



THE BEAR FACTS

California School Employees Association - Chapter 2 - is the exclusive bargaining agent for the Classified Employees of LBUSD
MAY 2007 VOL. 07 NO. 04

State Schools Chief Announces \$550 Million for Before-and After-School Programs

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Jack O'Connell announced in March that more than 4,000 schools statewide will receive a combined \$550 million in After School Education and Safety (ASES) grants. The complete list of grantees is available on the California Department of Education Web site, www.cde.ca.gov.

These grants were designed to encourage school districts to create locally driven before- and after-school programs. The funding process required applicants to collaborate with families, community organizations, law enforcement agencies and the private sector to develop these programs. The programs were also required to have educational and literacy components to provide tutoring and/or homework assistance in one or more subjects. The subjects include language arts, mathematics, history, social science, or science. The educational enrichment component may include recreation and prevention activities such as visual and performing arts, music, physical activity, health promotion, and general recreation; career awareness and work preparation activities; community service learning; and other youth development activities based on student needs and interests.

The \$550 million for ASES was provided by Proposition 49, passed in 2002. Priority was given to schools where at least half of the students qualified for free or reduced price meals. After that, priority was determined by other indicators of need, including the availability of other programs in the neighborhood. Every public school in the state was eligible to apply for funding.

The Meaning of Memorial Day

The last Monday in May we pause to remember those who died, with so much courage, with so much pride, for our Country and our freedom. They'll never come back....but memories endure....to remind us of freedom....fragile and pure. We're worthy of their sacrifice if we pause every day, not just the last Monday in May, to remember their sacrifice for our freedom.



It is a sacred day to all war veterans: None need to be reminded of the reason why Memorial Day must be commemorated. But what about the general public....the rest of us...and more importantly, future generations? Do most non-veterans really recognize the importance of May 30? Judging from what Memorial Day has become...simply another day off from work... the answer is a resounding no. Perhaps a reminder is due then. And it is the duty of each and every veteran to relay the message.

Why Remember Memorial Day?

Sacrifice is meaningless without remembrance. America's collective consciousness demands that all citizens be aware of and recall on special occasions the deaths of their fellow countrymen during wartime. Far too often, the nation as a whole takes for granted the freedoms all Americans enjoy. Those freedoms were paid for with the lives of others few of us actually knew. That's why they are all collectively remembered on one special day. This should be regarded as a civic obligation. For this is a national debt that can only be truly repaid by individual Americans. By honoring the nation's war dead, we preserve their memory and thus their service and sacrifice.

Who are we remembering on Memorial Day?

The nations mourn the loss of all Americans who died defending their country throughout the world since 1775. These are men and women who have remained mostly anonymous except to the families who loved them. They came from all walks of life and regions of the country. But they all had one thing in common....love of country and loyalty to country. Who are they? They were relatives, friends and neighbors melded together to perform a service for entire society...they were the nation's defenders. They fought and many gave their lives so our boys and girls could have the freedom they enjoy today.



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CHAPTER MEETING

May 17, 2007
5:15 p.m. at the TRC
1299 E. 32nd St.
(at Orange Ave.)



THE BEAR FACTS is published monthly (September - June) for the classified employees of Long Beach Unified School District. We welcome your articles, suggestions, questions and letters. Please send them to ViolaMae CRPO, by the second Monday of the month.

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CHAPTER 2 - 2006
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LB Chapter #2 Family...

As long as I have been an LBUSD employee and a CSEA member, I have viewed CSEA as my extended family. We - as family - encounter some ups and downs; some good days and bad. Everything may not always work out our way. Sometimes, one might want to go left and another right. We may bicker, get upset or occasionally not speak to each other for a brief moment. It's OK! Because when the ugly presents itself, family always – ALWAYS - put everything else aside. As long as we pull together, we can make it.

Recently, one of our faithful, committed, dedicated, long-suffering and die-hard members met with some unfortunate circumstances. We are family!!! We still love that member even in these circumstances. We do not cast anyone away. You can say one thing. However, it is not what you say, it is what you do! Whether you know to whom I'm referring or not, just recognize that we love each other. We will stand by one another through thick and thin. That is the LB Chapter #2 CSEA way!

We have the greatest members! I trust that more and more will realize that CSEA is for the good of us all. Along these lines, I would like to thank our Recognition Committee Chairperson Vickie West and committee members who selected me as a LB#2 2007 Unsung Hero (or as I say SHERo). It was held on Saturday, April 14th, at the Queen Mary Hotel. My son Ramon, his fiancée Jasmine, my granddaughter Chastity and my chapter family with Area G's 34 other Unsung Heroes were in attendance. It was a festive occasion. The Cherry Pop band helped make the event most enjoyable. I received a beautiful plaque that I will cherish for years to come. It is wonderful to be recognized for trying to make a difference. The theme, "Stars for All Seasons," was befitting.

