

REDLANDS EDUCATION SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS ASSOCIATION

RESPA CHRONICLE

From the President's Pen.....



Welcome back to a brand new school year. I sincerely hope that everyone who was off this summer had a wonderful summer with loved ones and for those of us that worked we did not work too hard and found some time to play and relax. Sometimes we all just need that time to do for us and our families.

This new school year started off with a bang- greeting our students, back-to-school nights, many of us are in new positions, and all the other things that we do on a daily basis to educate our students.

RESPA is hard at work planning for this year with activities to give us some time to come together so we can get to know each other, hear your questions and concerns, and to socialize. Joleen Carlson, Director of Child Nutrition Services, Miguel Ruiz, your vice-president, and I have already met with Child Nutrition Service members to hear their issues and we are working with the district on solving those. Sheri Furtado, Director of Paraprofessionals, Miguel and I will have met with the Para's by the time this is published. The other Directors are also planning meetings with the job groups each one represents and you will be hearing about those soon.

On the lighter side we are planning our Fall Union Reunion on October 27th in the Board Room. Last year's had a large turnout and this is a wonderful way to get together after work and get to know each other. Your Executive Board and I are looking forward to seeing you there.

You will be receiving information on the upcoming election very soon. This election is extremely important to everyone who is a public school employee. This is especially true for the Governor's race and the initiatives. Meg Whitman is a candidate who is not supportive of public school employees. When you review her stance on public education you can see that it is hurtful both to our students and employees. Her election platform jeopardizes jobs, she has plans to balance the state budget by digging into our retirement system, and if that is not enough, she wants to do away with meal breaks and the 8 hour day for public education employees. Sadly, these are things our union brothers and sisters fought for almost a decade ago and won. And really...meal breaks? We don't deserve lunch or dinner? As your president, I encourage you to register, vote and and do everything you can to protect public education in November.

The RESPA website (www.redlandsesp.org) is being updated regularly thanks to your RESPA Secretary, Mary Ambriz. Also, we now have a RESPA Face book page. You can find us listed as RESPA under groups. Please come say Hi. I would really love to see some pictures of new and old events so we can share in the memories and fun. I found some on an old disc and as soon as I get them on my hard drive, I'll be uploading them to the web site and our FaceBook Page. The updated web site is also a great tool if you are looking for minutes from site rep meetings, forms, information on dis-

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counts and upcoming calendar events. Our web site will be updated often so keep coming back!

As always, feel free to contact any of your Executive Board members or myself with questions or concerns. I deeply appreciate the “heads-up” I receive around the district on events and concerns so I can talk to the district about them.

Yours in solidarity,

**Jolene**



## News from The Standard

The numbers speak for themselves. Almost three in 100 of today's 20 year olds will become disabled before reaching age 671. And every minute 4.8 families in the U.S. lose a loved one<sup>2</sup>. To help protect you and your loved ones, CTA offers members Disability and Life insurance coverage through Standard Insurance Company. If you have any questions about the CTA-endorsed coverage available through The Standard, contact the dedicated CTA Customer Service Department at 800.522.0406 from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. or write to them at [ctaservice@standard.com](mailto:ctaservice@standard.com) with any questions or concerns.

<sup>1</sup> Social Security Administration Fact Sheet 2009

<sup>2</sup> CIA World Fact Book; United States Entry (<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/US.html>); April 23, 2009.

### Enrollment opportunity for new hires

If you're a newly hired CTA member, or if you are transferring to a new district, you have a special, limited-time opportunity to get Disability and Life insurance coverage from the only CTA-endorsed provider, Standard Insurance Company. During your first 120 days of new employment, you can apply for Disability Insurance and/or up to \$200,000 of Life Insurance – without showing proof of good health. Don't miss this limited-time opportunity! Call The Standard's dedicated CTA Customer Service Department at 800.522.0406 for more information.

### Family status changes

Remember that within 31 days of a Family Status Change, you can add or increase Life Insurance coverage up to \$200,000 and/or add Disability coverage, all without providing proof of good health. Family Status Changes include: birth/adoption, marriage/domestic partnership and other qualifying events. For more information about this enrollment opportunity, or to file a maternity Disability claim, visit us at Member Benefits at [www.cta.org](http://www.cta.org) and click through to The Standard.

### Keep your records up-to-date

Call The Standard this Fall if you're moving to a new address or need to make changes to your beneficiary designations. It's very important to keep your records up-to-date, and it's easy to do. Simply call The Standard's dedicated CTA Customer Service Department at 800.522.0406 or go online to Member Benefits at [www.cta.org](http://www.cta.org) and click through to The Standard.

