# The SBCC Beat

#### September / October 2018 Newsletter



**ELECTIONS!** 

**CANDY FUNDRAISER** 

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WHY I'M IN!

**ANTI UNION GROUPS** 

AND MORE!

## **CSEA Chapter 289 Office Nominations & Election**

It's that time of year again, CSEA chapter offices are up for reelection for 2019. At the October 18th chapter meeting, Liz asked for nominations for each office. The current nominations made at the October 18th chapter meeting are as follows:

President – Liz Auchincloss

Vice President - Cindy Salazar

Treasurer - Carlos Macias

Secretary - Sherie Higgins

Communications Officer - Regina Reese

Chief Union Steward – Jason Thornell

Site Rep Coordinator – Mary Saragosa, Beth Taylor-Schott (Provisional)

Nominations for chapter offices will be held again at the November Chapter meeting on Thursday, November 15th at noon. Any dues paying member in good standing can run for a CSEA office. Office nominations can be submitted via e-mail to Liz Auchincloss until Wednesday, November 14th. Please remember, the person you are nominating must agree to run for the office so it's a good practice to check with him or her before submitting your nomination(s).

The chapter elections will take place during the December Chapter meeting on Thursday, December 13th at noon. In order to encourage all members to participate, the December chapter meeting will take place early during the second week of the month rather than the third week so more classified staff will be around to vote before leaving on vacation.

## **Elections: Get Out and Vote!**

Election day is right around the corner on November 6th 2018. There are many important offices and propositions on this years ballot.

In non-partisan elections, CSEA is endorsing Tony Thurmond for Superintendent of Public Instruction.

To learn about which candidates CSEA is endorsing in the 2018 elections, visit the CSEA website. The CSEA has a complete 2018 Voter Guide available for members in order to make voting easier. To view the CSEA voting guide, get your CSEA log in credentials ready and click <u>here</u>.





## **Candy Fundraiser**

CSEA Chapter 289 is fundraising again! Lead by Jason Thornell, our Chief Union Steward, CSEA volunteers will be selling See's candy in various departments to raise money for our union chapter.

All candy orders needed by the Thanksgiving holiday will be due on November 9th. All candy orders needed for the December holiday season will be due November 30th.

CSEA earns 50% on the small boxes of candy. These are a great option since it is the perfect sized box of candy for a small gift. The small boxes are priced at \$7.70 per box and CSEA earns \$3.35 on each box. Even ordering one box makes a difference. CSEA earns \$2.00 dollars per box on the larger boxes of candy.

Not a chocolate fan? Members can also make a \$5-\$20 dollar holiday donation to the CSEA chapter by writing a check to Carlos Macias and writing in the memo "CSEA Donation". For more details, contact Carlos Macias.





## Staff Spotlight



spent 3 years in Corvallis, Oregon where she was working on coursework for her PhD degree in Science Education. Currently, she continues to pursue her degree on a part-time basis.

Yoon Ha's prior experiences entail managing research and evaluation projects for a national education non-profit and working in the finance industry. These experiences have shaped her passion in better understanding and supporting the experiences of underrepresented and undeserved groups in the various STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) disciplines. She is excited to bring this perspective to her work at SBCC and institutional research.

In her spare time, Yoon Ha enjoys yoga, painting, and spending time with her cats. Yoon Ha spent much of her life on the East Coast and in the Midwest, so she is excited to explore what Santa Barbara and California have to offer.

Please offer a warm welcome to Yoon Ha who is one of the newest addition to our SBCC Classified family.

#### Yoon Ha Choi Research and Assessment Analyst

Yoon Ha Choi is a new Research & Assessment Analyst in the Institutional Assessment Research and Planning Department. She is not only new to the position and to SBCC, but she is also a newcomer to the Santa Barbara area in general. Before moving to Santa Barbara at the end of August with her husband and two cats, Yoon Ha



#### Why I'm In! by Loren Mindell

The benefits we enjoy such as vacation time, sick leave, a pension, and health and life insurance, are ours thanks to the labor movement. In 1863, as a direct result of union organizing, California became the 2nd state in the nation to implement an 8 hour work day. In the 1930s, working people exercised their political will and the New Deal set this country towards a recovery from the reckless speculation that resulted in the 1929 market crash and the Great Depression. CalPERS (at the time known as the State Employees' Retirement System) was established in 1932 during this Progressive Era.

I am proud to say "I'm in" because membership protects our right to a living wage, to healthcare, and to a safe and stable work environment. Since the late 1970's union membership has drastically declined. Since then, wages have not kept up with inflation. It used to be that a single income in a working class job was enough to support a family. This is no longer the case.

