

# Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Month

## Chapter 707 Newsletter

May 2024 Issue

### Chapter Meeting

Wednesday June 12th @12pm  
Zoom link to be sent out

#### Your E-Board

President:  
Colleen Parsons

1st Vice President: Julie  
Bennett

2nd Vice President:  
Laura Sahagun

Chief Job Steward:  
Vacant

Political Action Chair:  
Vacant

Site Rep Coordinator:  
Rocio Zumbado

Treasurer:  
Irene Bauza

Secretary:  
Alex DeCosta

Public Relations  
Coordinator:  
Ondrea Mesquita

Labor Relations Rep:  
Ramon Gomez

"If you're having a bad day, just remember that the airport in Vienna has a counter for people who flew to Austria instead of Australia."

-unknown



## Personnel Commission

Once again, tensions between the District and the Personnel Commission have escalated. At the April 3rd meeting, Director Kennington and her team voiced concerns about Workday's inability to meet the requirements of a Merit-based assessment process for recruitment. Issues such as lack of segregation and confidentiality, absence of multiple step assessments, and the inability to establish eligibility lists were highlighted. Due to these concerns, the Commission voted to implement NeoGov as the new applicant tracking system for classified employees. However, before the May 1st meeting, it was revealed that the Chancellor had halted this action. The Chancellor insisted that NeoGov undergo the District's vetting process and that a study be conducted to determine if Workday could be configured to meet the Commission's needs.

Mark Reagles expressed frustration directly to Chancellor Neault, asserting the Commission's autonomy in utilizing approved budget funds. He criticized the District and their counsel for overstepping boundaries and impeding progress once again.

This sparked discussions about seeking outside legal opinions due to the perceived conflict of interest in relying solely on counsel provided by the District. Commissioners conveyed their belief that the current counsel favored the District's interests and couldn't provide unbiased opinions. After deliberation, Director Kennington and the Commission decided to proceed with the first 8 recruitments using both Workday and NeoGov. Despite the extra workload, they saw it as a necessary step to prevent further delays in the recruitment process. They recognized the pressing personnel needs outweighed the ongoing dispute.

The Commission will honor the NeoGov contract already in place while granting the District additional time to make changes to Workday. Commissioner Scaife emphasized the urgency of the matter and requested a substantial update from the District at the May 22nd meeting regarding progress made on this issue.

\*[Please click here](#) to see Julie Bennett's statement to the SD Board of Education regarding the District's continued interference with the Personnel Commission. \*

### Personnel Commission Special Meeting

Wednesday May 22nd @ 5pm  
Location: Grossmont District Annex Room



### Personnel Commission Regular Meeting

Wednesday June 5th @ 5pm  
Location: Cuyamaca College Student Center

## Classified Employee Week!

Classified staff keep schools and colleges working. From maintaining our campus and classrooms, to helping students obtain the finances needed to continue their education. We have been recognized as the frontline workers who keep our schools running and contribute to the quality of education for our students. With the theme, Empowering Generations, Classified Employee Week will be from May 19th through the 25th.



## Understanding CalPERS Webinar

May 20th 5:30-7:00 pm

Learn all about:

- What benefits are available to you now and in the future.
- The importance of the CalPERS Power of Attorney form.
- How to purchase substitute time toward your pension.
- What information CalPERS uses to calculate your retirement.

[Click here to register.](#)



## Provident Giveaway Sweepstakes

In honor of Classified School Employee Week, Provident Credit Union is hosting a classified school employee appreciation giveaway. CSEA members are often the unsung heroes of our educational communities and Provident would like to honor their dedication by giving away \$1,000 to one classified employee. Submit your entries between May 1, 2024 through May 25, 2024 for your chance to win. Winner will be announced on June 5, 2024.