## The CTA Disaster Relief Fund

A devastating fire started on September 9, 2010, in San Bruno, a residential neighborhood three miles west of the San Francisco International Airport and four miles north from the CTA State Headquarters in Burlingame. For CTA members affected by this fire and other California disasters, CTA would like to remind you that the CTA Disaster Relief Fund can provide assistance to CTA members that are displaced or suffer losses. The CTA Disaster Relief Fund is funded by CTA members to assist members in need and is administered by the FACT Foundation.



These are the grants that are available:

### Standard Grant

CTA members may receive up to \$1,500 for significant economic hardship related to damage to their primary residence, displacement or disruption in required utilities.

### Catastrophic Damage Grant

Recipient of the Standard Grant may be eligible for up to another \$1,500 if damages exceed \$50,000.

### Temporary Displacement Grant

A grant of up to \$500 may be available for members who are displaced from their primary residence as the result of a disaster, but do not meet the requirements for a Standard Grant.

### School Site Grant

Members may receive up to \$500 for damages to their classroom.


You can find more information and applicants for these grants on our website at <http://www.cta.org/About-CTA/CTA-Foundation/Disaster-Relief/index.aspx>. In addition, our members affected by these tragic events can obtain resource and consumer protection information from the State of California at 1-800-952-5210 or [www.rebuildyourlife.ca.gov/](http://www.rebuildyourlife.ca.gov/).


# PAC Report

By: Marissa Cesar

## Comparing the Candidates for Governor on the Issues that Matter Most to Educators



	School Funding	Education Reform	Secure Retirement	Employee Rights
 <p><b>Jerry Brown</b></p>	<p>Will make funding of public schools and colleges a top priority.</p> <p>Supports Prop. 98, the state's minimum school funding law, as a floor and not a ceiling.</p>	<p>Believes education reform must be done with collaboration among educators, administrators and parents deciding how best to meet the needs for students in each neighborhood school.</p> <p>Believes it is fundamental that teachers be given authority to teach.</p> <p>Opposes using punitive and wholesale take-over of troubled schools.</p> <p>Supports using proven, meaningful reforms to help struggling schools, not simplistic formulas such as in No Child Left Behind.</p>	<p>Opposes converting CalSTRS and CalPERS retirement systems from secure, defined benefit plans to risky 401(k) contribution plans.</p>	<p>As governor, signed the first collective bargaining bill in California's history, allowing teachers to be full partners in educating children and in the governing process.</p> <p>Believes teachers' pay and working conditions are a matter of collective bargaining.</p> <p>Opposes "paycheck deception" initiative.</p>

 <p><b>Meg Whitman</b> (Declined formal Interview)</p>	<p>Wants to immediately cut \$15 billion from the state budget, which means taking another \$7 billion from our schools and colleges.</p> <p>Believes California has a spending problem and has enough resources.</p>	<p>Supports merit pay for teachers using standardized test scores.</p> <p>Wants to grade all public schools A to F based on standardized test scores.</p> <p>Rather than helping to improve neighborhood public schools, supports mandatory conversion of all struggling schools to charter schools.</p> <p>Wants to remove the state's cap on charter schools.</p>	<p>Supports a two-tier retirement system, converting the secure, defined benefit pension plans to 401(k)s for all new public employees.</p> <p>Supports increasing minimum retirement age from 55 to 65 for most public employees.</p>	<p>Supports "paycheck deception" proposals that would silence the voices of workers and limit union participation in the political process.</p> <p>Supports reducing public employee workforce by 40,000.</p>
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## CTA Urges You to Support **Jerry Brown for Governor**

PAID for by California Teachers Association

### WHAT IS PROPOSITION 24?

Prop. 24, the Tax Fairness Act, is a CTA-sponsored initiative that will keep our Legislature from making deeper cuts to public schools and services by ending nearly \$2 billion in special corporate tax loopholes.

During the 2009 state budget disaster, Sacramento politicians and big corporations cut a deal behind closed doors to raise your taxes, and give themselves huge tax breaks. This deal with legislators included \$18 billion in tax hikes for California taxpayers and \$1.7 billion in tax breaks a year for the state's biggest and wealthiest corporations.

These same corporations made no guarantees that a single job would be created or saved to get this handout. The corporations would get these tax breaks, but could still send jobs overseas or to other states.

We say that's not fair – not while schools and public services are being cut to the bone! When large corporations pay less, California taxpayers pay more. Prop. 24 will end tax loopholes that unfairly benefit less than 2 percent of California's wealthiest corporations. Voting yes on Prop. 24 puts our public schools, health care and safety ahead of tax breaks for large corporations.

