



SSA NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2010

School Supervisors Association (SSA) • Phone: (510) 478-4030 • Email: ssafalk@yahoo.com • Website: www.ssa1977.org

HEALTH BENEFIT FAIR – SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 AT HELMS

This is a reminder that the District is holding a Health Benefits Fair combined with Open Enrollment and vendor presentations on SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 AT HELMS MIDDLE SCHOOL. The District previously sent out notices to all employees; so if you have questions about the Health Benefit Fair or about OPEN ENROLLMENT, please contact Emily Millar in H.R. at the District Office. **Remember, you may want to consider signing up for the 125 Plan to treat the amount you pay for health benefits as “pre-tax” dollars.** The flyer states that there will be continental breakfast food served and some door prizes. If you can't attend, and need to sign up for the 125 Plan or make changes to your health benefit plan, you will have to contact Emily Millar's office in H.R.

CALPERS INCREASES TO HEALTH BENEFIT RATES—DEVASTATING TO EMPLOYEES

As you may be aware, the cost of the health benefits offered to employees is set by the statewide CalPERS system. In the past CalPERS has been able, due to its size and negotiations power, to help contain the cost of health benefits. Millions of public employees are covered by CalPERS benefits. The district (and other public agencies which are part of the CalPERS health benefit system) do not set the premium rates, nor do they have the ability to try to negotiate them—CalPERS does that on behalf of the enrollees. You have all received the notice from the District alerting you to the January 1, 2011 increased health care costs. They are shocking to say the least, and quite devastating to all employees of the district. Unfortunately, the State finances seriously impact the District's revenues, and the financial picture for WCCUSD does not look promising. Furthermore, the lack of a State budget makes it extremely difficult for the District to predict with any certainty the future budget. Once the fiscal status is more certain, your SSA Board and Negotiations team will be reviewing alternatives and will be contacting the district to discuss this matter on your behalf. We will keep you informed.

PARCEL TAX PASSAGE ESSENTIAL – YES ON MEASURE M

Once again we want to remind SSA members that your SSA Board of Directors voted unanimously to ask our members to support passage of the District Parcel Tax, Measure M this November. For more information about the Parcel Tax and how you can get involved to help with its passage, please go on line to **YES ON MEASURE M**. Any help you can provide is welcome, a lawn sign, an hour of phone banking, walking a precinct, etc.



MEMBER APPRECIATION RECEPTION – OCTOBER 7

If you haven't had a chance to respond to the invitation, please let us know if you will be able to attend the SSA **MEMBER APPRECIATION RECEPTION ON OCTOBER 7 from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at La Strada Restaurant**. We will have appetizers, soft drinks, a complimentary bar drink and **DOOR PRIZES !** This will be chance for you to socialize with each other, get to know your SSA elected Board of Directors and just relax. Superintendent Bruce Harter and some members of

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cabinet and administration will be present, to show their appreciation and recognition of you. This will be an opportunity to simply enjoy yourselves—no workshops, no long speeches, no complaints-- just a nice time for all. There will be good food, good company and good door prizes. **SSA MEMBERS WHO ATTEND WILL BE ABLE TO RECEIVE YOUR COPY OF THE NEWLY PRINTED SSA CONTRACT.** If you haven't already done so, please email ssafalk@yahoo.com to let us know if you will attend. Thank you to all of you who have already responded.

EAP PLAN OFFERED TO EMPLOYEES ~ CONFIDENTIAL ~ NO COST ~ VOLUNTARY

The Employee Assistance Plan (EAP) being offered to employees at no cost is a one year pilot program. The EAP offers many types of counseling and support services to employees on a voluntary basis at no cost. Any interactions with the EAP program are **COMPLETELY CONFIDENTIAL**. If you are interested in finding out more about the EAP program, contact the H.R. Benefits department, Emily Millar. In agencies where an EAP plan is offered, employees have found it to be very helpful with both short-term and long-term personal issues. To find out more you can go to **members.mhn.com** and use the company code **wccusd**; or phone **1 (800) 977-7593**.

SSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS—ELECTED BY YOU TO REPRESENT YOU

SSA is your legally recognized union representative. SSA was formed in 1977 to represent classified school supervisors in WCCUSD (then RUSD) regarding negotiations, contract issues and other workplace issues. SSA has an elected Board of Directors, consisting of employees of the district who are members of the supervisory bargaining unit. They meet monthly to conduct SSA business and to set direction and policy of the association on behalf of the members. They contribute many volunteer hours of their own time and serve on a number of different SSA committees.

YOUR SSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mary Jones, President
Sandi Brown, Vice President
Linda Castellan
Jim Edward
Dave Frazier

Nicole Joyner
Derek Milton
Daniel Moreno
Ken Russell

In addition, **Ms. Nell Young** assists the Board with recording minutes, keeping membership records up to date, sending notices to members and assisting the Board and Executive Director in carrying out the SSA business essentials. Nell has been assisting with the operations and business of SSA since 1977, and we all owe her a great amount of recognition and appreciation.

THANK YOU ALL SSA MEMBERS FOR YOUR HARD WORK!

SSA website is www.ssa1977.org