



# e-Bulletin

*(This email is going to all teachers)*

Dear Colleagues,

I hope you find time to relax and refresh over the break, and spend some quality time with family and friends. Here is a brief PFT update.

Enjoy!

Kelly

## **Calendar Survey Info**

490 teachers responded to the survey. The adopted calendar reflects the preferences expressed by teachers in the survey. 😊 (See attached for full survey results as well as the adopted calendar).

- **Summary of Results**
  - 66.67% of teachers would like the first day of school for students to be on a Wednesday.
  - 66.38% of teachers would like the last student day of the school year to be on a Thursday.
  - 58% of teachers would prefer to start the school year later in August and end later in June.
  - 72.84% of teachers prefer Calendar B: Winter Break begins on Saturday, December 22nd and ends on Sunday, January 6th (school resumes January 7th).

## **San Diego Labor Council Diaper, Food, and Toy Drive**

The San Diego and Imperial County Labor Council distributes diapers, food, and toys to those in need. If you would like to contribute, please drop off items to the PFT office no later than Tuesday December 5<sup>th</sup> (see attached for more info).

## **Interest Based Problem Solving (IBPS) Meetings**

All day sessions are scheduled for Nov. 28, Dec. 13, and Jan. 9

## **Flex Time Survey Results**

FLEX TIME is our 188th paid teacher work day. It is intended to be an opportunity for seven hours of teacher directed collaborative professional learning time at full salary. Teachers decide the content and when they will do the work (outside work day and/or year).

- 78.6% of teachers used the seven hours across multiple sessions
- 76.4% used it to collaborate with site colleagues

- 59 % would like to continue with the Flex Day and 41% would like to have a full pro grow day with planned content

### **Special Education Advisory Committee, formerly FCMAT Planning Day**

On November 7, 2017, this committee met to review how PUSD is providing supports to students receiving special education services and to identify opportunities to strengthen and improve our programs. Your input as a teacher professional is valuable and will be sought as this process moves forward. This committee will reconvene on January 23, 2018.

### **The PUSD Budget**

State funding for PUSD is lower than many other districts around us because of the way we are funded. The current state funding system is called of the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF). Under this system, districts with a high number of qualifying students (free and reduced meal, ELL, foster youth) receive more money (a supplemental and concentration grant) from the state (above and beyond the base grant per student). PUSD has a low number of qualifying students, while San Diego Unified, for example, has a high number. Basic aid districts, like those on the coast, do not have a high number of qualifying students but receive more money than PUSD. This is because of their high local property taxes. The amount PUSD receives under the LCFF together with annual roll forward costs such as step and column and large increases in STRS and PERS contributions, has resulted in a structural deficit in PUSD. This means the district spends more than it is taking in each year and that this is happening over multiple years. PUSD's mid-range structural deficit projection is 14.8 million for 2018-19 and 16.9 million for 2019-20. They are projecting about 8 million in cuts for 2018-19 and another 8 million in 2019-20.

A glimmer of hope: According to School Services of CA, an analysis by the Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) "...concludes that the Prop 98 guarantee in the current year is up \$651 million. The increase is due primarily to their assumption of higher General Fund tax revenue and is largely paid for by higher than anticipated local property taxes." The Governor's budget comes out on January 10, and we'll be able to see what he is proposing for school funding. Any additional monies for the current year and the following would help with the projected cuts estimated above. More info to come in January...

### **By-district Area Elections**

In PUSD, the election of school board members has been "at-large", meaning all voters living in the district boundaries vote for each of the five seats on the Board when those seats are up for election. To comply with the CA Voting Rights Act, PUSD is moving to "by-district area" elections. This means voters will only vote for those candidates living in their designated district area. The PUSD School Board selected Map 131 to define our "districts", which will go to the County for approval (see district website and/or your PFT Site Rep for more info).

In Solidarity,  
Kelly