Speaking of stars, congratulations are in order for our newest Site Representatives: Myreya Barrios, Jasmin Carlson, Debra Atlas, Hope Villareal and Terisa Tautolo. The chapter thanks you for recognizing the need to build our membership.

Please watch for the following MAY ACTIVITIES:

- Conference registration (plus conference hotel/travel reservations)
- CSEW celebration Bar-B-Que
- Know Your Rights Training on Thursday, May 10, 2007 at Catalina Island
- Negotiations continue

Please let me conclude by saying that I am honored to be your Union President. I sincerely hope that I am making a difference in your lives during my presidency.

In Solidarity,
 Mary Brown



Mother - that was the bank where we deposited all our hurts and worries. ~T. DeWitt Talmage

A man's work is from sun to sun, but a mother's work is never done. ~Author Unknown

A man loves his sweetheart the most, his wife the best, but his mother the longest. ~Irish Proverb

The real religion of the world comes from women much more than from men - from mothers most of all, who carry the key of our souls in their bosoms. ~Oliver Wendell Holmes

Chapter 2

“MESSAGE MACHINE”

(562) 426-6091



Do you have on-the-job problems, contract violations, or disputes that you need help with?

You need to contact Long Beach Chapter 2 immediately after you decide to have CSEA represent you. Call the above number to leave a message (no beeper #'s).

PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS!



**CHAPTER 2 - 2006
JOB STEWARDS**

- Brad Angell
- ViolaMae Bledsoe
- Mary Brown
- Dan Ewaskey
- Karen Foote
- Jim Duessent
- Patricia Jackson
- Valeeta Pharr
- Adrienne Rambo
- Joe Schlessler



Work Related Injuries and Industrial Accident Leave

What should I do if I am injured at work?

Report the injury immediately and fill out the appropriate forms to protect the integrity of your claim. You may obtain the forms from your employer. If you don't report it when it occurs, but instead go home and report it the next day or days later, there is room for the District or its Worker's Compensation Administrator to challenge if the injury really occurred at work, especially if there are no witnesses.

You are entitled to a worker's compensation attorney if you so desire. CSEA does not represent employees in worker's compensation cases but can refer you to a local worker's compensation attorney at no cost to you.

What are my contractual and statutory rights to Industrial Accident Leave?

Unlike most private sector employees, classified school employees have statutory rights under the California Education Code that give them extensive leave provisions when suffering a work related illness or injury. In your CSEA contract under Article VIII M - Industrial Injury or Illness Leave, such benefits and procedures are outlined. I suggest you review them in their entirety, but will give a brief synopsis and explanation here.

If you suffer a work related illness or injury that qualifies under the provisions of the worker's compensation insurance law, you are entitled to up to 480 hours (approximately 60 working days) of full salary, for each injury or illness. This industrial accident (IA) leave is not cumulative from year to year.

What happens to my pay if my injury is so great that I do not recover within those 480 hours (60 working days) of fully paid leave?

If you are still receiving worker's compensation insurance benefits after your IA leave is exhausted (approximately 60 working days), you will then be placed on regular sick leave, vacation leave, accumulated compensating time off, and personal leave prior to being granted statutory leave. These leaves will be coordinated with your worker's compensation insurance benefits which are approximately 2/3 of your regular salary. So if you have 10 sick days on the books, they will last approximately 30 work days since it only takes 1/3 of a sick day to equal your full pay when added to your worker's compensation insurance benefit of 2/3 salary. The exception would be if your salary exceeds the maximum weekly worker's compensation benefit, then you may utilize your sick leave at a faster rate. The maximum worker's compensation weekly benefit is currently \$728.

What happens if I use up all my paid leaves and am still unable to return to work?

It is vitally important to keep track of how much paid leave you have left on the books when out on an extended illness or injury leave. Do not rely on your employer to inform you, instead you should contact the District to confirm the type of leave and how much you have on the books. If you have exhausted all your fully paid leaves, and are unable to return to work as determined by your physician and the district physician, under Article VIII M. 7, you can request and may be granted an unpaid leave for up to one year. You are not eligible for Sick Leave Donations while receiving worker's compensation benefits.

What happens when I exhaust all my leaves?

This is where employees are always surprised that they can end up without a job from a work related injury. In accordance with your contract (Article VIII M. 9.) and the California Education Code, when all available leaves of absence, paid or unpaid, have been exhausted and if the employee is not medically able to assume the duties of his/her position, he/she shall, if not placed in another position, be placed on a reemployment list for a period of 39 months.

What this means is that once you exhaust all your paid and unpaid leaves you are placed on a 39 month medical re-hire list, much like a layoff list. You will no longer be receiving a paycheck or benefits from the District. However, you may still receive the 2/3 worker's compensation payments directly from the state. When you do become available to return to work during those 39 months, you have the right to be placed in a vacant position in the class of your previous assignment over all other available candidates, except for someone on a reemployment list established from a layoff for lack of work or lack of funds.

