

Fontanan

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September 2014



Sue Felt
FTA President

Welcome Back!

The start of the year was plagued with class size overages which resulted in more involuntary transfers. Not a great way to start the year. I know some of you are still struggling with large classes, please know that we are trying to get them adjusted ASAP. Make sure you are turning in your overages for payment.

The District leaders have started doing instructional rounds looking for evidence of student engagement. These are meant to look for levels of student engagement and not at your teaching. They should be looking for school wide trends so the school can use the data to improve instruction. I will be meeting with the Teaching and Learning department to find out more- specifically how the data will be used and if it will be used in evaluations. Look for more information next month.

Chiefs of Staff have also been doing walkthroughs. Some sites have called to complain that they have been very negative. If your experience with these walkthroughs are negative please let us know.

In November, we have an important School Board race. Both Ayanna and Shannon are up for re-election and Gus has decided not to run. With the election deciding a majority of the members this is our opportunity to elect officials who are well educated on our issues. We will be conducting interviews for possible endorsement on Sept. 16-17 at the FTA office. More information will be forthcoming.

The negotiations team has met to discuss where we are heading for the current school year. We want to continue working on lowering class size

for everyone, rework transfer language, finish up the work needed for counselors, negotiate a salary increase and hang on to our benefits. They are currently setting the negotiating dates for the coming school year. As you may know the District has opened most of our contract. They've indicated that most of the articles have been opened for clarification or to update for current law, however there are a few areas of concern. It appears that they once again want to put everyone on the same length of day, which would be a huge increase for middle school and continuation high school. They may want to limit the release time for the association which will hinder our ability to represent you. They may want us to go to a one party, two party, family rate for benefits because they think it will save money. There are many others including limiting benefits to retirees. You may download the articles they want to review on the district website under board docs for last week's Board Meeting agenda. It's an attachment to the section about FUSD's initial proposal to the Fontana Teachers Association. The negotiations committee meets Monday before Rep Council every month at 3:45 pm. This is the place to come to share your ideas and concerns with the team.

Change is everywhere. We have new district leaders, Common Core, and attacks on public education resulting in legislative actions to name a few. Change is inevitable and we in education know that it changes on a regular basis and is usually done to us and not with us. It is our responsibility to take charge, stand up for what we know is right, and have a say in the change that is coming. Talk to each other and to your building reps. Let us know what's working and what isn't. We are stronger together!

Conferences

The following is a list of available conferences. Space is limited and preference will be given to new participants. We are currently creating an interest list. Please email the office at ftaoffice@fontanateachers.org if you would like to attend any of these conferences. In order to get as many members to conferences as possible we will only be approving one conference per member. So if interested in more than one, please let us know first and second choices.

GLBT Conference

CTA's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Issues Advisory Committee (GLBTIAC) is proud to present the sixth annual CTA conference addressing issues involving GLBT educators, students and community. This conference is open to all CTA members and will serve as a forum to discuss a variety of subjects affecting the entire membership and California's youth. Participants will have a variety of workshops to choose from, organized into three strands addressing the needs of the CTA Membership, the Students and the Community.

November 14-16, 2014

Marriott Hotel
San Diego, CA

Issues Conference

This conference provides an opportunity for educators from rural, urban, and ESP local areas, throughout the state, to learn, share, strategize and unite together to determine the future of public education. As members with diverse interests and multiple perspectives, don't miss this opportunity to reconnect with fellow educators, reenergize your skillset and help strategize solutions to confront the challenges we are facing together.

January 16-18, 2015

Rio All-Suite Hotel
Las Vegas, NV

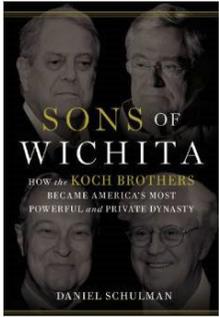
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Salary Settlements 13-14 School Year

The following are the salary schedule improvements for San Bernardino and Riverside Counties for the 13-14 school year. Please note that the amount in the column headed Restoration is about restoring money and days lost to furlough **NOT** actual increases. Off schedule means it was **NOT** put on the salary schedule.

District	Restoration %	Increase to salary schedule %
Alvord	2.7 (5 days restored)	3
Banning	2.72 (5 days restored)	impasse
Bear Valley	1.07 (2 days restored)	3
Beaumont		4
Coachella Valley		5 (effective 5/1/14)
Colton		0 (3 off schedule)
Corona Norco	2.64	4.21
Desert Sands		3.02
Fontana		3.25 and (2% off schedule)
Hemet	3.26 (6 days restored)	impasse
Jurupa	2.72 (3 days restored)	0
Lake Elsinore		3 (effective 1/1/14)
Menifee		3
Moreno Valley	3.8 (7 days restored)	6 (effective 5/1/14 no retro)
Morongo		5
Murrietta Valley	3.17	4
Nuvew		5
Palm Springs		5.29
Palo Verde		5
Perris Elementary		6 (effective Nov. 2013)
Perris HS		4
Redlands		2
Rialto		0 (1.7 off schedule)
Rim of the World		No settlement
Riverside		6 (effective 1/1/14)
Romoland		6 (effective 1/1/14)
San Bernardino	4.6 (5 days restored)	3
San Jacinto		0 (4% off schedule)
Temecula Valley		impasse
Val Verde		5
Yucaipa-Calimesa	1.62 (2 days restored)	0
Average	2.22	3.62

The Director's Bookshelf by Trent Stillman
SONS OF WICHITA: HOW the KOCH BROTHERS BECAME
AMERICA'S MOST POWERFUL and PRIVATE FAMILY
BY Daniel Schulman



I read a lot of comic books as a kid. In most comic books, you have a character's origin revealed at some point. The origin is usually that unique set of circumstances that led to that character's superpower or ability. Sons of Wichita is a fascinating read about the origins of the Koch family and their sprawling empire. The Koch brothers are important because of their role in supporting movements that are in opposition to the goals of teachers unions. Support might be putting it lightly since they annually contribute tens of millions of dollars to ending rights such as those of collective bargaining across the country.

