



Santa Ana
Educators' Association



www.sateach.org

Vol: 2 Issue: 4, Winter 2009

Chance of a Lifetime!

Delegates will gather **June 30 through July 6 in San Diego, CA** from all over the United States for the National Education Association's 147th Annual Meeting and 88th Representative Assembly.

The National Education Association Representative Assembly (RA) is NEA's highest decision-making body. With over 9,000 delegates, it is also the world's largest democratic, deliberative assembly.

The RA is convened every summer during the Annual Meeting. The first two days are devoted to discussions, conferences, and exhibits-but the highlight is the Representative Assembly itself. During this important event, delegates debate issues that impact American public education, elect top officers, and set policy for the 3.2 million-member Association. In keeping with CTA's commitment to minority involvement, members who are ethnic minorities are urged to become delegates.

There are two opportunities to represent Santa Ana and CTA this summer. You may wish to be one of the 16 SAEA delegates or serve as a volunteer/subcommittee member. Both, elected delegates and volunteers, will be reimbursed for expenses in accordance with CTA guidelines. NEA also provides supervised daycare during the RA.

If you are interested in participating in the world's largest democratic, deliberative, decision making body, please email the following or call (1714) 542-6758.

Potential Delegates:

Susan Mercer – mercersue@aol.com

Potential Volunteers:

Scott Miller – csmiller@pacbell.net

Don't miss out on this opportunity!
California will not be eligible to host
the RA until after 2017.

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- **SAEA**
Tel: 1714-542-6758
Fax: 1714-558-7333
- **SAUSD**
Personnel: 1714-558-5792
Benefits: 1714-558-5681
- **SchoolsFirst Credit Union (OCTFCU)**
Information: 1714-258-4000
Teller Phone: 1714-258-4100
- **OC Dept of Ed**
Tel: 1714-966-4000
Fax: 1714-662-3570
- **Credentialing**
Tel: 1888-921-2682

SAEA Executive Officers

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| David Barton | President |
| Ron Shepherd | 1 st Vice President |
| Jeff Goldberg | 2 nd Vice President |
| Susan Mercer | Treasurer |
| Alice Borelli | Secretary |
| SAEA Staff | |
| Gladys Hall-Kessler | Executive Director |
| Rue Chijimatsu | Office Staff |
| Paul Hatton | Office Staff |
| Office Hours | |
| 8AM – 5PM, Monday-Friday | |



CHALK TALK

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Questions, comments, suggestions:
saea.news@yahoo.com

Rumors vs. Reality

By Susan Mercer, SAEA Treasurer

What a mess! The State is in crisis and everyday we are bombarded with new information, most of it – if not all of it – is negative and quite depressing. SAEA is coping with the State Budget debacle by providing you with the best and most accurate information as soon as it is available. SAEA leaders have met and will continue to meet with the District, participating in CTA Budget Crisis workshops and communicating with our legislators. We are working very hard to sort out rumors and real legislative action.

Unfortunately, rumors are part of life and they are definitely part of Santa Ana Unified. Many, and I mean many, teachers have called the SAEA office wondering if what they have heard is true. Most are rumors. Don't believe everything you hear! As of today, nothing has been decided yet. The State has no plan to deal with the escalating \$40 billion State deficit. Many ideas such as furlough days, mid-year cuts, and elimination of Class Size Reduction have been suggested but nothing has been voted on or passed by the legislature. Be assured that as soon as we know what the State Legislature and the Governor have agreed to and how it impacts Santa Ana, SAEA will let you know. Look for the SAEA President's newsletter, check out our website and keep in touch with your site reps. In addition to staying in touch with SAEA, I encourage you to contact your legislators and urge them to take action and resolve this colossal crisis in education.

Read Across America – March 2, 2009

The National Education Association annually sponsors Read Across America. Now in its eleventh year, NEA's Read Across America focuses the country's attention on how important it is to motivate children to read in addition to helping them master basic skills.

