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Act Now to Stop the New But Not Improved NCLB !!!

CTA has "taken off the gloves" with Congress regarding reauthorization of the NCLB Act. There is a very critical need to have ALL members respond to the current reauthorization bill that is before the House Education Committee, chaired by Congressman George Miller. If **YOU** do not want **YOUR** salary based on standardized test results, **YOU MUST ACT NOW!**

The CTA campaign on reauthorization is asking that we pull all stops out and get our members to place immediate calls or to send E-mails to their **OWN CONGRESSPERSON, GEORGE MILLER AND NANCY PELOSI** with the message that the current form of the ESEA reauthorization is totally unacceptable and to **VOTE NO!** The communication with "The Big Three" must happen prior to September 30th.

For a sample E-mail that you can copy and paste or the talking points to share with your neighbors and friends, please go to www.dublinteachers.org

Urge Congress: Repeal Unfair Social Security Offsets

NEA supports repeal of the Government Pension Offset (GPO) and Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP), which penalize some public employees by cutting or taking away completely Social Security benefits they or their spouse earned. Legislation (H.R. 82/S. 206) to completely repeal both the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision has been reintroduced in the House and Senate

Tell your Representatives in Congress: **Stop penalizing public service!**
Repeal the Government Pension Offset and Windfall Elimination Provision.

Sign NEA's electronic petition at: <http://capwiz.com/nea/issues/alert/?alertid=10186961> or find the link on the DTA web site at; www.dublinteachers.org

A copy will immediately go to your Members of Congress, and NEA will compile a complete record of all signed petitions so we can show congressional leaders the overwhelming support and urgent need for this bill.

What Has DTA Done For Me Lately?

1. Negotiated a new three-year contract with an increase in elementary prep periods.
2. Secured a 3.8% raise for all certificated employees.
3. Doubled the dental coverage for every certificated employee and their family.
4. Hosted a New Teacher Luncheon for over 40 new DTA members.
5. Attended a week long CTA summer training in area of Association Identity, Maintaining The Power of the School Site Council, Contract Maintenance, Cal STRS benefit, Data for Organizing, Setting Association Goals and budgets.
6. Represented DTA and the state and the NEA National Convention.
7. Worked with the Maintenance Department to get the HVAC at DHS back up and running during the recent heat wave.

What Have YOU Done For DTA Lately?

Even with participation at an all time high, there are still many ways you can help and support the Dublin Teachers Association.

First and most importantly **WE NEED A TREASURER**. If you have good computer or math skills WE NEED YOU. DTA owns the program Quick Books to assist you plus we will send you to CTA training which is available in early October at the beautiful Asilomar Conference Center in Monterey. But you need to act fast to get registered.

We also need additional Building Reps for most schools but especially at Nielsen, Fallon, Green and Valley.

There are also several new committees being formed in which DTA needs representation. If you are interested in serving on any of they committee, contact Lee Carpenter at 925-828-9341

Salary Schedule Placement Review Committee (SSPRC)

new committee that reviews requests for approval of units that are denied by principal and/or assistant Supt/HR, 2 DTA reps needed

Professional Advancement Activities Committee - new committee reviews courses and training offered for District credit.- 2 DTA reps needed

Work Station Modification Committee - review requests for work station assessment and modifications.- 2 DTA reps needed

Committee on Assignments (COA) - reviews with assistant Supt/HR applications from teachers who have agreed to teach in an area outside of their credential area.

President's Message: You Don't Have to be Outside to See Fireworks

What could be more patriotic than to be in Philadelphia on Independence Day? Well, that's just where I was this summer. I was privileged to represent CTA at the National Education Association Representative Assembly (NEA-RA), held at the Philadelphia Convention Center, June 29-July 6.

The NEA-RA proudly proclaims itself the largest non-political democratic meeting in the world. This is easy to believe when you walk into the great hall, amongst some 13,000 delegates from every state and territory of the nation.

There was plenty of spirited debate on the direction and policies NEA should adopt for the coming year on issues including immigration, NCLB, health care and the Social Security outsets. One had to wonder at times if the fireworks outside were going to be as spectacular.

Adding to the sense of excitement was the appearance in this pre-election year of eight candidates for President of the United States. The delegates heard from seven Democrats — Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama, John Edwards, Bill Richardson, Chris Dodd, Joe Biden, and Dennis Kucinich. Joining them was Mike Huckabee, the first Republican to ever brave the waters of a traditionally liberal gathering (although about one-third of NEA members are registered Republicans).

