

PAEA BUZZZ

MARCH 2008

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PALO ALTO EDUCATOR'S ASSOCIATION

DID YOU KNOW...

Tis always the season for Parent Teacher Conferences- All elementary teachers including Special Education staff, receive 3 or 4 days per year (depending upon grade level) for the purpose of parent teacher conferences. This part of the contract came into being after the state disallowed minimum days for parent teacher conferences around 1998. The District and teachers recognized the value of communication between home and school and wanted to insure that such conferences would continue. As a first grade teacher and now as a Speech, Language Therapist I always prefer to do the conferences as the needs arise. Why wait for the official date when I need to talk with the parents today???

The district devised a system for teachers to keep track of their time spent conferencing and receive either compensatory time off or a stipend. These forms are available for your use either from your site rep or your principal. The stipend is equal to the sub rate in the contract. If instead the teacher opts for a compensatory day off then the same rules apply as for a PN day. The comp. day cannot be used on a day immediately following or preceding a holiday, vacation or weekend, without prior approval from the site administrator.

Do you want to Job share? Valerie Sabbag has organized another *Job Share Meeting* for March 13 at 4PM at Educators Professional Center 2483 Old Middlefield Way Suite #120 (650) 967-6810.

RSVP to Valerie at vastlimi@yahoo.com

*childcare provided and rsvp not required.

Money...

Ready to retire or not? STRS (State Teachers Retirement System) provides yearly workshops on how to best meet your retirement goals. This year one of the Retirement Workshops will be on March 10th and you can contact Amanda Tran Sakakihara for more information.

Other financial goals. PAEA will hold a financial planning workshop on Thursday March 13th at Greendell School focusing on goals such as college or mutual fund investing. This workshop is full but if you would like to learn more about how to secure your future Palo Alto Adult Ed offers a class at PALY on Tuesdays April 1 through April 22 from 6:30 to 8 PM. You can register online at www.paadultschool.org.

I get many emails requesting clarification of language in the contract or just questions about our jobs. I intend to answer most questions in the BUZZZ on a monthly basis. Please continue to email questions to trionag@earthlink.net.

Mar. Rep Council Meeting will be held on Thursday 3/13, 4:00–6:00 PM at Jordan Middle School. Hosts Millie Balsam and Betty Krumboltz

Negotiations - It is not quite negotiations time again but we want to know what is important to you. This coming year will be a partial contract year. That means that only a few articles of the contract will be opened. We always discuss compensation and benefits and then both the District and the Association open two articles. Your site reps (see list below) will be coming to you with surveys to find out which parts of the contract you are most interested in improving.

Site Reps for 07-08

Addison- Joanne Geraghty	Barron Park Ashley Emling	Briones Mary Goodkind Joane Soraghan	Children's Hospital Cammy Sunde	Duveneck Mangla Oza Doug Burress	El Carmelo Annette Isaacson
Escondido Richard Garcia Amanda Dungan	Fairmeadow Valerie Sabbag	Greendell Marion Krause	Gunn G. Dominguez Yukie Hikida Judy Niizawa Sarah Stapp John Friedrich	Hays Chris Grierson	Hoover Lonnie Spencer
JLS Jay Brethauer Hayley Dupuy Bobbie Whiteman	Jordan Millie Balsam Mark Allendorf	Nixon Beryl Deremigio Janice Mulholland	Ohlone Cindy Halstead Frankie Murray	Palo Verde Pat Hanley Sheri Cundall	PALY Kay Gibson Eric Bloom Carla Guerard Emily Garrison
Terman Lynn Repetsky Mark Dungan Martin Vetter	Traveling /Music BJ Florsheim	Traveling/PE Karen Dolkas	25 Churchill Open		