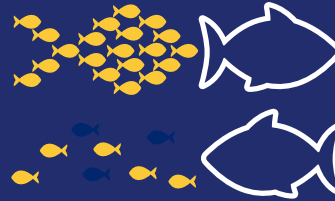
[Click here to enter.](#)

## Sound Healing Event

A sound bath is a therapeutic practice that has been favored by many cultures for thousands of years. These vibrations are believed to lead you deeper into a state of contemplation or relaxation, effectively shutting off your body's fight-or-flight reflex<sup>1</sup>. So come relax and unwind on May 22nd from 12-1:00pm in the Library Living Room



## UNITED WE BARGAIN



## DIVIDED WE BEG

Want to get involved but don't know where to start? Here are some great ideas!

### BECOME A STEWARD

Union Stewards work closely with elected chapter leaders and CSEA staff to protect employee rights under the negotiated contract and laws that protect our members. Oftentimes, Union Stewards are the first line of representation for members. The Union Steward educates members on their rights and work to ensure respect and fairness in the workplace.



### SITE REPRESENTATIVE



From keeping existing members in the know to fostering relationships with potential members, Site Representatives are the eyes and ears of CSEA at the worksite.

When classified staff want to understand how CSEA's different services and resources constitute a labor union, they turn to Site Reps who can help guide them.

### MEMBERSHIP UNITY PROGRAM

CSEA's Membership Unity Program (MUP) helps participating chapters increase strength and unity by providing training and motivation for chapter activists. MUP trains teams of chapter leaders on how to build the power of their chapters by applying organizing skills to increase member participation in crucial chapter activities.



### COMMUNICATIONS ACADEMY



Successful CSEA regions and chapters rely on effective communications with members. Take your local communications program to the next level and learn how to create engaging newsletters, email, social media and online content at CSEA's Communications Academy.



# CSEA CH. 707

2024

CHAPTER MEETING SCHEDULE 12PM - 1PM



January 10

February 14

Nominations for conference delegates

March 13

Nominations for conference delegates

April 10

Election of conference delegates & alternates

May 8

June 12

July 10

August 14

September 11

October 9

Nominations for e-board positions

November 13

Nominations for e-board positions  
Nominations closed

December 11

Election of e-board  
next-year budget approved

A zoom link will be sent to all members in good standing by the end of day before the meeting

## Why should you join CSEA?

Every year, basic cost-of-living raises and pensions are threatened. Your membership in CSEA help to achieve better pay raises, pension security, health insurance, sick leave and many more important benefits we rely on. Better pay and benefits Membership strength allows for the negotiation of better pay and benefits Respect in the workplace. CSEA believes that if you work hard, you have the right to be treated fairly. Union Stewards, labor representatives, legal staff, and other advocates ensure you are respected in the workplace, and recognized for your contributions. Exclusive member benefits CSEA offers a number of money-saving benefits from scholarships, financial services and insurance programs, discounts on theme parks, shopping and more. Training opportunities CSEA offers a variety of training programs. This can be from major conferences and events to local workshops and on-demand virtual training. Click here to [join today!](#)

## Join Victory Club!

Join the CSEA victory club for as little as a dollar every month. These funds are vital in supporting classified friendly candidates running for local, state, and federal offices. funds distributed at the state level are not based on how much we donate, but the number of members who do! Click here for more information.



## Employee Benefits

Member student loan  
reducer

Dependent  
scholarships

Member career  
grant

Member  
reimbursement  
subsidy

Union Plus  
scholarships

Amusements and  
Attractions

Travel

Everyday discounts

Retirement



**CONTACT  
US**

**619.644.7594**

colleen.parsons@gcccd.edu

julie.bennett@gcccd.edu

laura.sahagun@gcccd.edu

irene.bauza@gcccd.edu

alex.decosta@gcccd.edu

ondrea\_mesquita@gcccd.edu

rocio.zumbado@gcccd.edu

RGOMEZ@CSEA.COM

\*In the event that an issue arises outside of regular working hours, we kindly request that you communicate the matter through email. Please be advised that resolution or further action may be deferred until the subsequent business day. We emphasize the importance of maintaining mutual respect for each other's personal time.\*

