



ALVORD EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION

THE PODIUM



ISSUE 4 NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2018



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By the time you read this issue of The Podium, you will have received your first retroactive pay in the November paycheck. The second retro pay amount will be in your January paycheck. The Bargaining Team and I hope that this helps make your holidays brighter. After such a long struggle for the salary increase, we insisted that you have at least a portion of the increase before the holidays. Fiscal Services did a great job getting that done for us!

As we look to the new year, AEA has many things planned for our members. First, we will begin in January with workshops that you asked for on the surveys that your site reps conducted a few months ago. Among the topics will be Google for Education, AERIES, Extreme Behaviors, Teacher Self Care and Bridging the Gap between General Education and Special Education. All of these will be presented by actual classroom teachers and/or CTA specialists. If you have other ideas for workshop topics, please contact me.

Your Executive Board is planning activities for you to engage with us. One is "Walk and Talk" which will give you an opportunity to meet your board and discuss a variety of topics. We are also conducting a contest for button slogans (see p.2). Many members suggested that AEA have buttons made that members can wear to show their support for education, our profession and our association.

Lastly, negotiations will begin soon for the entire contract and possibly addition compensation. AEA will be surveying the membership for input into what you want in your contract. Please be sure to take the time to fill out the survey. Your Bargaining Team **WILL** read and use them to create proposals for the next contract.

I hope all of you have a safe and restful Winter Break.

Leigh



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

 
Follow Alvord Educators on Twitter @aeaprez10 and like us on Facebook at Alvord Educators Association

12/12	Rep. Council Meeting	4 p.m.
12/13	AUSD Board Meeting	7 p.m.
12/17	Winter Break	
1/7	School Resumes	
1/16	Exec. Board Meeting	4 p.m.
1/21	Martin Luther King holiday	
1/23	Rep Council Meeting	4 p.m.



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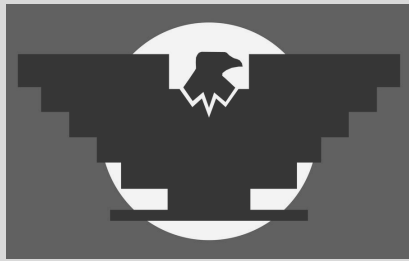
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Comments, articles and letters to the editor are welcome. Please direct to:
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News from AEA

- November elections results include change to the Alvord School Board. In Area 1, **Joanna Dorado** defeated challenger Gregory Alexander and incumbent Art Kaspereen. **Julie Moreno** held on to her position in Area 3 defeating challenger Jose Luis Perez by 61 votes. **Robert Schwandt** was also re-elected in Area 4 by capturing 62% of the vote. **(results as of 11/30)**
- Many associations throughout the country are doing the Wednesday "Wear Red for Ed" buttons, "I (heart) my union", "I'm sticking with my Union" and "#Unionstrong".
- *AEA wants to have buttons made for our members to wear that support education, teaching and their union. Submit your slogan idea to your site rep ASAP. Top three ideas will win a prize!*

Cesar Chavez Art & Essay Contest



To celebrate the life and work of Cesar Chavez, AEA is once again sponsoring a contest for all students who wish to submit an essay or art project.

Each teacher may submit a maximum of five entries for each category.

Entries must be submitted to the AEA office by Monday, **February 25, 2019 at 4:00 pm.**

The top three entries for each category will be submitted to CTA's awards program. CTA awards **CASH PRIZES** to both the student and their sponsoring teacher.

Please see your site rep for more details including specific instructions.

TEACHERS' RIGHTS & THE LAW

A REVIEW

Q: Is a teacher required to maintain classroom control?

A: Yes. A teacher's employment duties include maintaining proper classroom management... supervision and control are required in the classroom.

Q: Can a student electronically record anything in the classroom without a teacher's consent?

A: No! The use of any electronic listening or recording device in any classroom without the prior consent of the teacher and principal is prohibited.

Q: Can the principal change a student's course grade?

A: No! The grade given by the teacher shall be the final grade. However, a parent has a right to request a grade change from the district's governing board and superintendent.