I'm in because CSEA bargains for my rights and ensures that I am treated fairly. I'm in because union membership is a political and moral necessity for working people. We are told that farm workers, warehouse workers, cashiers, cooks, clerks, and wait staff cannot make a living wage because they are not skilled. Because their labor does not hold enough market value to warrant a roof over their head and food in their belly. This is just not true. These people, whom we rely on every day, do not earn enough for themselves and their families to live comfortably because they are not organized.

Every day we can turn on the TV and hear all about how other people are coming after our slice

of the pie. That production jobs are being shipped overseas, that immigrants will take what little the American worker has been left with, and even the ridiculous notion that men can't support families because of workplace competition with women. Well, that's all a load of crap. Working people standing together, in solidarity across the lines that are used to try and break us apart, is exactly where our strength lies. The problem is not the foreign factory worker, undocumented line cook, or the person who sat next to me waiting for a job interview. That's why I am proud to stand with all my brothers and sisters. That's why I'm in.





#### **Care Contact**

Do you know a union member who is recovering from a significant life event like a major surgery or death in the family? In tough times, a kind word or gesture can mean the world to someone who is struggling with a significant life change.

If you know of a member who is going through a challenging time and would appreciate a kind word, the union would like to know. To reach out, contact our CSEA union Secretary and Care Contact Sherie Higgins.

## **Did you Know?**

CSEA began in 1927 when a group of Oakland school custodians set out to secure retirement benefits.

A group of nine men and one woman assembled for CSEA's first conference. During the three-day meeting, they established a framework for the union and set an agenda of progress that continued to elevate the status of classified employees for the next 80 years. From the Capitol to the bargaining table, CSEA has pursued the interests of classified employees up and down the state, transforming non-certificated, "support staff" into classified professionals and respected partners in the education community.



## **SBCC Board of Trustee Elections**

A total of three Santa Barbara City College Board of Trustee seats are up for re-election on November 6th. CSEA Chapter 289 is not endorsing any candidate in the upcoming Board of Trustee elections; however, the President will be sharing candidate responses to a questionnaire that was provided to all candidates by Loren Mindell, our CSEA Political Pac representative. Liz will share all submitted responses to this questionnaire with members via email.

#### Area 1-Carpinteria and Montecito

Incumbent: Dr. Peter O. Haslund Candidate(s): Running Unopposed

Area 2 - Goleta Incumbent: Robert K. Miller Candidate(s): Brandon T. Morse

Area 5-Mission Canyon and Santa Barbara Incumbent: Marsha S. Croninger Candidate(s): Darcel Dawn Elliott

**Area 6-Isla Vista and Santa Barbara** Incumbent: Jonathan Abboud Candidate(s): Running Unopposed

#### Area 7-Santa Barbara

Incumbent: Marty Blum (not running) Candidate(s): Katherine Lee Parker, Daniel Seymour, Laurie Punches



#### **Anti Union Groups Targeting Members**



Two anti-union groups, The California Policy Center and the Freedom Foundation have actively been targeting union members contacting them by phone to persuade (and even mislead) union members into dropping out of unions in a concerted effort to weaken public sector unions. Our rights and quality of life are under attack by billionaires who want to silence workers, eliminate pensions and end collective bargaining. Both groups pitch the angle "giving yourself a raise" as a reason to drop out of your local union. Every single member is important to our union, and every member who drops hurts all of us; as more members drop from union participation, our strength and unity are weakened.

Unions have proven that collectively, we are stronger together and have a stronger voice to fight for workers and their families. The size of CSEA directly impacts our ability to win contracts that benefit the lives and families of union members. Our combined voice gives us power to sit at the bargaining table in Sacramento. With the combined voices of 248,000 classified school employees, we speak loudly in Sacramento and elected officials listen. Our strength gives us the power to win pay and benefit increases, protect our retirement, and defend public education. The California Policy Center and the Freedom Foundation are hoping enough members drop out so that we can't stand together for our values. Remaining a CSEA member is the best way to stand up for your rights and quality of life. Standing together is how CSEA members won a CalPERS retirement and the RIGHT to negotiate for pay and benefits.

Shining the light on the billionaires behind Janus and anti-worker campaigns shows the true intent of these schemes which are to weaken unions and erode worker rights. Despite names like "Freedom Foundation," members who fall for anti-union lies will literally lose freedoms and rights. Dropping out of CSEA means waiving your right to vote on the document that determines how you can take care of your family. One voice may be quiet, but when CSEA lifts a quarter-million together, we cannot be silenced. That's why billionaires want to break us, because nothing is stronger than our unity.

