

THE

AUGUST 2024

# FONTANAN



**VOLUME 45**  
ISSUE I

**FTA  
CELEBRATES  
50TH  
ANNIVERSARY**



## Fontana Teachers Association Celebrates!

### Celebrating 50 Years of Dedication: Our Golden Anniversary with the California Teachers Association

This year marks a monumental milestone for our organization as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of our charter with the California Teachers Association (CTA). For five decades, we have been steadfastly committed to advancing the cause of education, advocating for teachers, and ensuring that every student in California has access to quality education.

### A Legacy of Advocacy and Support

Since our inception in 1973, our partnership with the CTA has been instrumental in driving positive change in the educational landscape of California. Our charter was founded on the principles of unity, advocacy, and professional development, and over the years, we have stayed true to these values. From fighting for fair wages and benefits for educators to championing policies that prioritize student learning and well-being, our collaboration with the CTA has yielded significant achievements.

### Milestones Worth Celebrating

Our journey over the past 50 years has been marked by numerous milestones. We've seen the successful implementation of smaller class sizes, the establishment of comprehensive professional development programs for teachers, and the securing of critical funding for public schools. These accomplishments are a testament to the hard work and dedication of our members and the unwavering support of the CTA.

### Honoring Our Educators

As we commemorate this golden anniversary, it is essential to honor the educators who have been the backbone of our organization. Their passion, resilience, and commitment to shaping young minds have been the driving force behind our success. This celebration is as much about them as it is about our shared achievements.

### Looking Forward to the Future

While we take this opportunity to reflect on our past, we are also looking forward to the future with renewed vigor and optimism. The educational landscape continues to evolve, and so must we. Our focus remains on advocating for equitable education, embracing innovative teaching practices, and supporting our educators in every way possible.

### Join the Celebration

We invite all our members, past and present, our partners, and the wider community to join us in celebrating this significant milestone. Together, let us continue to strive for excellence in education and build on the strong foundation we have established over the past 50 years.

Here's to another 50 years of dedication, advocacy, and unwavering support for educators and students alike. Happy Anniversary!



# CALLED INTO A DISCIPLINARY MEETING WITH ADMIN?

The US Supreme Court has ruled that the National Labor Relations Act gives workers the right to request union representation during investigatory interviews by supervisors, security personnel, and other managerial staff. An investigatory interview occurs if 1) management questions you to obtain information; and 2) you have a reasonable apprehension that your answers could be used as a basis for discipline or other adverse action. You must ask for union representation either at the beginning or during the interview. Management does not have to remind you of this right. If your request is refused, and management continues asking questions, you can refuse to answer. Your employer is guilty of an unfair labor practice and charges may be filed.

## I REQUEST REPRESENTATION

If you are called into a meeting with management, read the following when the meeting begins:

If my responses to your questions could lead to my being disciplined or terminated, or adversely affect personal working conditions, I respectfully request that you summon my union representative. Until my representative arrives, I choose not to answer any questions.

# Hispanic Heritage Month



Check your district email for some wonderful suggestions from Amanda Nava on how you can creatively and meaningfully celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month in your classroom. Amanda has put together a variety of activities and ideas that will help you engage your students and bring the rich culture and history of Hispanic communities to life.

Additionally, don't forget to mark your calendar for an exciting event - the Hispanic Heritage Festival at FOHI is scheduled for October 12. This festival promises to be a vibrant celebration, showcasing music, dance, art, and delicious food that reflect the diverse traditions of Hispanic cultures. It's an excellent opportunity for students, teachers, and families to come together and honor this important heritage.

# NEW EDUCATOR TUESDAYS

## Welcome to the Exciting Journey of Teaching!

As you embark on this rewarding path, we invite you to attend our "New Educator Tuesdays" workshops. These sessions are designed to equip you with the tools and confidence needed to thrive (or maybe just survive) in your new role.

On each of these Tuesdays, we delve into crucial topics that will bolster your teaching experience. From preparing for observations to understanding how to manage expectations, our workshops offer invaluable insights.

You'll learn practical strategies to create a positive classroom environment and receive guidance on navigating the challenges of your first year.

Moreover, "New Educator Tuesdays" are a fantastic opportunity to connect with fellow new teachers. Sharing experiences and solutions fosters a supportive community, reminding you that you're not alone in this journey. You'll also gain access to a wealth of resources and support from experienced educators who are eager to see you succeed.

### When & Where?

Next meeting is September 10, 2024

#### Location:

Fontana Teachers Association  
16850 Seville Ave.  
Fontana, Ca 92335

TO RSVP:

[CLICK HERE](#)



# FUSD: A Cacophony of Errors

My Dearest Readers,

It is with a heavy heart and a sharpened quill that I must report the latest scandal to rock our esteemed school district. One would imagine that, with months to prepare, the opening of the academic year would be a symphony of organization and readiness. Alas, this year's debut was more akin to a cacophony of errors, leaving both students and staff to bear the brunt of administrative incompetence.

