MARCH 2024



n The Know

CSEA's County Office of Education Committee Newsletter



CO-CHAIR'S COMMENTS by Irenea Herrera

Before I started my career in education, I had never been part of a union. I had a heartwarming experience of *inclusivity* when an area director invited all CSEA members to a leadership institute and not just chapter officers. At the time, I was a newly jacketed steward and had not yet held a position on my chapter's e-board. I received a warm welcome from some of my fellow co-workers, and the area director gave me a personal tour of CSEA headquarters. Wow, what an amazing place!

I was in the front row of the Board Room for training and even sat with a past association president during a breakout session. He was so personable and very kind to me. I will long remember my sense of being welcomed, feeling valued, represented, and most of all, included. I am grateful to my union for having access to programs that help build my self-confidence and leadership skills.

I also found instant camaraderie from my

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newfound union siblings when I met them in-person at Super Session a few months ago. In learning my new role as a COE Committee Member, and now Co-chair, I have felt the love and support from our team.

"Inclusion works to the advantage of everyone. We all have things to learn, and we all have something to teach." Helen Henderson



MEMBERS MATTER

Meet **Jason Huston** Butte County Office of Education, Chapter #736

When explaining the core value of Inclusivity, CSEA states, "We celebrate and embrace diversity, understanding that it fosters inclusivity within our organization and enhances our collective efforts." Inclusivity is empowerment for everyone, regardless of background and subsequent values that the organization holds.

This month, we share with you an example of how the core value of **Inclusivity** drives the Information Technology department. Jason Huston has been the "Help Desk" Technology Support Technician for 10 years, and a member of CSEA for approximately 12 years. Jason formerly served two 2-year terms which ended 2023 as Chapter President for BCOE #736.

Inclusivity through diversity & understanding

Jason receives satisfaction in his daily job by "Helping the employees navigate difficult technical issues." He shares this responsibility with one other person in his department.

On a typical day, you may find Jason busy "answering phone calls, remote sessions, connecting to other employees computers to troubleshoot, immediate issues or ongoing issues." Occasionally, this responsibility may require Jason to "meet an employee on location."



Ref.: AdobeStock_216521873.jpeg

Jason Huston is ready and eager to assist the employees of Butte County Office of Education with an array of issues that they may encounter daily.



Ref.: AdobeStock_116472569.jpeg

Outside of work, Jason finds enjoyment in fishing and other outdoor activities.

Thank you Jason Huston for what you do for the employees at BCOE! YOU DO MATTER!



INCLUSIVITY - WORD SEARCH

Have some fun with Inclusivity! Hidden below are 14 words related to this CSEA core value. Can you find them all?

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COMPREHENSIVE CONSIDERATE CSEA DIPLOMATIC EQUITABLE INCLUDED INCLUSIVITY NONDISCRIMINATORY REPRESENTED RESPECTFUL SENSITIVE UNBIASED UNION UNPREJUDICED







2024 California Primary

Voting for pro-education, pro-labor candidates can have a direct impact on our jobs, families and communities. Before you fill out your ballot, find out which candidates CSEA is supporting.

And if you aren't registered to vote or have recently moved, find out how to check your voter status or register to vote online.

CSEA members have a proud tradition of making a difference in elections. From local school board races to state and federal elections, we know that voting for proeducation, pro-labor candidates and issues can have a direct impact on our jobs, families and communities.

CSEA endorsed several candidates in this election. Endorsements are listed in the CSEA vote guide along with an overview of CSEA's endorsement process.



California's 2024 Primary Election is March 5, and ballots were mailed to voters on February 5. Check your <u>voter status</u> or register to <u>vote online</u>.

CSEA's Victory Club needs you!

Join the non-partisan CSEA Victory Club to help us raise vital funds to support classified-friendly candidates running for local, state and federal offices. Your membership will help support candidates who have received CSEA's endorsement based on their completed questionnaires, voting records and demonstrating strong support for issues of importance to classified employees.

These issues include:

- Protecting Prop 98 and increasing education funding
- Electing pro-education and pro-labor school board members and community college trustees
- Increasing pension and healthcare benefits
- Stopping the privatization and outsourcing of classified jobs to the private sector
- Standing up for working families

JOIN today and help us give classified employees a powerful voice in protecting our rights, retirement and job security.





WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR CHAPTERS

Reprinted with permission - BCOE Communications Department Jason Bubier, Maintenance & Operations Lead Technician, Chapter #736

Taking you behind the scenes at Butte County Office of Education with our Maintenance and Operations rockstar, Jason! **Every month**, he's on a mission, ensuring our generators and fire extinguishers are top-notch.

Why? Because when it comes to safety, we leave no room for compromise!

Fun fact: One of our generator systems is the unsung hero keeping our IT department running smoothly. With BCOE as the internet service provider for multiple districts and charter schools in Butte County, that generator is the backbone of uninterrupted connectivity. **Big shoutout to Jason** and all of our Maintenance and Operation team members for keeping things ticking and ensuring we're always ready to provide a safe and reliable environment for our amazing staff and students! #ProudToBeBCOE #ButteSchoolsStrong #ButteCOE











Women's History Month



March is Women's History Month, a time to celebrate the incredible achievements of women who have paved the way for a brighter future and those who continue to make a difference at every level!

