



## Anaheim Elementary Education Association

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Cathy Rodriguez, Vice President  
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*The vision for AEEA in 08-09 is to build strength through unity, growth in leadership, and increased participation by providing support, service, and advocacy for members' rights.* AEEA Executive Board, July 28, 2008

### From CTA President, David Sanchez

The reauthorization of the No Child Left Behind Act is expected to start in January. CTA will again lead efforts to erase, rewrite and then reauthorize this punitive law. President Obama and Education Secretary Arne Duncan have promised to work with educators on the reauthorization, but we also know they support merit pay and charter school proposals that we will be watching very carefully.

Paying and evaluating teachers based on a single test score does not improve student learning and does not help attract and retain quality teachers in lower-performing schools; we will not stand for it!

Secretary Duncan is also a little confused about California's law for tracking student and teacher data. You may have read something about this as Secretary Duncan has been threatening to prevent California from qualifying for some federal education grants. What Secretary Duncan doesn't understand is that California law doesn't prohibit linking student and teacher data. In fact, it already is linked at the local level.

California law also doesn't prohibit the use of student assessments in evaluating teachers, but if and how that is done is bargained at the local level.

The CTA Board of Directors has already appointed a member and staff workgroup to guide our efforts throughout the reauthorization. CTA will also be making sure NEA holds strong and does what's right around NCLB.

### QUICK NOTES

**Get on board. Get inspired.** Target® will award 5,000 grants of up to \$800 each in 2010 to send students on exciting, enriching field trips. Get hands-on with sculpture. Go backstage at a theater. Explore more with a Target Field Trip Grant. **Get in on the fun!** Mark your calendar and visit [Target.com/fieldtrips](http://Target.com/fieldtrips) to complete the easy online application between Aug. 5 and Nov. 3, 2009.

Remember to be your own advocate! If you do not already have a file with your contracts, observations, and evaluations, get one started today. **Keep everything** including notes left in your school mailbox, letters sent from the District, and notes left in your room by your site administrator. Remember too that our contract is only as strong as members and their willingness to enforce it and of course adhere to it.

During the 08-09 school year, your AEEA Executive Board held some of their meetings at school sites and scheduled an open session at the start of each for members to have the opportunity to address the board. That policy will continue this year, but the meetings will be held at Teachers United. Check the Important Dates section of this newsletter for the next scheduled AEEA Board meeting.

Be on the lookout in the next few weeks for your CTA/NEA calendar to be delivered to your school mailbox. Membership cards will follow about a month later. If you do not receive these important materials or you are unsure of your membership status, please contact the Teachers United office (714) 956-4581 X11. Ask for the membership staff person, Debbie Knapp, or send her an email at [debraoftu@aol.com](mailto:debraoftu@aol.com).

## Help CTA by Completing an Online Survey and Be Entered to Win \$100

In 2008, The California Endowment gave CTA a \$350,000 grant to establish the Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds project. The goals of the project are to increase teacher awareness of the link between nutrition, physical education, physical activity and learning; provide simple classroom and school site strategies that promote a healthful learning environment; and encourage collaborative efforts between CTA and other stakeholders to support local school board policies and state legislative efforts promoting health and learning.

As part of this project, CTA needs to collect data in order to make informed decisions about how to proceed. CTA needs your help! Go to [www.cta.org](http://www.cta.org) and complete the online survey. It should take no more than 10 minutes. Your responses are confidential and, once complete; you'll be entered to win a \$100 Visa gift card. Deadline is September 15, 2009.

## GRIEVANCE UPDATES

At one point during the Spring of 2009, the AEEA was involved in four potential grievances with the ACSD. One of the four was avoided altogether, another was dropped due to further investigation, a third one resulted in a Memorandum of Understanding that was recently entered into with the district regarding the return rights of members (Article 5.4.2.1) and the clarification of said rights, and the fourth one having to do with an Involuntary Transfer (Articles 5.2 and 5.3) has yet to be resolved. The AEEA has provided the ACSD with transcripts and evidence from a similar grievance that went to arbitration back in the mid 1990's. It is the goal of the AEEA to work through this with the District, but in order to protect contractual rights arbitration may be the only option.

## CTA Dues

For ten months each year your paystub reflects a dues withdrawal to the Anaheim Elementary Education Association. That amount is for dues to your local chapter (AEEA), Teachers United, CTA, and NEA. Any dues increase for either AEEA or TU must be voted in by the respective representative councils.

CTA dues are automatically indexed and based on a three year average of statewide salary changes. This means a \$2.20 increase in CTA dues for the 09-10 school year. There will be a lag for the index to "catch up" to any possible statewide salary reductions. Increase is not anyone's favorite word right now, but this system was established many years ago in order to avoid huge spikes, and to ensure the stability of the organization as it works on our behalf for educational and workplace issues.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**August 24**

**AEEA Executive Board @ 4 pm**  
(4:00 – 4:10 Open Session)

**August 31**  
**September 7**

**ACSD School Board @ 6 pm**  
**AEEA Representative Council**  
**Holiday – Labor Day**  
**TU Office Closed**

**September 14**  
**September 21**

**ACSD School Board @ 6 pm**  
**AEEA Executive Board @ 4 pm**  
(4:00 – 4:10 Open Session)

## IMPORTANT CONTACT INFO

**Teachers United**  
[www.teachers-united.org](http://www.teachers-united.org)  
910 S. Brookhurst Ave., Suite 204  
Anaheim, CA 92804

**AEEA Cell Phone**  
**(714) 398-4877**  
aeeaofu@aol.com  
Kristen Fisher

**Phone: (714) 956-4581 Fax: (714) 635-2603**

## CTA Staff at TU

**Executive Directors:** George Woods and Barbara Dresel

**Associate Staff:** Anne Laguette and Debbie Knapp