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# *SITE REPORTS*

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## **Beattie Middle School by Marissa Cesar**

We would like to welcome **Virginia Trinidad** to our Bobcat family. **Virginia** came from Moore Middle School , she is our new Data Control Clerk. We all very happy to have **Virginia** here at Beattie. Also, we are very sad to lose **Jeff Torres** as our day custodian, he is now at the Service Center. We miss you greatly **Jeff!**

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## **Highland Grove Elementary by Celiza Hernandez**

Welcome back! We are happy to be starting another year here at Highland Grove. Over the summer we had to say goodbye to our night custodian **Treg Painter** who got a job as an 8th grade math teacher in San Bernardino. We are sad to see him go, but happy for him that he is finally teaching after all his hard work. We would also like to welcome 2 new severe/profound classrooms to our campus and 3 new Paras: **Natalie Nelson, Seanna McCurdy** and **Monika Vogt**. Happy Fall and hope to see you all at the Fall Union Reunion!

## **Transportation by Marcela Papp**

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Welcome back drivers to a new school year. We have had a lot of changes with the budget cuts, but transportation still survives. We no longer transport High School students, as everyone already knows. The Middle Schools, Elementary, Field Trips, Special needs, and extra assignments are keeping us busy.

We have 9 new subs which makes a total of 20 sub drivers. Hopefully in the future they will be added as new contract drivers.

We lost five contract drivers, they ventured off to new possibilities. They are: **Laurena Greenblatt, DeChelle Ceveldley, Monique Reedy, Shawn Goodrich** and **Glenda Reyes**. Best of luck to all of them!

We also lost out Transportation Manager, Steve Verhoff. He left for a position with Transportation in Tucson, Arizona. Besides being a new father, we wish him the best of luck. Acting as our Operations Manager for Transportation is Joe Aceto. We welcome him. He is the Director for Maintenance, Operations and Transportation.

We are starting to look forward to our Traditional Transportation Holiday Festivities. We thank our social committee for their time and effort. It is always appreciated!

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## RESPA's Sunshine Committee

Do you know of anyone who may be struggling with an illness? Lost a loved one? Is celebrating the arrival of a new baby?

Getting married?

If you do, please let Debbie Martin (@Bryn Mawr) know and let us spread some SUNSHINE their way!



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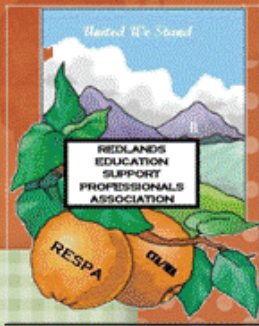
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**RESPA is on**



**facebook.**

RESPA has joined the social network! Go to [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) and ask to join "RESPA GROUP" to chat with fellow RESPA members, get up to date information and important news. Not on Face Book? Easy and free to join..just go the the web site and follow the directions on how to get an account.



**RESPA's**

*Fall*  
*Union Reunion*

School is back in session, and it's time to regroup.  
Time to welcome new faces  
Miss those that have gone  
Take chances in raffles  
And have us some FUN!

**When:** Wednesday, October 27th , 2010  
**Where:** RUSD Board Room  
**Time:** 3:00pm - 6:00pm

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# CTA Member Benefits

# DID YOU KNOW?

As a CTA member you have at your fingertips access to a variety of benefits and programs to enhance your life and your career. Check your [eligibility](#) information and learn about the benefits for [new members](#) and [retired members](#) to see what's available to you. In addition to the vast number and variety of benefits, CTA offers to you a special website – [CTAinvest.org](#) – where you can find investment and retirement calculators and other helpful tips and tools.

## ELIGIBILITY



- Benefit Eligibility
- New Members
- Retired Members

## CTAINVEST.ORG



- Calculators
- Investments
- Retirement Planning

## INSURANCE PROGRAMS



- Life & Disability
- Auto & Home
- MORE

## DISCOUNTS & TRAVEL



- Theme Parks
- Entertainment
- Auto Discounts

## HEALTH & WELLNESS



- Health Info.
- Well Baby
- When Life Changes

## FINANCIAL SERVICES



- First Time Home Buyers
- Bank Card Services
- MORE

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*Review disclaimer regarding Member Benefits information on the CTA website.*



## “Classifieds for the Classified”



Got an item for sale? Looking for an item to buy? Try our “Classifieds for the Classified” section-It’s free!

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS !

#### REP COUNCIL

All Rep Council meetings will be held at the RESPA Office unless otherwise stated. Meetings begin at 4:30 (with a little time to enjoy refreshments / dinner)



- September 20
- October 18
- November 15
- December 13
- January 24
- February 28
- March 28
- April 18
- May 16

Please mark your calendars for these meetings.

President - <b>Jolene Tripp</b> Vice President - <b>Miguel Ruiz</b> Secretary - <b>Mary Ambriz</b> Treasurer - <b>Barbara Stewart</b> Directors: Transportation - <b>Vickey Johnson</b> Paraprofessionals - <b>Sheri Furtado</b> Child Nutrition - <b>Joleen Carlson</b> Maintenance, Operations & Security - <b>John Ross</b> Clerical, Fiscal, Technical - <b>Celiza Hernandez</b>	<b>KNOW YOUR BOARD</b>
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