be evaluated under Process A if they received an unsatisfactory evaluation in the previous year OR if their site administrator notified them in writing with specific concerns outlined from the CSTP's prior to the last workday of the school year.

A copy of the CSTP's is available on our website at myvea.org and at the back of the VCUSD/VEA Collective Bargaining Agreement.

If there are issues or concerns with your evaluation plan, please contact me right away at vjoedassn@comcast or 707-864-6193.

Membership Cards

Membership cards are due to hit school sites within the next couple of weeks. Unit members need to check the information on their cards and note any changes in contact information. Please return any changes to your Site Rep.

Be patient by allowing us to get cards out until the end of this month. If you still have not received your membership card by October 1st, please contact Martha Hatcher, Office Manager at (707)864-6193.

Walkthroughs

At the District Buy-Back days and at the meetings held on the non-student work day, a template was revealed that site administrators may use when conducting walk-throughs. After hearing some concerns expressed by unit members, I contacted Cheri Summers, Chief Academic Officer to see if the District would agree to some working agreements on walk-throughs and the use of the PEERE template. We developed some tentative working agreements on Wednesday, August 29th. As soon as they receive final approval, the agreements will be shared with unit members.

School Site Visits on Prop 30 and Prop 32!

Within the next couple of weeks, school sites should expect to receive a visit from E-Board members regarding Prop 30 and Prop 32. It is incredibly important to stay for these meetings to get information on both propositions. These propositions have serious implications to our future depending upon the outcome of the election.

You can also go to our website to receive more information on both propositions. As always, while VEA may advocate a certain position on these and other political issues, we also recognize that people should absolutely vote their conscience.

MyVEA.org Gets a Facelift!

In case you haven't noticed, over the summer the VEA website received a make-over. The new redesign was done in the attempt to bring our website into the 21st Century as the old design was *so 2004* – the year that I think we first developed a place on the web for VEA.

The website is much more interactive, allowing members and the community to comment on updates. If you have a smartphone, you can subscribe to the VEA calendar and get all updates to upcoming events synced right to your phone. Are you a Social Media user? Well, you can now log-in using one of your social media accounts to comment on posts. We also allow for ease of use in signing up for our online e-newsletter.

Take a look at the website and be sure to let us know what you think. Who knows? You might just win a gift card for one of your comments!

President's Agenda

July 30 th – 31 st	Executive Board planning session	August 23	Worked in Office
August 5 – 9	CTA Summer Institute	August 24	Job-share at Wardlaw
August 9	Student Assessment & Accountability Mtg.	August 27	Worked in Office/Meeting at Wardlaw
August 14 – 15	Buy-Back Days	August 28	Meeting at DO/Meeting at CTA
August 15	School Board Meeting	August 29	Meeting at DO
August 16 – 17	Non-Student Work Days	August 30	E-Board Meeting
August 16	Meeting at the DO	August 31	Job-share at Wardlaw
August 17 – 19	CTA Strategic Planning Group		
August 20	Job-share at Wardlaw		
August 21	Meeting with School Board Member		
August 22	Job-share at Wardlaw/Meeting at Glen Cove		