Picture, if you will, the sweltering classrooms and offices, devoid of the blessed relief of air conditioning, during an unrelenting heat wave. This grievous oversight, however, is merely the tip of the iceberg. The curriculum, that sacred guide to our children's education, was conspicuously absent for some. Even more egregious was the collapse of computer systems, rendering technology-dependent assessments an impossibility.

And let us not overlook the bureaucratic blunder of scheduling mandatory computer-based assessments without ensuring that students had completed the necessary forms to access said technology.

One must ask: if the District is so ill-prepared for the first day of school, why commence at all? It is the height of irresponsibility to launch into an academic year with such glaring deficiencies. Our teachers and staff, those noble souls dedicated to the education of our youth, deserve far better than to be set up for failure by such abysmal planning. It is time for the school district to take a long, hard look in the mirror and rectify these shortcomings posthaste. Our future scholars depend on it.

Yours most sincerely,  
*Lady Pencilsdown*

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## WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP GET HIM ELECTED?

### ➔ Postcard Writing



Join us at the FTA Office on September 13th from 4:30pm to 7:30pm to assist in writing postcards to registered voters in the Trustee 4 area.

We have safeguarded all the treasures – supplies, delicious treats, drinks, and even marvelous raffle prizes!

### ➔ Neighborhood Canvassing



Come and join us for neighborhood canvassing, just for a quick 2-hour session on a Saturday. We are canvassing every Saturday until Election Day. Please sign up for any Saturday you are able to help out.

Homes are screened to avoid impolite encounters. You can have a buddy for support or bring a friend. Lunch is provided after.

### ➔ Social Media



Help boost our candidate by sharing on your personal social media and motivating residents to support them at the polls.

Many of us have acquaintances living in these regions. Sharing on your personal social media could motivate them to vote. These roles are often overlooked due to a lack of candidate awareness. Consider posting multiple times to raise awareness.

**To sign up for canvassing:**



## FONTANA TEACHERS ENDORSE

# JOSHUA CHRIST

The Fontana Teachers Association supports Joshua Christ for School Board Trustee Area 4 with these key points:

- His dedication lies in prioritizing Fontana students' well-being and involving them in important decisions.
- He advocates for fair and wise allocation of public resources to cater to Fontana students' educational requirements.
- Diversity and promoting community harmony are integral to his vision.
- He is committed to preparing students for various post-secondary opportunities.

Additionally, his significant contributions as a teacher and union member in advocating for the rights of students and educators are commendable.

**Find out more @christ4fontana**

**To sign up for the poster party:**



# New Home Address? Name Change?



Please

**Email the FTA Office with  
your updated information.**

[ftaoffice@fontanateachers.org](mailto:ftaoffice@fontanateachers.org)



Join us for the love of reading  
and bringing book pages to life

# Equity Team Book Club



## Discuss Pages 102-217

VIRTUAL • ZOOM MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 25TH | 7:30PM

Sign up using this QR code



**Stay connected  
with FTA on  
your social  
media channels  
to stay  
updated!**



**@FONTANATEACHERS**



**FTA MEMBERS ONLY**



# Fontana LGBTQIA+ Pride Fest

*Love always wins!*

## October 24, 2024

**Seeking:**

- **Planning Committee Members**
- **Presenters**
- **Resource Fair Participants**
- **Volunteers**

**Please join us for the next planning meeting on:**

- **September 3, 2024 at 4pm**
- **FTA Office • 16850 Seville Ave. Fontana**

**Inquiries: [TRUJILLOTEACHES@GMAIL.COM](mailto:TRUJILLOTEACHES@GMAIL.COM)**

Presented jointly by LGBTQIA+ Chairs from FTA & USW 8599



**Do you want to  
promote your side  
business, sell a car,  
advertise a property  
rental in The  
Fontanan this year?**

SEND INFO TO:

[FTAOFFICE@FONTANATEACHERS.ORG](mailto:FTAOFFICE@FONTANATEACHERS.ORG)

FREE ADVERTISING  
FOR THE MONTH OF  
SEPTEMBER

**ONLY**

After that, prices will vary depending on size of ad. The Fontanan reaches over 1700 .members a month.



**JOIN**  
**US**

**TO START  
PLANNING**

# **Native American Heritage Month**

**All members are welcome to join at  
the FTA Office on:**

**September 10, 2024 • 4pm**



# How Fontana Began?

PHOTO: KAISER STEEL

Established in 1913, Fontana (formerly known as Rosena) has grown to become the second largest city in San Bernardino County and the 19th largest in California. Fontana's first school was constructed in 1895 at the intersection of Locust Ave. and Foothill Blvd., with the school district established in the 1920s. Initially an agricultural community, Fontana transformed into a bustling industrial hub in 1942 when Henry J. Kaiser initiated steel mill operations during World War II on the town's outskirts. Despite Kaiser Steel ceasing operations in 1984, its legacy lives on through the Fontana Kaiser Permanente Facility, employing over 6,000 individuals. Fontana's rapid expansion is attributed to the Kaiser Permanente Hospital facility, a prominent medical center in the area, a significant population surge leading to extensive residential, commercial, and industrial growth, and the recent emergence of numerous warehouses.