

HTA Newsletter

January 2012

Hesperia Teachers' Association

**Have a question?
Need some help?
Contact an HTA E-
board member!**

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Facebook: I Support
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Website:

www.hesperiateachers.com

" Give the pupils something to do, not something to learn; and the doing is of such a nature as to demand thinking; learning naturally results."

- John

Dewey

Dates to Remember:

3rd Thursday of every month is an opportunity for teachers in the high desert to gather and discuss topics at the Hesperia Marriot at 4:30pm.

HTA Survey Results:

1.) HTA would like to host social events where members could meet, mingle, network and socialize. Is this something that interests you? (326 responses)

Yes: 51.5% No: 48.5%

2.) If you were to attend, what day would you like the socials to be held? (226 responses)

1st : Friday (48.2%)

2nd: Thursday (14.4%)

3rd: Wednesday (21.2%)

4th: Tuesday (15.9%)

5th: Monday (14.8%)

6th: Saturday (5.5%)

3.) Do you have a preferred time? (226 responses)

4-6pm (66.8%)

5-7pm (23.9%)

6-8pm (9.7%)

7-9pm (3.5%)

8 - ??? (1.3%)

4.) Where would you like these events to be held?

(226 responses)

Same place each month: (34.1%)

Rotate location: (65.9%)

Thank you to all who took time to respond to the survey!!!

Professional Development Conferences

The following is what the Executive Board states for all conferences:

"Not more than 2 people per site for a conference and cost not to exceed \$200 [per person]. No more than one conference per person per school year. Conferences are limited to district approved conference list".

Due to the amount of money designated toward conferences the amount of people able to be reimbursed by HTA is limited depending on the cost of the conference.

The following two conferences are available for the 2nd semester. If you are interested in being considered please email Gabby Ludi at Gabriel.Ludi@hesperiausd.org. If more than the available amount of people are requesting to go a lottery system will be in place and you will be notified by the given date. If you are chosen, you must submit proof of registration after attending the conference to Jim Garrett at Oak Hills.

CATE (California Association of Teachers of English)

<http://www.cateweb.org/cate2012/index.htm>

February 10-12, Ontario, CA

*Registration costs will be covered up to \$200

*You must email Gabby Ludi by January 27th to be considered

*You will be notified by February 3rd if you are able to register and be reimbursed by HTA

*If there are more than 8 people interested, a lottery system will take place and you will be notified either way.

California Council for the Social Studies

<http://www.ccss.org/Conference>

March 2-4, Orange County, CA

*Registration costs will be covered up to \$200

*You must email Gabby Ludi by February 3rd to be considered

*You will be notified by February 10th if you are able to register and be reimbursed by HTA

*If there are more than 8 people interested, a lottery system will take place and you will be notified either way.



New Year's doesn't mark the start of the school calendar for teachers, but that doesn't mean it isn't an opportunity for them to set new professional goals. But going at it alone can be tough. A new collaborative effort, The 30 Goals Challenge, invites educators to become part of a virtual

community designed to help them change the way they view their classrooms and students.

Launched two years ago by influential educators Shelly Terrell and Lisa Dabbs, the grassroots effort has drawn 7,000 teacher participants from around the globe. The two founders set small, short-term goals designed to inspire teachers and help them improve their work incrementally. Last year, educators were challenged to make a list of "what you believe about learning," reflect on what an ideal classroom culture would look like, and set a goal to teach digital literacy.

Terrell and Dabbs—who founded two of the most popular education conversations on Twitter, #edchat and #ntchat (new teacher chat)—have long been advocates of the power of social media to connect educators and share best practices. They write posts on their websites about each goal and encourage participants to start their own blogs and do the same. Participants can also discuss the challenge on Twitter using the hashtag #30Goals, upload video reflections about each goal to YouTube, and post updates to the challenge's Facebook page. Although teachers

are invited to join the challenge at any point, the formal kickoff will happen in early February.

Photo courtesy of The 30 Goals Challenge

Contract Highlight: What is the second step of the grievance process?

The second step is the "Beginning of Formal Phase."

- a.) If the grievant is not satisfied with the disposition of the grievance at the Informal Level, a formal written grievance to the appropriate administrator shall be filed within thirty (30) days of the act, event or omission, or within thirty (30) days after the grievant knew or reasonably should have known of such act, event or omission giving rise to the grievance.
- b.) The grievant shall obtain and use the official HTA/District form for Level One grievances after discussion with the appropriate HTA representative. The grievance shall include, but not be limited to, a concise statement of the facts and circumstances which give rise to the grievance and may suggest remedy. The written statement shall state the specific sections of the contract alleged to have been violated.
- c.) The appropriate administrator shall give a written decision within fifteen (15) days after receiving the grievance.

CTA Member Services:

Auto & Home Insurance

Provided through California Casualty's Auto & Home Insurance

When is the last time you took a close look at your auto, home or renter's insurance policy(ies)? Are you dissatisfied with your current coverage or carrier? Are your premiums too

high for the coverage you're receiving?

If you can answer "yes" to any of these questions, you may want to take advantage of the special insurance rates CTA Member Benefits Department has negotiated on behalf of its members and their families.

Auto and Home Insurance Highlights

- Special rates for CTA members and their families
- Additional savings on premium by purchasing auto and home insurance
- Superior, 24-hour claims and customer service
- Convenient premium payment plans, including holiday skip and summer-skip options
- Identity Theft Resolution Service free to policyholders

For more information or to request a quote or purchase an auto or home insurance policy contact:

California Casualty's Auto & Home Insurance

(866) 374-9105

calcas.com/cta

If you have a special event, teaching story, announcement, or anything exciting happening at your site that you would like to share, please send it to hta.comschair@gmail.com.