The impact women have made in labor history is often missing from textbooks and the media despite the numerous roles they have played to organize, unionize, rally, document, and inspire workers to fight for justice. From championing better workplace conditions to cutting back the 12-hour day to demanding equal pay across racial lines, women have made enormous contributions to the labor movement.

St. Patrick's Day is March 17

Celebrated annually on March 17, St. Patrick's Day is a holiday known for parades, shamrocks and all things Irish. From leprechauns to the color green, find out how symbols we now associate with St. Patrick's Day came to be, and learn about a few that are purely American inventions.

The Shamrock

The shamrock, which was also called the "seamroy" by the <u>Celts</u>, was a sacred plant in ancient Ireland because it symbolized the rebirth of spring. By the seventeenth century, the shamrock had become a symbol of emerging Irish nationalism. As the English began to seize Irish land and make laws against the use of the Irish language and the practice of Catholicism, many Irish began to wear the shamrock as a symbol of their pride in their heritage and their displeasure with English rule. **FUN FACT: Did you know?** The color traditionally associated with St. Patrick was blue, not green.

Ref.: www.history.com





Our preferred insurance provider, United Insurance Partners (UIP), has some great news for California School Employees Association members

With current rainstorms and flooding continuing throughout California, it makes sense to add flood insurance coverage to help protect your property. UIP is adding affordable Flood insurance policies, now available to CSEA Members. This new affordable add-on option offers members coverage where standard homeowners policies do not, as damage from flooding is often excluded coverage on a homeowners insurance policy.

Through UIP, CSEA members can get quick, no-obligation Flood Insurance quotes.

Benefits:

- Low, affordable rates
- An easy add-on policy to your standard homeowners or commercial property policy
- Tailored policies available that allow you to cover more of your assets
- Available through trusted "A" rated carriers
- Available for both commercial and residential properties

It's time to waterproof your assets with UIP Insurance. <u>Click here</u> and see how much you can save!

UIP Flood Insurance policies are open to all CSEA members, retirees, families, and business owners.

1. Any cost, premium, or coverage stated before an official customer quote are estimates and an approximation and are not guaranteed. Actual cost, premium, and coverage are subject to the unique considerations of each individual risk. Customer quotes are based on the information provided to Neptune Flood and United Insurance Partners and are subject to required underwriting and rating factors. Until an official customer quote is provided, all communication on this website is provided as an example for informational purposes only, and is neither an offer nor a guarantee of available premium or coverage. Any coverage afforded by the products described are subject to and governed by the terms and conditions of each policy issued. This information may not be used to modify any policy that might be issued. Any information provided to assist in understanding the coverage we offer does not modify any insurance policy, nor does it imply that any claim is covered. Insurance products are available through United Agencies and its affiliates, including UIP Insurance Services. CA Ins. Lic #0252636 & 0F60610 **Ref.: Member Benefits emailed February 13**

For additional questions or assistance, call CSEA Member Benefits at (866) 487-2732 or email <u>memberbenefits@csea.com</u>.







• <u>GIB 49-23; Leadership Academy Training</u> <u>Program Application</u>

CSEA's Leadership Academy will be held in the South on May 7-8, 2024 and in the North on May 14-15, 2024. If you are interested in running for local public office such as school board, county board of education, or community college board of trustees, **please note the application period for members is now open and closes on Tuesday, April 2,** 2024.

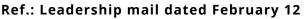
• <u>Chapter Presidents Leadership Lecture</u> <u>Series</u>

Join us for CSEA's first ever Chapter President Leadership Lecture Series! Invited speakers from various fields will offer valuable leadership development training.

*Each lecture is offered independently. Chapter presidents can choose to register for one, two, three or four lectures! Ref.: Leadership mail dated February 19

<u>Resolutions Bulletin 1-24; 2024</u> <u>Conference Resolutions</u>

Resolutions Nos. 1 - 13 have been certified for submission to the 2024 Conference.





Pre-Retirement Seminar – Area G

March 9, 2024 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Location: Temple City High School (Multi-Purpose Room): 9501 Lemon Ave., Temple City, CA 91780

• It is never too early to learn how CalPERS pays you later for a lifetime

Learn all about:

- Basics of CalPERS benefits for school members
- What information CalPERS uses to calculate your retirement
- Retirement Options
- Basic retirement planning presented by CalPERS Staff sponsored by CSEA

Required:

- Be sure to bring to the class a printed copy of your on-line estimate from your <u>MyCalPERS</u> account to better understand your CalPERS benefits. This class will help prepare you to understand what a CalPERS retirement provides.
- Registration starts 9:30 a.m., Meeting 10:00 a.m. -12:30 p.m.
- Any parking lot available.









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COE COMMITTEE'S PURPOSE STATEMENT

The purpose of the County Office of Education Committee is to research, educate, communicate and network regarding the issues and concerns of the county office of education chapters — providing a liaison between members, the board of directors, committees, governmental relations and the Legislature, while acknowledging the differences and similarities of county offices of education, community colleges, and K–12's.

@CSEA County Office of Education Committee

https://csea.com/committees/county-office-of-education-coe

Upcoming Committee Meetings

March 6 April 3 May 1 June 5

"In The Know"

Monthly Newsletter of the CSEA County Office of Education Committee Editor: Ruth Gloria Content: Ruth Gloria, Irenea Herrera, CSEA Communications