



NEWS

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www.chapter310.com

January 2021

Welcome to 2021

It is hard to believe that another year has come and gone, especially one as historic as 2020! Even though COVID-19 has not left us, there is hope that this year its effects can be minimized with vaccines and safety measures continue to be implemented. Your chapter and the district have worked hard to draft policies that will help protect students and staff. The MOU can be read at chapter310.com. As new mandates arrive from the state, negotiations will continue and guidelines will be implemented to protect students and employees.

Our Executive Board has new members. Welcome Lynn Wood as the new 2nd Vice President and Scott Berns as a new Member at Large. Other positions filled by incumbents are: President (Jim Jarrard), Secretary (Karen Linn) and Communications Officer (Barbara Jarrard).

The Board of Education also has a new member (Sofya Bagdasaryan) who replaces Dan White. Incumbents Bob LaBelle and Kareem Jubran retained their seats. Mr. Jubran now resides as Board President and Scott Blough is Clerk of the Board.

The 2020-2023 CSEA Employee contract with SVUSD was ratified by membership and approved by the Board of Education. It is now in effect. Once the signature page is complete, the full contract will be posted online.

Any employee who changed their health plan this year should contact their care provider and prescription services to avoid any delays or errors.

A minimum wage increase became effective January 1, 2021 and affects some classifications to align wages according to the law. Your representatives are working with SVUSD on an MOU on this topic.

Please attend our ZOOM chapter meetings to remain informed and share your thoughts on current events. No doubt 2021 will continue to bring us all new challenges.

Local CSEA Induction Meeting

Each year, an "Induction Dinner" is held for Executive Board positions (incumbents and new officers) from Simi Valley, Moorpark and Conejo school districts.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we will not be having a dinner, but the ceremony will still take place via ZOOM on January 13th, 2021.

This is always a very special meeting whereby local members of multiple chapters can meet and discuss events happening in their districts in addition to being sworn into their new duties as "E-Board" members.

We are very lucky to have a full Executive Board and sometimes we have more volunteers than can be placed on the board (requiring elections). Thanks to everyone who continues to serve on the board and to those who are active and attend chapter meetings. Staying involved with your chapter is the best way to be informed and to help other members.

2021 Lew Roth Awards

Due to COVID-19, the annual "Lew Roth Awards Dinner" honoring the memory of Lew Roth (the founder of the "Simi Valley Education Foundation") is postponed until Spring. However, the following outstanding community members have been named by SVEF for 2021:

- Management - Michael Hall (Valley View)
- Classified - Brenda Casselberry (Hillside)
- Certificated - Kyran Mallon (Berylwood)
- Special Education - Patricia Casillas (SSE)
- Volunteer - Liz Hernandez (all SVUSD schools)
- Lifetime Achievement - Steven Castro (Sinaloa)

Congratulations to this year's winners! Representatives from our chapter will attend this event to honor these special recipients. Visit www.svef.org for information.

Summer Assistance Program

SVUSD will once again participate in the state sponsored "Classified School Employee Summer Assistance Program" which is a state grant program providing a method for eligible classified employees to save money for the summer months.

The program allows eligible employees to withhold a percentage of their paychecks throughout the school year that will be placed into a savings fund which the state will match, dollar-for-dollar. The district will not know the exact amount the state will be able to match until it assesses the applications and impact on its budget for the program.

Please contact Classified Personnel to secure more information on this program and to learn the details for the program and its application deadlines. You can also learn more by visiting the following website:

<https://www.cde.ca.gov/fq/aa/ca/csesap.asp>

CSEA \$1,000 Scholarships

CSEA awards \$1,000 scholarships to the dependents (including spouses) of its members. There are scholarships for graduating high school seniors, as well as awards for those already enrolled in community college, college/university or trade/vocational schools.

To apply, visit: www.csea.com/education (you must sign in with your CSEA member ID) download and complete the application and email it (along with all other required documentation) to: scholarships@csea.com

Applications are due March 1, 2021.

Our own Chapter 310 \$500 scholarships for seniors at SVUSD high schools will also be announced in upcoming months. Please attend chapter meetings to learn more about these opportunities as well.

Chapter 310 2021 Budget Assistance

During the December chapter meeting, membership approved the 2021 chapter budget which included increases to benefit the CSEA Humanitarian Fund and local membership events including tuition grants for the upcoming Paraeducators Conference. Savings secured through the CSEA conference being "virtual" last year awarded these opportunities and we hope to increase similar line items if possible in the future.



CSEA Member Only Benefits

CSEA member benefits continues to add helpful new programs to their diverse portfolio for members only.

The latest edition of "Focus" magazine from CSEA includes a section on member benefits and shows links for FREE "Associate" and "Bachelor" degrees.

The new "Wisely" debit card from ADP provides access to your money without using a check cashing company saving you time and money without fees.

SchoolsFirst Federal Credit union offers unique savings to CSEA members as does American Fidelity and other partners enhancing the lives of members.

Discounts on organic produce, groceries and dozens of diverse products are all available to members of CSEA. It pays to be a member of CSEA!

Contact (866) 487-2732 • memberbenefits@csea.com to learn more about all of the benefits you can access.

*2021 Chapter 310 Meeting Dates

Until further notice, all meetings will be "virtual" via ZOOM. Please keep your personal email up-to-date with us so you can receive links to the meetings. Start time is 5:00 pm.

January 11th, February 8th, March 8th,
April 12th, May 10th, June 14th

(No Meetings in July and August)

*Subject to change based on COVID-19. NOTE: Special meetings may be scheduled separately as required.

Chapter 310 Executive Board 2021

Chapter President - Jim Jarrard

1st Vice President - Richard Rubino

2nd Vice President - Lynn Wood

Secretary - Karen Linn

Treasurer - Jose Posada

Communications Officer (CO) - Barbara Jarrard

Chief Union Steward - Elise Hartman

Members at Large:

Scott Berns - Kathy Birdt - Karen Hewitt

Classified News Editors - Barbara and Jim Jarrard

Labor Relations Representative (LRR) :

Diane Wilkinson - dwilkinson@csea.com

