

PAEA

BUZZZ

APRIL 2010

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PALO ALTO EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION

PARCEL TAX

We are getting down to the final month. The ballots will be mailed out by April 5th. Be sure to fill yours out and mail it right back if you live in the district. In April the phone bankers will be busy reminding folks to mail in those ballots. More than one local district has lost a parcel tax vote due to complacency. Being in favor of the parcel tax doesn't help if the ballots are not mailed back.

Although we may not discuss the Parcel Tax during working hours we can wear a button, sign or label indicating our support. Perhaps a stick-on label asking "Did you mail your ballot?" can be part of your outfit in April.

Go to the website and see which nights have been scheduled for your school site. If that night is not convenient for you, pick a different night. You can see for which nights your friends and colleagues have signed up. There will be phone banking going on during spring break so if you will be in town consider one of those slots even if it is not your school's designated night.

SIGN UP ONLINE TO HELP OUT AT THE PHONE BANKS

<http://www1.mysignup.com/cgi-bin/view.cgi?datafile=yesona>

GREAT NEWS

The Palo Alto Daily Post has endorsed the Parcel Tax.

RALLY FOR PARCEL TAX THIS SATURDAY

When: Saturday April 3rd 11:00 to 1:00

Where: Lytton Plaza, corner of University and Emerson

Come and bring your own children. There will be craft tables set up for kids.

Health Care and the Survey

Thank you to all who took the survey sent out 2 weeks ago by your PAEA Exec Board and Rep Council. The Joint Benefits Committee meets on March 31 and this information will help to guide their efforts. There were many questions and comments on the survey and I will try to respond to some here.

What effect will the new health care bill have on us?

The only immediate effect that I can see is the allowance of dependent children to remain covered by their parents until age 26. In the past, as many of you know once your child turned 24 they were dropped by Blue Cross or Kaiser. Now they have two more years to complete their education and find health care coverage of their own. There may be other effects in the future such as savings from a decrease in lost emergency room fees for the uninsured that are now passed on to the insured such as us.

What are total and specific savings/costs from the various options put forward in the survey?

Over the past several months in the Buzzz, I have written about possible savings and costs of the many levels of health coverage offered to PAEA members. Past issues are archived on the paeacta.org web site. The survey itself has approximate savings listed next to each option. These savings are for PAEA only. Individual costs can be calculated by looking at your January or February pay stub. It is not our intention to target any one group through the health survey. Rather, we are trying to get a feel for the areas in which a compromise can be reached.

What else can the District do to cut costs in other areas?

In addition to the cost cutting approved by the School Board last month the District is conducting a review of Special Education programs in order to determine where and how services might be provided more efficiently.

Some of the realities of Health Insurance.

- A family of 3 costs the same as a family of 10.
- In order to join with another district or districts, Palo Alto would have to agree on accepting the level of insurance of the other districts. In many cases other districts provide inferior coverage.

NOMINATIONS FOR PAEA

Your site representatives will be circulating little blue sheets of paper over the next few weeks. These are nomination forms for Executive Board and Site Representatives. In early May we will hold elections for our local chapter's Executive Board and Representative Council. All positions are open. The Exec Board term is for two years. The Site Representative term is one year.

Your exec board is composed of the following positions: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and three Members - At - Large. All positions receive a stipend. You may nominate yourself or a colleague.

Consider serving on your local chapter's governing board or council. Nomination forms can be returned to your site rep or ponied to Kevin Danie at Children's Hospital no later than Friday, April 23.

Did You Know?

PAEA now gives teachers who have successfully completed their National Boards Certification or Certificate of Clinical Competence in the past year \$300 dollars as a stipend for the effort involved in this achievement. The checks will be handed out at the Annual Chow Down in August.

The Standard Disability open enrollment period was a huge success. 200 more members signed up for disability insurance. This means that all new enrollees will be given coverage for preexisting conditions and the medical exam will be waived. YAY!

May 1 is the deadline for pre-plans for all professional development work that will be done during the summer for salary advancement.

The PAEA representatives on Joint Benefits Committee:
Rachel Haslanger, David Tomatis, Josh Spira, Triona Gogarty

The PAEA Negotiations Team for 2010-2011 school year:
Teri Baldwin, Martin Vetter, David Tomatis, Triona Gogarty

Feb. Rep Council Meeting will be held on Thursday 4/22 4:00–6:00 PM at Addison School. Your host Teri Baldwin

Stop in to the meeting when it is at your site.

Site Reps for 09-10

Addison- Teri Baldwin	Barron Park Rusty Tooley	Briones Mary Goodkind Sue Garadis	Children's Hospital Kevin Danie	Duveneck Mangla Oza Grace Bunya	El Carmelo Diane McCoy
Escondido Richard Garcia Amanda Dungan	Fairmeadow Barbara Carlson Valerie Sabbag	Greendell Marion Krause	Hays Rachel Shepherd Kevin Rouse	Hoover Lonnie Spencer Peter Lee	Nixon Beryl Deremigio Janice Mulholland
Ohlone Kim Prescott Ashley McCrea	Palo Verde Matt Lindner Sheri Cundall	Traveling/Music BJ Floersheim	Traveling/PE Karen Dolkas	25 churchill Room for one or a share	
Terman Lynn Repetsky Mark Dungan Martin Vetter Tijen Sambul	JLS Julia Brown Hayley Dupuy Andrea Gruner Linda Howard Tim Sato	Jordan Keith Clarke Sarah Pierce Joleen Roach Mary Sano Maria Thomas	Gunn G. Garger Ken Plough ROOM FOR MORE	PALY Eric Bloom Magdalena Rivera ROOM FOR MORE	

If you would like to be a Representative for your site contact Triona Gogarty. There are once a month meetings for which you receive a stipend. Each site can have more than one representative and rep. positions can be shared.

Please send comments, suggestions or requests for the Buzz to

Triona Gogarty - trionago@gmail.com

Buzz is posted online at paeacta.org