

# Fontanan

Volume 37, Issue 2  
September 2015



Sue Felt  
FTA President

I hope your year is going smoothly and the issues that always seem to plague the start of every school year have begun to go away. If you are still having issues please let our office know. I know that several sites continue to have issues with roaches, spiders and mice. Be sure you let your administration know about the issues as well as the FTA office. We are working with Risk Management to fix the issue.

I know that many of you were very upset by the problems surrounding the use of online programs. I understand the frustration. Many of the issues stemmed from the new California Ed Code on privacy. The contracts with many vendors had to be worked out between attorneys to fit the new laws and took longer than expected. In addition, some vendors can no longer do business in California. I know this doesn't help when you are trying to get your classrooms up and running but, every effort is being made to address the problem.

Lastly, I'd like to address the issue of the Confederate flag in the classroom. This issue was a lengthy debate at the NEA Representative Assembly this past July. The debate was long because the original motion included more than the Confederate flag. It included things such as statues of Confederate Generals and other war related items. Once the business item was amended to include only the flag, the over nine thousand delegates voted to direct the NEA to make appropriate and effective, efforts to remove the Confederate battle flag from public schools and public spaces. CTA took the following position: "Removing the confederate flag from our public schools is just one of the many steps we must take to address the institutional racism that continues to exist across our nation. The flag, instead, belongs in history books and museums," said CTA President Eric C. Heins. "There is no place in our schools and communities for objects that hurt and divide rather than promote unity and growth as a society. We have made some progress, but the shootings in Charleston remind us of the work we have to do as a nation. Approval of this motion is just one step." FTA takes the same position, that the flag hurts and divides and therefore belongs in history books and museums and not in our classrooms.

## Important FTA Email Addresses

Sue Felt  
ftapres@  
fontanateachers.org

Nancy Hofrock  
ftavp@  
fontanateachers.org

Barbara "Bubba" Smith  
alaridsmith25@aol.com

Grievance Team  
grievance@  
fontanateachers.org

Social Chair  
social@  
fontanateachers.org

Nathalie  
nalvarez@  
fontanateachers.org

Mandy  
apeters@  
fontanateachers.org

FTA Office  
ftaoffice@  
fontanateachers.org

Elementary Director  
elemdirector@  
fontanateachers.org

Middle School Director  
middleschooldirector@  
fontanateachers.org

High School Director  
highschooldirector@  
fontanateachers.org

## Professional Practice By Nancy Hofrock

As a member of F.T.A., you have many programs and benefits available via C.T.A. and N.E.A. Among those benefits are professional learning communities on-line that connect you to educators across the country. MyNEA360, which launched this summer, is one place to make those connections. On the NEA website you can apply for grants, download lesson plans and take free professional development courses.

C.T.A. supports our professional practice by providing exceptional trainers that come to Fontana and provide amazing workshops. Our next workshop is titled, "Problems and Promise: Best practices for technology/social media use in class." In November, we will have a workshop on "Literacy and Technology." January brings, "Sex, Drugs and Rock and Roll." Additionally, CTA has developed a program of Teachers Training Teachers that offers workshops regionally. All workshops are available free of charge. The next even is Saturday, September 26th at California State University in Fullerton.

Register at <https://goo.gl/SjSJNJ>



**Fontana Teachers Association**

**Whiteboard Makeover Giveaway**

If you haven't entered, please email your name and school/site to: [social@fontanateachers.org](mailto:social@fontanateachers.org)

**Last day to enter is: September 25, 2015**

**Winner will be chosen randomly and announced on September 26, 2015.**



The poster features a blue stick figure pointing to a whiteboard. Below the whiteboard, there are images of Expo Whiteboard Care products: a blue jug of spray, a black marker tray, a 3M Whiteboard Eraser, and a blue can of spray.

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

## Benefits for Retirees Moving to out of Area By Kurt Dukleth, FTA Retirement Chair

First of all, concerning any retiree entitled to dental and vision benefits (six year option per Article 13), this coverage is universal and can be used anywhere in the nation, as long as the retiree resides in the United States.

As for medical benefits, on the other hand, any retiree moving to an area not covered by the District's carrier (s) will be reimbursed at an amount not to exceed what the District normally pays; any difference in excess must be paid by the retiree. Written request for this reimbursement must be paid prior to May 31 of each fiscal year.

Please contact our Coordinator of Fiscal Services, Traci Matuguina at (909)357-7600, ext. 29010 for more specifics.

IPD and  
Community  
Outreach  
committees will  
meet on October 6  
at 3:45 at the FTA  
Office  
  
All members  
welcome!!

