

# SRVEA SIGNAL

Volume 27 Issue I

September 2010

## SRVEA EXECUTIVE BOARD

**Darren Day**  
President

**Ann Katzburg**  
Vice President

**Cindy Andre**  
Secretary

**DeeDee Judice**  
Treasurer

**John Faris**  
**Kerri Pike**  
H.S. Directors

**Margaret Batesole**  
**Jan Engberg**  
M.S. Directors

**Teresa Freeman**  
**Linda Greguras**  
**Jenifer Nelson**  
**Dave Telles**  
Elem. Directors

**Cindy Andre**  
**Laura Finco**  
**Ann Katzburg**  
CTA State Council

**SRVEA Office**  
**925 828-9341**

[www.srvea.org](http://www.srvea.org)

## A Word from our President... Darren Day

SRVEA members, welcome to the 2010-2011 school year. I want to also welcome back to the SRVUSD the 37 teachers who received final layoff notices last year, but due to furlough days being taken district-wide, were rehired by the district. I want to also welcome the more than 46 new members hired to the district. Almost all found jobs in the areas of secondary education or special programs.

A special thank you goes out to our own DeeDee Judice for throwing, yet again, another great new teacher breakfast held in the Library at Dougherty Valley High School. Thank you Karen Mile, Librarian, for allowing us to use your facility.

I want to also share with you that in June SRVEA won the state-wide, large chapter, Joyce Fadem Chapter-in-Politics Award from CTA. SRVEA won this award for its involvement in passing the Measure C Parcel Tax in May of 2009. I know many of you worked tirelessly to help pass this parcel tax and this award is recognition of how much can be accomplished when the district and the association work together for a common good.

As you also know this is a vital election year. Not only do we have a local school board election-see the slate of SRVEA-endorsed school board candidates inside this edition of the Signal-but we have a very important state election coming with candidates and propositions on the ballot that are public education friendly-also see the slate of CTA recommendations inside this edition.

I can't tell you how important it will be for you to exercise your right to vote this year. Please take the time to educate yourself on the candidates and propositions. California has the chance of passing bills that can greatly improve the pool of money districts receive. This in turn can improve our programs, help to hire more teachers, and can help keep class size down.

Also, SRVEA's bargaining team will be going back to the bargaining table very soon to determine how best to utilize Federal Jobs Bill money that will be coming to the district this year. Initial projections of the money to be received is close to 5 million dollars and can be used toward benefits, to rehire teachers, and off-set lay-off days.

Your bargaining team will be working hard and will keep you informed of new developments.

Lastly, make sure that you all check your paychecks. With the current reductions in salary I want to make sure everyone is certain they are being paid properly. If you find a possible error or omission please contact the Payroll department at 552-2946.

I am looking forward to coming to your school sites and meeting with you. Please do not hesitate to invite me.

Have a great year.

## SRVEA CHANGES!

In order to better serve the SRVEA membership, a couple of changes took place over the summer. The Vice President position is now on part-time release. This change will afford both the President and Vice President the time to get out to more school sites and work one-on-one with the membership. We also have two new High School directors enthusiastically willing to work with secondary personnel. We also have a new Negotiations team member and chairperson. Negotiations will continue to be one of the primary focuses of SRVEA.

## Inside this issue:

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE	1
SRVEA Changes!	1
Political and CTA Updates	2
Jury Duty	3
Understand Your Paycheck	3
Election Recommendations	4

## San Ramon Valley Unified School District School Board Elections

This November, the SRVUSD community will be electing a new school board. All of the candidates of record were invited to interview with SRVEA. Based upon these interviews, SRVEA recommends the following candidates:

Rachel Hurd (incumbent)

Denise Jennison

Ken Mintz (incumbent)

## Political Action

“I will get out of politics when politics gets out of the classroom.”

-Carolyn Doggett  
CTA Executive Director

The California Teachers Association operates to serve the best interest of certificated personnel and educational support services workers throughout the State of California. One of the roles CTA must play is in the political arena. This is especially important during an election season. Voting is our democratic way of voicing our support for policy and/or legislative representatives. It is also our way of informing our political leaders of the direction we want to go.

CTA is asking all members to fill out Canvass Cards with information about the upcoming November election. Members who return a card noting support or opposition of the CTA recommendations will not receive a “Get Out the Vote” call from CTA. The information will be for INTERNAL CTA USE ONLY and will not be distributed or sold to any company or individuals. CTA will also use the information to contact members who indicate their willingness to volunteer. Your cooperation in getting this information to CTA is greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions, contact your site representative.

## Professional Growth Credit

**Contract Corner**

In order to qualify for salary credit in any given year, any coursework or activity must have been completed PRIOR to the first day of instruction, and evidence of completion must be provided to the Human Resource Office by October 10th. Exceptions to the October 10th date may be granted by the Human Resources Administrator when special circumstances exist such as when the delivery of the grade or evidence is out of the employee’s control.

## Newly hired CTA member, or new to your district?

If you’re a newly hired CTA member, received a final layoff notice or temporary release letter and were rehired this year, or are transferring to a new district, now’s the time to get coverage. During your first 120 days of new employment, you have a great opportunity to apply for Disability Insurance and/or up to \$200,000 of Life Insurance – without showing proof of good health. Don’t miss this opportunity - call The Standard’s dedicated CTA Customer Service Department at 800.522.0406 for more information.