NEA launched the Read Across America program in 1997. The nationwide reading celebration takes place each year on or near March 2, the birthday of beloved children's author Dr. Seuss, who epitomizes a love of learning. Dr. Seuss's use of rhyme makes his books an effective tool for teaching young children the basic skills they need to be successful.

Your Read Across America celebration can be simple or elaborate as time and inclination allow. Whether you choose to scale up or scale down, keep in mind the basic premise and your event is almost certain to be a success.

On March 2, 2009, the National Education Association is calling for every child to be reading in the company of a caring adult.



Beat that Stress - Quotations

Here's a two-step formula for handling stress. Step number one: Don't sweat the small stuff. Step number two: Remember, it's all small stuff.—Anthony Robbins

Stressed spelled backwards is desserts.—
Barbara Enberg

Adopting the right attitude can convert a negative stress into a positive one.—
Hans Selye

In times of great stress or adversity, it's always best to keep busy, to plow your anger and your energy into something positive.—Lee Iacocca

There must be quite a few things that a hot bath won't cure, but I don't know many of them.—
Sylvia Plath

The time to relax is when you don't have time for it.—Jim Goodwin

Slow down and everything you are chasing will come around and catch you.—John De Paola

Relaxation means releasing all concern and tension and letting the natural order of life flow through one's being.—Donald Curtis

Stress is an ignorant state. It believes that everything is an emergency. Nothing is that important.—Natalie Goldberg

Learning to ignore things is one of the great paths to inner peace.—Robert J. Sawyer

Thinking of Retirement?

The Public Agency Retirement Services (PARS) will hold two walk-in workshops to answer questions about the Supplementary Retirement Plan (SRP). The workshops are on a first-come, first-served basis and no appointment is necessary. Representatives will be on hand to answer questions and help with completing the necessary forms. If you have NOT submitted your enrollment packet to PARS, please plan to attend one of the following workshops.

February 24, 2009
3:30 - 5:30 PM
Century High School

February 26, 2009
3:30 - 5:30 PM
Seegerstrom High School

SRP Enrollment Deadline – 02/27/2009

DAY OF ACTION

March 13, 2009

Santa Ana teachers will join educators throughout California to show solidarity for the nearly 50,000 teachers who will receive RIF notices. Over 572 RIFs will be sent to fellow Santa Ana teachers alone! More information will be sent to you regarding our RALLY location and time. Show your support and wear PINK on March 13!

California Teachers Association, California State PTA Blast Budget Proposal to Eliminate K-3 Class Size Reduction

Representatives of the California State PTA, California Teachers Association, civic and community groups held a news conference on Friday, January 30, to condemn a budget proposal that would eliminate California's successful K-3 Class Size Reduction (CSR) program. The Legislature may vote on a budget package that could include the elimination of Class Size Reduction early next week. Eliminating Class Size Reduction won't save the state one dime. Districts will continue to get money from the state, but they'll be able to increase class sizes and redirect these funds to other areas, potentially outside the classroom. Contact your State Legislators and the Governor to protect smaller class sizes.

Earn Your Level II Clear Educational Specialist Mild to Moderate Credential While You Teach!

For more information about classes that are forming for Fall 2009, please RSVP to Pat Glowacki: 714-708-5891 by March 3, 2009.

March 24, 2009
4:00 – 5:30 PM

Orange County Department of Education
Building D – Room 1005
200 Kalmus Drive
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

Call Today!

February 2, 2009, was the deadline for the Governor and Legislature to reach a budget solution under the Proposition 58 Special Session the Governor called last year. They have been meeting a lot, but have yet to come up with an acceptable solution. The current proposal from the Governor would leave a scar on an entire generation of students. His plan:

- Cuts \$10.8 billion from schools and colleges over the next 18 months
- Illegally manipulates Prop. 98 (the minimum school funding law) to never pay back more than \$7 billion owed to our schools
- Undermines Class Size Reduction by offering full flexibility on categorical programs

It is time for our elected lawmakers to stop playing games and get serious about finding the additional revenue our schools need and our students deserve. If they don't, an entire generation of students will pay the price.