## **“Elementary Director’s Corner”**

The main issues or concerns that were discussed at our meeting were: admin time vs. teacher time and what could be done during this time frame, Keenan trainings, Class size caps, salary, hourly rate increase, instructional rounds, and the big one “Q” trainings.

### **Question about Administration Time on minimum day? Is it still 50-50 per day or one (1) week Admin and one (1) teacher?**

This year for the 2015-16 school year for Elementary teachers it will be 50% admin time and 50% teacher prep time. Admin time will include anything “REQUIRED” to do PLC, educational readings, etc. Teacher’s time is classroom preparation of lessons, grading papers, etc.

### **Question about the Keenan trainings are they part of Admin Time Last year teachers were given admin time to take the online trainings, does the same applying for this year?**

Teachers should be given administration time to do this. However, many teachers chose to do it from home. Some teachers are watching the video while doing preparation work in their classrooms.

### **Question regarding clarification of class size cap.**

TK-3 teachers – Soft cap is 29- Hard cap 31. After the first 20 days (Sept 3rd) teachers will be paid extra for the 30th or 31st student. Teachers in 4th-5th have NO cap but will be paid a on the 33rd student and so on.

### **Where can we find the new salary schedule?**

The salary schedule is currently posted on our district’s website.

### **What is the new hourly pay rate?**

The new hourly pay rate is \$37.68

### **Are the instructional rounds mandatory?**

NO the instructional rounds are voluntary. Check your district email on August 31, for the Weekly updates from the district an email was sent out to all FUSD employees and I will quote Dr. Cediell: “In this sense, Rounds should be seen as something that is done in collaboration with the host teachers and not something that is done to them. In order to help foster this collaborative spirit in FUSD, we are telling teachers that, if they would rather not participate, they can choose to opt out. In other words, participation in Rounds is strictly voluntary.”

### **With the “Q” trainings at the school sites, we are expected to implement a program that we have not been fully trained on and do it on our own time.**

Response from Nancy Hofrock. “I spoke about this at the school board meeting. I pointed out to the board that it seems unfair to ask teachers to volunteer their time to attend training for a program that they are required to use. “Q” Trainings are being offered on a voluntary basis after school. Each teacher will have to decide if it is worth their time to attend, in order to save time figuring out how to effectively work the program.”

### **What’s going on at:**

Poplar Elementary School celebrated “Patriots Day”, on Friday, September 11. Students wrote an essay or an account of what their parents’ were doing during the attack on the New York Twin Tower on September 11, 2011. Students also wore “Red, White or Blue,” to show their Patriotism and support for our American Heroes.

Stay in the Loop!  
Check out what's going on  
with FTA at  
fontanateachers.org

**15-16 Rep Council  
Meeting Dates**  
 August 19  
 September 9  
 October 14  
 Nov. 18  
 Dec. 9  
 January 20  
 February 10  
 March 9  
 April 13  
 May 11

*Fontana Social Events*

**TGIF at Pancho Villa's**  
10/9/15 3:00pm to 5:00pm

**Disneyland Tickets**  
1 Day 1 Park  
\$95.00 Adult (ages 10 and up)  
\$86.50 Kids (ages 3 - 9)  
Tickets Expire December 31, 2015

1 Day Park Hopper  
\$138.00 Adult (ages 10 and up)  
\$132.50 Kids (ages 3 - 9)  
No Block Out Days  
Tickets Expire December 31, 2015  
Cash Only  
(prices subject to change)

**AMC & Regal  
Movie Tickets**  
\$8.50  
No Restrictions  
Extra Charge for 3D  
Cash Only

**Knott's  
Berry Farm  
Tickets**

Adults (12-61)  
\$37  
Kids(3-11)/  
Seniors (62 and  
up) \$30

**Fontana  
Teachers  
Association**  
16850 Seville Ave  
Fontana, CA 92335  
909.829.0940  
fax 909.829.0466  
ftaoffice@  
fontanateachers.org



*15-16  
TGIF Dates*

~~August 21~~  
 September 11  
 October 9  
 November 13  
 December 11  
 January 22  
 February 19  
 March 11  
 April 15  
 May 13



Thank you Fontana District Family for having us at your service! Interest rates are at historical lows. Get a FREE Market Analysis of your home. We have the keys to your dreams! We have been serving buyer and seller Real Estate needs since 1988 and we can help You!

Have questions call:  
 Maggie Roman (909) 333-8396  
 Tarbell Realtors BRE 01171471