



# Your Union, Your Voice Your Newsletter

Hesperia Teachers Association

July 2014

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**DO**

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Brad Asdel

Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I may remember. Involve me and I learn.

---Benjamin Franklin

## Happy Summer!

We hope that you are enjoying your summer break. As we reflect back on the past year and look ahead to the new school year, we wanted to share some accomplishments of last year and to get feedback on our focus for next year.

### 2013-14 Highlights

Salary and Benefits:

After four years of sacrifice, this year not only did we have our former pay fully restored, we were also able to negotiate a 5% raise and to decrease our contribution to health insurance by \$1000.

LCAP Input:

Members were invited to give their input on priorities for the district's LCAP under the new funding model. Leadership made sure that teacher input was given. In addition, a committee was formed with representatives from the District Office and HTA to ensure that HTA is part of the implementation of the LCAP priorities and Common Core Standards. It has also provided a forum to share concerns and to develop common understandings to be communicated to members and management. HTA has an opportunity to be proactive by bringing forth concerns while ideas are still in the planning stages.

SPED Committee:

Due to the ever-changing look of our Sped program, a committee was formed to address concerns with the Director of Special Services. Several issues were identified, addressed and resolved, and the committee will continue to work on current and future issues as they arise

**Eucalyptus**

Phoebe Gutierrez

**Hesperia High School**

Ellen Stephen

Devon Bostock

Jeremy Topete

Stephanie Seitz

**Hesperia Junior High**

Cheryl Franks

Debbie Herndon

**Hollyvale**

Kathy Brawthen

**Joshua Circle**

Andrew Hammons

**Juniper**

Cynthia Greenlee

**Kingston**

Todd O'Neal

**Krystal**

Vernette Hansen

**Lime**

Penny Hale

Christine Robinson

**Maple**

Virginia Marquez

**Mesa Grande**

Kelly Denny

**Mesquite Trails**

Louise Oliekan

**Mission Crest**

Susana Castillo

Teri Jo Muzquiz

**Mojave**

Susan Gaus

**Oak Hills**

Steve Trudeau

Sean Shea

Jim Kutch

Ron Clabo

Mike Stayton

**Ranchero**

Irma Campos

James Carter

**Shadow Ridge**

Kelly Ford

**Sultana**

Ron Bonner

Shane Haldeman

Brett Simmons

**Topaz**

Gina Graham

Check out and Check in:

In an effort to streamline the end of year checkout process and to facilitate the start up process, it is understood that teachers are not required to complete clerical or custodial duties. For example, moving furniture is not an instructional task and it creates a liability for the district if a teacher is injured. In addition, by posting a diagram and/or a photo of the desired placement of furniture, custodial staff will be able to return the furniture to the correct position and allow teaching staff to focus on the instructional aspects of class set up.

Elementary Report Cards:

The elementary report cards were revised to more clearly communicate to parents while reducing the burden on members' time in completing them. Our survey results were overwhelming positive in support of the new format.

Electronic Voting:

Our most recent vote (the ratification of our salary and benefits increase) was conducted electronically. While there were some glitches that we are addressing, overall members reported it to be a positive experience with over 70% of members who participated.

Website:

The HTA website ([www.hesperiateachers.com](http://www.hesperiateachers.com)) was redesigned to provide members access to the leadership team, contract information, legislative updates, member benefits and other CTA/NEA resources. In addition, there is a section with free Common Core links and materials by grade level. We encourage members to submit lessons and resources to be added to the site to be shared among our members and hope that the resources assist members in implementing the new standards. We also invite members to suggest additional resources/links that they may find helpful.

**Looking Ahead to 2014-15**

We would like member input going forward for the 2014-15 school year. Please complete the linked survey by July 15<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to hearing your comments and ideas.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/RWZGVK9>

**Remember: You are HTA!**