Your voice can help secure the funding our schools need.

Step One
CALL YOUR ASSEMBLYMEMBER AND YOUR STATE SENATOR USING CTA'S "CUTS HURT" HOTLINE

1-888-268-4334

Tell your legislator to fund our schools, uphold Prop. 98, and protect the Class Size Reduction program.

Step Two
CALL OUR U. S. SENATORS Feinstein and Boxer

1-800-294-9811

Tell them to make sure they include funding for our public schools and community colleges in any Economic Stimulus package.

Step Three
CALL OUR Governor
1-916-445-2841

Tell him enough is enough & fund our schools!



UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

“Building Resiliency” & “Workplace Uncertainty”

March 3, 2009

SAEA Office
2107 N. Broadway, #305, Santa Ana

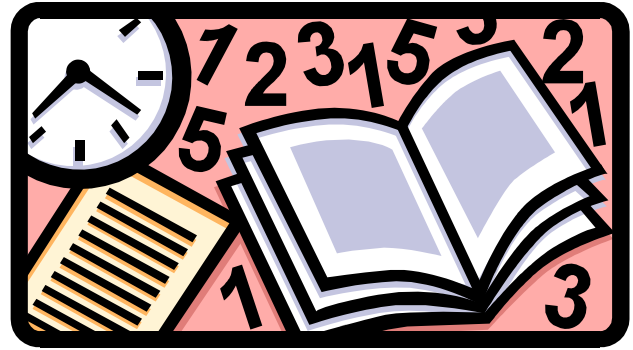
Join us for this dynamic two-hour presentation on how to manage stress in the workplace during these uncertain times. This workshop may apply to Buy-Back hours with principal permission. Please RSVP at 714-542-6758.

2009 Good Teaching Conference

March 14-15, 2009

Hyatt Regency Orange County
11999 Harbor Blvd., Garden Grove

The CTA Good Teaching Conferences is 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 conference provides opportunities for professional development and offers time to network and share ideas with colleagues and experts in the field. For more information, please log onto www.cta.org.



School Dates	2008/09
Lincoln’s Bday	Feb. 13, 2009
Washington’s Bday	Feb. 16, 2009
Spring Break	April 6-12, 2009
Memorial Day	May 25, 2009
Last Day of School	June 18, 2009
Final Duty Day	June 19, 2009

SAEA Board of Directors	(4PM)
February 10	
March 10	
April 14	
May 12	
June 9	

SAEA Rep Council Dates	(4PM)
February 24	
March 24	
April 28	
May 26	

Newsletter Dates	2008/09
<u>Publish</u>	<u>Submission Deadline</u>
March 30	March 23, 2009
June 8	June 1, 2009
September 4	August 28, 2009
November 6	October 30, 2009

Does SAEA have your UPDATED:	
Email Address?	Don’t Miss Out!
Home Address?	Contact SAEA with
Phone Number?	your current INFO!
School Site?	

CTA Members Auto Insurance

As a SAEA member you are eligible to receive discounted rates on auto and home insurance through California Casualty.

Some convenient and money saving benefits are:

- *Comprehensive deductible reduces to zero for vandalism on school premise*
- *Personal property coverage up to \$500 whether vehicle is locked or unlocked.*
- *Unlimited towing to the nearest garage and emergency roadside service is available.*

For more information on these and other benefits and for a fast rate comparison, please call toll-free 1-877-999-8927.

OPEN Enrollment for FLEX 125 Medical Savings Account May/June, 2009

Please start thinking about setting aside time for enrolling in the FLEX 125 Medical Savings Account. If you are currently enrolled, you will need to re-enroll for the 2009/10 school year.