#### Chapter Meeting Highlights for 9/20 & 10/18

- The chapter saved \$750.00 by only sending two delegates to the State Conference.

-Two anti-union groups are targeting union members using misleading strategies in attempts to get union members to leave their unions.

-Union Plus has discounts and scholarships for staff.

-Classified staff who would like to serve on the Classified Consultation Group will have to be CSEA dues paying members.

- The chapter will test using video conferencing software for chapter meetings to explore the possibility of members attending remotely.

-Our CSEA Rep Mark Moore working to bring Union Steward training to Santa Barbara.

-Classified staff getting 7% raise in salary due to the Me Too clause in our CSEA union contract. Next item for negotiations is Classified Staff teaching as Adjuncts.

-Loren Mindell found a union t-shirt shop based in Northern California to offer our members chapter t-shirts for purchase. Members were asked to vote on the t-shirt design that they liked the best. -CSEA participated in a phone banking session at Rusty's Pizza to support Tony Thurmond for State Superintendent of Public Instruction, it was a success. Volunteers enjoyed free pizza and participated in a raffle for prizes.

-CalPERS pension is solvent and looking good. CSEA Pr-Retirement Seminar on October 27th in Oxnard.

-CSEA E-Board in talks to have site reps in every department on campus. A site representative is someone who knows every staff member in a department. The Site Reps would report to the Site Rep Coordinator Officer.



#### **CSEA Chapter T-Shirts!**

The union has been working on a project to offer CSEA Chapter t-shirts to our members. Loren Mindell, the Project Organizer, researched and located a union shop in Northern California that uses shirts from American Apparel which are made in the USA.

T-shirts will cost \$28.00 each. The cost includes taxes and shipping. The chapter will be offering the shirts for purchase soon. Many members have already expressed interest in purchasing the t-shirts.

The *CSEA I'm In* t-shirts are a great way to show your solidarity with classified staff on campus. The union is considering requesting that members wear their shirts on specific days to show solidarity with the chapter.

We hope to see you sporting a t-shirt soon!



# **CSEA** CARES

#### Donate to the CSEA HUMANITARIAN FUND

The Dorothy Bjork Assistance Fund, which provides financial relief to members in need, subsists solely on your generous donations. Find out how you can help. *www.csea.com/care* 

#### I'm In for Chapter Benefits

CSEA members have access to a wide variety of money-saving benefits that include everything from financial planning and college scholarships to auto, home and supplemental insurance plans. Members also have access to a wide array of discounts on everything from cell phones to amusement park tickets. Put the value of CSEA to work for you! For more information go to: <u>csea.com/benefits</u>

#### Veterans Day Is A Reminder to Honor the Men and Women of the Military

Veterans Day is Nov. 11, a time to express gratitude to those who have made great sacrifices to preserve our freedom.

On Veterans Day, we honor the men and women throughout history who fought in battles, served in the National Guard and the reserves or were stationed in a base, stateside or overseas, and did their part to protect the safety and rights of Americans.



Serving in the military is a difficult commitment, but veterans and active military men and women don't seek

recognition or praise. Still, veterans appreciate words of gratitude. Be sure to thank a vet for their service.





CSEA salutes all active and retired members of the military. Thank you for your service.

#### **Chapter Meeting Minutes**

Our chapter meeting minutes are now available online at our SBCC CSEA website by <u>click here</u>.

#### **Executive Board Officers**

President – Liz Auchincloss Vice President - Cindy Salazar Treasurer – Carlos Macias Secretary – Sherie Higgins Communications Officer – Regina Reese Chief Union Steward – Jason Thornell Site Rep Coordinator – Mary Saragosa



# **Tony Thurmond** for Superintendent of Public Instruction *The best choice for students, classified and public education!*



Tony Thurmond's entire life has been focused on the importance of education and helping all students to achieve.

#### **Tony Thurmond** A Strong Voice for Real Solutions:

- Make sure schools and colleges have reliable funding.
- Demand accountability for charter schools.
- Keep students and staff safe on campus.
- Support classified employees vital role in education.
- Make college and career pathways accessible.
- Keep kids in school and out of the criminal justice system.

The biggest difference between Tony Thurmond and his opponent? Tony will make sure our public schools stay *public*. His opponent, a former Wall Street banker, is backed by billionaires who want to privatize our public education system through corporate charters and private school vouchers.

## Support Tony Thurmond for Superintendent



Be sure to VOTE on or before Election Day Tuesday, NOV. 6