The Koch empire began with Fred Koch. He grew up in Texas with little in the way of luxuries. He used his intelligence to get accepted into MIT. It seems like the same thing we advocate for our students, using education to improve your opportunities. Upon graduation, Fred used his degree to join an engineering company that built and designed oil refineries. Cars were just becoming affordable in the United States in the 1930's, and the demand for oil processing skyrocketed. Fred Koch was even asked by the Russian Government to help rebuild their oil industry after World War II concluded. He worked hard and always seemed to be in the right place at the right time. Over the next decade four sons were born to the Koch's.

The book chronicles the eventual death of Fred Koch and the handing over of the reins of the Koch empire to son Charles. By now Charles and the other three Koch brothers had graduated with multiple degrees from MIT. The book is a candid look into the lives of some of labor's biggest critics. Charles eventually brings brothers David and Bill into Koch Industries. Friedrich Koch never followed his brothers into the business or political worlds. A bitter 20 year legal civil war breaks out within the company as Bill Koch challenges Charles for control of Koch Industries. This legal battle explains much about the resolve and vindictiveness that can be shown towards adversaries.

One idea that comes across in is creating a legacy with hundreds of millions. Seeing what strategic organizers call the long plan, the Koch brothers set out thirty years ago establishing think tanks to generate specific policy to accomplish their political goals. Their next phase was identifying and paying an army of lobbyists to advance their policies and fund candidates who would be beholden to your millions in contributions. The plan of Charles and David Koch to weaken and destroy organized labor has been incubating and growing for thirty plus years.

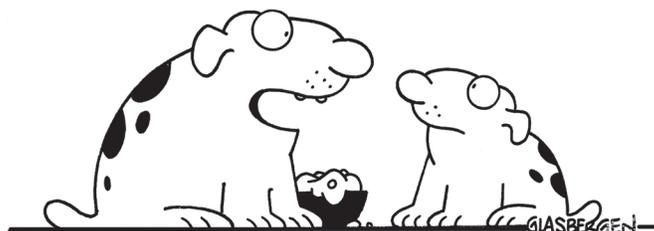
The vision and management theories that drive Charles and David Koch to target organized labor are most likely related to their views on a completely free market economy with as little government oversight as possible. When Charles Koch took over the 246 million dollar Koch Industries and grew that into a multi-billion dollar company he did it with the sole motivation of watching his financial bottom line. What is best for your business is what matters first and most!

I urge you to arm yourself with the information about some of our most formidable deep pocket adversaries. Buy this book, or find it at your local library. It is well worth the effort to see how the true 1% live and behave.

**Knott's
Berry Farm
Tickets**

**Adults (12-61)
\$35
Kids(3-11)/
Seniors (62 and
up) \$27**

DOG MATH



**"If I have 3 bones and Mr. Jones takes away 2,
how many fingers will he have left?"**

The
Negotiations
Committee meets
the Monday before
Rep Council at
3:45 pm at the
FTA office.

All members
welcome!!

Stay in the Loop!
Sign up for FTA email
alerts at
fontanateachers.org

14-15 Rep Council Meeting Dates

- August 20
- September 10
- October 8
- Nov. 12
- Dec. 10
- January 21
- February 11
- March 11
- April 8
- May 13

14-15 TGIF DATES

- ~~AUGUST 15~~
- SEPTEMBER 12
- OCTOBER 10
- NOVEMBER 7
- DECEMBER 12
- JANUARY 23
- FEBRUARY 20
- MARCH 13
- APRIL 10
- MAY 15

Fta Social Events

TGIF at Pancho Villa's
9/12/14 3:00pm to 5:00pm

Disneyland Tickets
1 Day 1 Park
\$92.00 Adult (ages 10 and up)
\$86.50 Kids (ages 3 - 9)
Tickets Expire December 31, 2015
1 Day Park Hopper
\$125.00 Adult (ages 10 and up)
\$120.00 Kids (ages 3 - 9)
No Block Out Days
Tickets Expire December 31, 2014
Cash Only
(prices subject to change)

**AMC & Regal
Movie Tickets**
\$8.00
No Restrictions
Extra Charge for 3D
Cash Only

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Good Teaching Conference-South
The CTA Good Teaching Conferences are designed to support excellent teaching and learning practices for classroom teachers. Offering a variety of diverse workshops in curriculum content areas for K-12 teachers, the conferences provide opportunities for professional development and offer time to network and share ideas with colleagues and experts in the field.

March 20-22, 2015
Sheraton Hotel
San Diego, CA

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