FROM NEA

EXCELLENCE IS IT'S OWN REWARD

THE NEA FOUNDATION AWARDS FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE
CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Here is your chance to nominate an excellent educator for The NEA Foundation Awards for Teaching Excellence. We're looking for educators with outstanding professional practice who advocate for the association, engage the community, exhibit professional development leadership, and pay attention to diversity.

All affiliate awardees receive expenses-paid travel to the NEA Foundation's Salute to Excellence in Education Gala in Washington, DC. Five awardees are selected for The Horace Mann Awards for Teaching Excellence and receive \$10,000 each plus expenses-paid travel for themselves and a guest. The NEA Member Benefits Award for Teaching Excellence recipient, selected from the five, receives \$25,000 in cash and a personalized commemorative gift.

Visit neafoundation.org to view the guidelines and application information.



Nomination Deadline: February 11, 2019

From CTA

State Council October 2018 Report Highlights

- Civil Rights in Education (CRE) Committee requests that CTA President Eric Heins write a letter to NEA in light of potential attacks to Title IX by Trump administration.
- Educator Toolkit for Teacher and Student Privacy is available at www.studentprivacymatters.org
- Second Reading— Teacher Preparation, CTA believes that the standards for teacher preparation programs should be developed by professionals in the field, involving classroom teachers, certified support services personnel, and higher education faculty members who currently work with teacher credential candidates in an instructional capacity.
- Second Reading— Environmental Curriculum, Overview: Need to add environmental literacy into the curriculum across the board.
- \$2 million allocated for the November midterm elections to support CTA positions

CalSTRS to Divest from Private Prisons CoreCivic and GEO Group to be removed from Teachers' Retirement Fund portfolio

WEST SACRAMENTO, Calif. (Nov. 7, 2018)– The Teachers' Retirement Board of the California State Teachers' Retirement System voted to direct investment staff to remove the Fund's holdings in the two U.S. publicly-held companies that operate private prisons: CoreCivic and GEO Group.

On July 20, 2018 at the Investment Committee meeting, Chief Investment Officer Christopher J. Ailman initiated CalSTRS Divestment Policy in relation to private prisons after the Trump administration's zero tolerance policy for border crossing led to the separation of children from their parents. Since July, CalSTRS heightened their due diligence with both CoreCivic and GEO Group in order to engage both companies in productive dialog surrounding their business practices. This included visits to various detention facilities and face to face meetings with senior management concerning operational processes and risk management efforts.

"The board conducted a review of the staff research; we agreed that the engagement efforts were thorough and listened to our expert investment consultants. Based on all the information and advice we were provided, the board decided to divest according to the policy criteria," said Teachers' Retirement Board Investment Committee Chair Harry Keiley.

The process of divesting from CalSTRS CoreCivic and GEO Group holdings will begin immediately and is expected to be completed within six months.

As of November 6, 2018 combined CalSTRS Global Equities and Fixed Income Portfolios' holdings in CoreCivic and in GEO Group were \$12,142,211.

AEA Congratulates Riverside County Teacher of the Year and State Teacher of the Year Finalist Julie Trujillo

Foothill Elementary School third grade teacher Julie Trujillo received well-deserved recognition for her dedication to her students and to the profession. As an over 20 year veteran, Trujillo has not lost her enthusiasm and passion for teaching. As reported by RCOE, she describes her classroom as "my little slice of heaven."

There is no doubt that her positive attitude creates the safe and nurturing environment Trujillo believes her students deserve. She explained how many of her students lack the basic needs of life and that it is essential that the classroom is seen as a safe place where learning can be a priority and the key to their success.

She told RCOE, "It is important that they understand when they step foot into my classroom they can leave all of those concerns at the door and enter safely into another realm where their hopes and dreams can become reality through education."

Riverside County Superintendent of School, Dr. Judy D. White stated at a recognition event in May, "We are so happy that Julie Trujillo is a Riverside County Teacher of the Year. People say you see the potential in each student. Your students say that you love each of them the same. And, your colleagues say that they would want to be a student in your class, and that is probably the biggest compliment for a teacher."

Trujillo works hard to create relationships with her students, the family, and the community. Each December she makes sure every student receives a gift from Santa and that families in need receive gift baskets. She also plans "Foothill Family First Friday" events for staff to connect through bowling, painting, or even Bunco nights.

AEA thanks Julie Trujillo for her dedication and service to our students.