Last Chance To Vote In CSEA Area Elections

May 31st is the last day to vote for your area representative to the CSEA Board of Directors. Every CSEA member has a chance to vote. Your decisions regarding CSEA leadership affects every aspect of your life—your job, your family, your benefits and your retirement. There are 10 area directors and 10 alternate area directors, who each serve a two-year term. Area directors are elected to bring the issues and concerns of their geographical area to the association board; they represent several chapters in one specific CSEA area. Half of the areas will elect their directors at CSEA chapter meetings this year. (The other half will be elected next year.) The same goes for alternate area directors. Association officers (president, vice president, and secretary) are elected at the annual conference in August and sworn in at the end of the conference. These are the candidates for area and alternate area director:

Area A Director:
Martha Penry, Rio Linda 290

Area C Director:
Cynthia (Cindy) Zecher,
Alameda 27

Area E Director:
John Stewart, Mariposa 609

Area G Director:
Johnny B. Adargaz, Montebello
505
Ivan Pastrano, East Whittier 87
Rosemarie Riley, Pasadena 434
Claudia Sanchez, Montebello
505



Celebrating a Tradition of Pride

Since CSEA's founding in 1927, members have strived to make their communities aware of classified employees' contributions to public education.

Governor Ronald Reagan first proclaimed Classified School Employee Week in 1969, stating that "The classified employee is proud of his status and the integral part he plays in the total field of education throughout the State of California."

In 1984, CSEA members passed a resolution to establish an official recognition week, and a year later it was adopted as a state-sponsored resolution. Then, in 1986, Senate Bill 1552 (Campbell) permanently solidified Classified School Employees Week as an annual week of statewide recognition.

Bill sponsor William Campbell said, "I urge all citizens to work closely to take time out and to think about school days and recall the efforts of the bus drivers, secretaries, custodians, and all the other classified staff they met and knew. As much as any other group of employees, the classified school staff is a valued and integral part of the public schools system and their work is vital to our children's success."

The ensuing recognition led to newspaper articles and resolutions by local school districts. There were picnics, award ceremonies and other events. Today, the tradition continues as schools up and down the state celebrate the third week in May as Classified School Employee Week.

Adrienne Rambo
Unit "A" Vice President



Our Hero – Unsung No More

The 2007 Member Recognition Banquet was held at the Queen Mary on April 14th. This is an annual event where one person from each chapter of the Santa Fe Field Office area is chosen as the Unsung Hero for all the work he or she does for their chapter. Here, the recipients are honored for the countless services that they have provided that often go unrecognized.

Mary Brown, our chapter's dedicated President, received this year's Unsung Hero award. She tirelessly works over and above her release time. She selflessly puts in countless hours of her own time and is quick to assist anyone who needs help. Mary swiftly recognizes the efforts of others without calling attention to her many great actions. Mary truly is our chapter's "Unsung Hero!"

Karen Foote, Chapter Treasurer, Earned Job Steward Jacket

During the April 14th Member Recognition Banquet, members who have completed the Job Steward Program received their beautiful, blue Job Steward jackets. Among the recipients is Karen Foote, our Chapter Treasurer. She finished a yearlong intense program that involved numerous training days and tasks that required completion. The jacket was earned due to a lot of hard work! Karen has helped many of our members and should wear the jacket with pride. We congratulate and thank you, Karen!

Vicky West
Wilson High School

HOW TO GET CSEA DISCOUNTS

Ticket sales are offered at the Fresno and Rancho Cucamonga field offices and through Member Benefits at CSEA Headquarters in San Jose. We accept CSEA members' personal checks up to \$150. We require a money order or cashier's check for orders exceeding \$150. Visa and MasterCard are accepted at all locations. No cash is accepted. All transactions are subject to a \$1 handling fee. Unless otherwise noted, tickets must be purchased from a CSEA office. Tickets cannot be purchased at the parks for the advertised discount prices. To avoid an unnecessary trip, always call your field office to make sure it is open and has the tickets you want. Please note: Ticket prices are subject to change.

CSEA MEMBER BENEFITS HEADQUARTERS

CSEA Member Benefits is open Monday through Friday, from 8:15 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. You may purchase tickets in person or by phone with your Visa or Master-Card at (866) ITS-CSEA (487-2732) or by mail (allow 10 days for delivery).

CSEA FIELD OFFICES

Tickets are available from the Fresno and Rancho Cucamonga field offices by mail (allow 10 days for delivery) or in person from 8:15 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., Monday through Friday. Field offices cannot accept cash. To avoid an unnecessary trip, always call one of these to make sure it is open and has the tickets you want.