While all of the candidates had carefully crafted their speeches to appeal to a gathering of those in the education professions (Obama was the only candidate who dared to ruffle some feathers when he mildly advocated some forms of "merit pay"), some of their remarks bear repeating, if only for their ability to stir the emotions. Herewith are some of the best lines from some of the candidates: Barack Obama quoted Richard Dreyfuss, in saying, "If this nation...perishes from the earth, it will be because we have not done our jobs!"

Chris Dodd carried on that theme, in saying, "If education falls behind for a decade, the nation will fall behind for a century." The Connecticut Senator also gave the best "sound-bite" of the week: "Education is not about filling in the bubbles; it's about connecting the dots!"

Mike Huckabee said, "Instead of spending money on the war, we should invest in teachers who are "Weapons of Mass Instruction". He also quoted Thomas Jefferson: "A society which wishes to remain ignorant and free, wishes what has never been and what will never be."

However, the most warmly applauded speaker of the week was not a politician. It was Andrea Peterson, the National Teacher of the Year, a Middle School Music Teacher from Washington State, who said, "The simple truth is this: Learning is hard. It's difficult, frustrating work, and we need to teach kids how to do it!" Peterson also said, "Children need adults to validate their unique and special gifts. We need to celebrate what is special about each child, and use those abilities to help them learn." She went on to say, "The new three "R"s of education are: Relationships, Relevance, and Rigor..... but without the first two, you won't achieve the third."

"Education is not about filling in the bubbles; it's about connecting the dots!"

Welcome New Certificated Employees

The Dublin Teachers Association would like to welcome the following new certificated employees to the Dublin Unified School District. Most are already members of our DTA family and we hope the rest will be members soon.

Cecilia Aires	JDS	Rebecca Ebert	DHS	Casey Moreno	DHS
Adair Anderson	WMS	Candy Mae Estalilla	JDS	Tim Nicholas	N/M
Nancy Boyd	FS	Linda Fellers	FS	Christie Olivas	NES
Marisa Brown	G/FS	Garrett Fogel	FS	Cindy Pettit	JDS
Sara Brown	WMS	Jamie Frazier	FES	Terri Sharbach	FS
Jessica Brundage	JDS	Courtney Grady	N/DE	Talvin Sodhi	DHS
Amanda Carter	JDS	Jolie Hess	NES	Katie Stevenson	FS/G
Susan Cederbom	GES	Sharon Kovalevsky	MES	Julianne Sundstrom	DHS
Eugene Chou	DHS	Shawna Lettau	DES	Amy Sutcliffe	DHS
Samantha Cisneros	FS	Allyson Lightbody	FS	Joseph Viviani	DHS
Dearborn David	FS	Sara Marks-Brown	WMS	Candice Westerman	NES
Michele De Freitas	DES	Jenny Martinez	FES	Gina Yu	DHS
Dennis Doster	DHS	Jaime Melvin	DHS	Nick Zarconi	FS
Barbara Dudgeon	DES	Denny Molzen	DHS		

NEW TEACHERS ACT NOW BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE

Don't miss this special opportunity for guaranteed acceptance in the CTA Voluntary Group Life and Disability Insurance Plans.

If you are a new teacher, a CTA member and you enroll for coverage during **the first 120 days of your employment**, your application will be accepted automatically for disability insurance and up to \$200,000 of life insurance, no health evidence required.

The Standard, CTA's Voluntary Group Life and Disability Insurance Plan carrier, provides you with valuable protection for just pennies a day.

- Disability benefits for when you cannot work due to a covered serious illness or injury
- Up to 75% of your daily contract salary and up to 75% of your contracted extra duty pay lost due to total disability (coordinated with other income)
- Life coverage options ranging from \$25,000 to \$400,000
- Optional life insurance coverage for your spouse and children

Members can also apply at anytime by completing the health evidence portion of the application.

To enroll go to www.cta.org and follow the links to Member Benefits for more information.

Newsletter of the Dublin Teachers Association

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The Dublin Teachers Association was established in 1993 from the Valley Teacher's Association. DTA is the sole professional organization to represent the teachers of the Dublin Unified School District of Dublin, California

DTA members are proud members of the California Teacher's Association (CTA) and the National Education Association (NEA)

NEA * CTA * DTA