## Does your district have a Section 125 Flexible Benefits Plan?

During open enrollment, a district’s Flexible Benefits Plan administrator may encourage you to purchase other insurance products, such as Cancer Care Insurance, Disability Insurance or Individual Life Insurance. This is an important reminder that the Flexible Benefits Plan administrator is not a CTA-endorsed vendor and the insurance products they are selling are not endorsed by CTA. To learn more about CTA-endorsed Life and Disability Insurance contact Standard Insurance Company at 800.522.0406 from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

“Like weekends? THANK A UNION.  
Like an 8-hour work day? THANK A UNION.  
Like it that children don’t work? THANK A UNION.  
Like paid sick days? THANK A UNION.  
If you have a choice, JOIN A UNION.  
You’ll thank us!”

—Mary Rubens  
Union Activist

## STAY IN CONTACT!

In order to stay in contact with all of our membership, SRVEA has an online e-mail service through Constant Contact. All members are asked to register in order to receive updates and valuable information. Please register with a NON-district email account. To sign up, go to [www.srvea.org](http://www.srvea.org) and follow the SRVEA NOW links.

## Jury Duty Procedures for Teachers

1. When you receive a summons for jury duty, call and arrange for a substitute for the DATE you have been ordered to serve.
2. On the NIGHT before you are scheduled to serve, call the court you are assigned to see if in fact you are needed.
  - If you are NOT NEEDED, call the substitute system and cancel the job. The system will ask you if you want it to notify the sub. Please do so.
  - If you need to call back at 11:30 am the next morning, which is typical, phone the sub yourself and ask if he/she will come in at 11:30 instead of at the start of the day.

At 11:30, you phone in from school:

- If you need to leave, the sub is there and ready to take over.
- If you can stay, enjoy the help and have the sub work in your classroom, because the sub is getting paid for 1/2 day.

If you have any questions, contact Sandra Traylor in the Human Resources Department at 552-5987.

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR TEACHERS ACTUALLY CALLED IN TO SERVE!!!

If you get called in to actually serve jury duty and have been asked to report to a court house, you must get your proof of service validated at the courthouse regardless of whether you actually serve on a jury or are excused. You will be asked to submit the proof of service that shows you reported to a courthouse for your jury duty.



## Understanding Your Paycheck



Gross pay is determined by your placement on the salary schedule. The 2010-2011 SRVUSD Salary schedule can be found online at [www.srvusd.k12.ca.us](http://www.srvusd.k12.ca.us) under Certificated Employees. The salary schedule is based upon your number of years of service to SRVUSD and the number of units you have beyond your bachelor's degree. This year the salary is also based upon 182-day work year rather than 186-day work year.

Most certificated personnel are paid on an 11-month cycle. To be sure that you are being paid correctly based upon your contract, take the amount of your gross pay and multiply it by 11 (or 12 if you are paid on a 12-month cycle). Then check the online salary schedule. The numbers should match to where you believe your placement on the salary schedule should be. In addition to the base pay, certificated personnel with Master degrees receive a stipend that is also divided equally throughout the year. Other stipends such as for coaching or extra pay are often paid in a separate paycheck sent out mid-month.

Next month: A review on how deductions are noted on your paycheck!

SRVEA Signal  
Laura Finco; Editor  
Phone: (925) 828-8731  
Email: lfinco@srvusd.net

Other SRVEA Contacts

Racial/Minority Director: Rosanne Fissore  
Non-Classroom Personnel/Instruction-Professional Development: Lydia Schneider  
Special Programs Director At-Large: Diane Bradley  
Political Action: Ann Katzburg Elections: vacant  
Membership: Janny Faber Grievance: Margo James  
Women's Issues: Laura Finco Health/Safety: Betsy Hoffmann  
Human Rights: Jeff Davis Negotiations: Jan Engberg  
Organizing: Donnine Davis  
CTA Staff Consultant: Brian Stafford VTRC Office: Lori Pullen



www.srvea.org

## CTA November General Election

### Federal Candidate Recommendations

US Senator: Barbara Boxer  
Congressional District 11: Jerry McNerney  
Congressional District 12: Jackie Speier

### State Constitutional Offices

Governor	Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
Lieutenant Governor	Gavin Newsom
Attorney General	Kamala Harris
Insurance Commissioner	Dave Jones
Secretary of State	Debra Bowen
State Controller	John Chiang
State Treasurer	Bill Lockyer
Superintendent of Public Instruction	Tom Torlakson
State Board of Equalization, First District	Betty Yee
State Board of Equalization, Second District	Chris Parker
State Board of Equalization, Third District	Neutral
State Board of Equalization, Fourth District	Jerome Horton



AD 14 Nancy Skinner/D

AD 15 Joan Buchanan/D

AD 16 Sandre Swanson/D

AD 18 Mary Hayashi/D

### Initiative Recommendations

Support:	Proposition 24	Proposition 21
	Proposition 25	Proposition 27
Oppose:	Proposition 18	Proposition 20
	Proposition 22	Proposition 26
	Proposition 23	

For other Congressional, Assembly Districts and Senate Recommendations go to [www.cta.org](http://www.cta.org) and follow the Issues and Action link to Election 2010 and Recommendations.