Let Education Work For You

Just because you work for education it doesn't mean that education can't work for you. Many CSEA chapters have acquired professional growth and training programs, which enable classified workers to increase their take-home pay. Members throughout the state are taking advantage of these professional growth programs, which are often negotiated directly into the contract. The programs range from career ladders to district-funded financial incentives for workers who attend classes. To find out more about CSEA's professional growth programs, contact any chapter leader.

Apply for Member Career Grants

CSEA offers grants to members who are going to school on a part-time or full-time basis. Grants of \$1,000 are awarded to recipients based on financial need, goals and objectives, and civic and CSEA activities. Applications are accepted June 1–Oct. 31. For more information, call Rosalinda Cardenas at (800) 632-2128, ext. 1341.

Get Away For Less

Buy in advance and save through Get Away Today Vacations. Get Away Today Vacations is a top provider to Disneyland and Southern California. It offers discount hotel rates to San Diego and Disneyland. Save money with free night specials at many hotels, including hotels in the Disneyland Resort. Complete your vacation with promotions to theme parks in Southern California. Save up to 50 percent on other destinations like Las Vegas, Orlando, Hawaii, San Francisco and Scottsdale, Ariz. Call (866) FUN-TRIP (386-8747) or visit www.getawaytoday.com for more information.

CSEA members receive 10 percent off Super Value daily and weekly rates and 5 percent off promotional rates, plus unlimited free mileage. Call Avis car rental or your travel agent and give them your Worldwide Discount number of A275700 to receive special rates. Call Member Benefits at 866 ITS-CSEA (487-2732) to request an Avis Member ID coupon with a \$15 off weekly rental and free day on weekend rental coupon for even more savings.

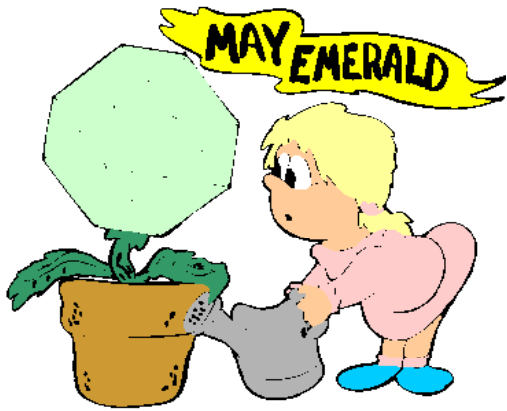
Show Mom Your Love With Flowers

This Mother's Day, send mom a beautiful rose or carnation bouquet. Call (800) CALLBOB (225-5262) for flowers, identify yourself as a CSEA member and receive a \$3 discount on all sales of \$25 or more, not including delivery fee and sales tax on floral and gift items. Full service floral and gift delivery is available for around the block or around the world.



Grandmothers Are Mothers Who Are Grand

Grandmothers are mothers who are grand,
Restoring the sense that our most precious things
Are those that do not change much over time.
No love of childhood is more sublime,
Demanding little, giving on demand,
More inclined than most to grant the wings
On which we fly off to enchanted lands.
Though grandmothers must serve as second mothers,
Helping out with young and restless hearts,
Each has all the patience wisdom brings,
Remembering our passions more than others,
Soothing us with old and well-honed arts.



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

1
LBUSD Board Meeting
5:00 p.m. at Board Building

3
Executive Board Meeting
5:15 p.m. at Chapter Office

5
Cinco de Mayo

6 - 12
National Music Week

13
Mother's Day

17
Chapter Meeting
5:15 at TRC

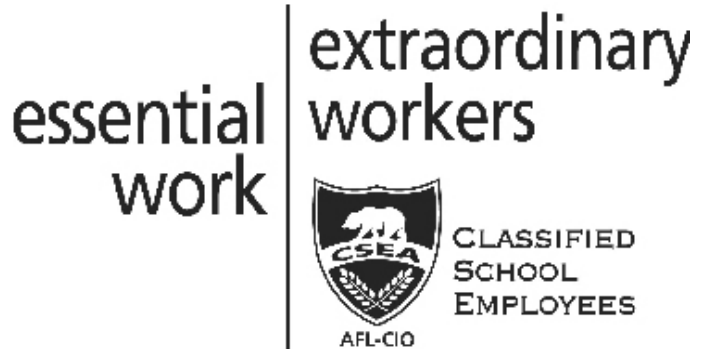
20 - 26
Classified School Employee Week

25
LBUSD Classified Bar-B-Que
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
TRC

28
Memorial Day



POSTMASTER: DATED MATERIAL,
PLEASE DO NOT DELAY.



Celebrate Classified School Employee Week
May 20 - 26, 2007

This year's theme "Professionals on the Job, Leaders in the Community," is printed on shirts, cold drink mugs and pencils. CSEA logo balloons are also available. Get yours now by calling Member Benefits at 866-ITS-CSEA (866-487-2732).