The Chronicle





SCHOOLS & COMMUNITIES FIRST WILL RECLAIM OVER \$12 BILLION EVERY YEAR FOR SCHOOLS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES.

Most of us want similar things: good schools for our children, a healthy family, and safe neighborhoods. But for nearly four decades, big corporations have not been paying their fair share, leaving California with the most overcrowded classrooms in the U.S. and with some of the worst ratios of counselors, librarians, and nurses per student. Schools & Communities First ensures that our schools and communities come first with the resources to educate all of our kids and the services to support all of our families. It closes commercial property tax loopholes benefiting a fraction of corporations and wealthy investors, without affecting homeowners or renters, and reclaims \$12 billion every year to fund world-class schools and strengthen local economies to lift up all Californians. It's time to invest in California's future.

WHAT DOES SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES FIRST DO?



RECLAIMS over \$12 billion per year for K-12 schools, community colleges and local



INVESTS in educating all of our kids and in the vital services necessary to support our families and communities.



CLOSES commercial property tax loopholes and ends shady schemes that big corporations and wealthy investors use to avoid paying their fair share of property taxes.



PROVIDES the single largest tax incentive in a generation to spur new investment in small businesses.



PROTECTS all homeowners and renters by maintaining tax protections for ALL residential property.



LEVELS the playing field for all the businesses that already pay their fair share.



ENSURES strict accountability so that money goes directly to our students and communities.

Join a powerful and growing coalition of labor unions, small business owners, elected officials, teachers, students, housing advocates, social justice groups, and faith-based organizations in supporting the first structural and equitable tax reform in four decades.

HELP GUALIFY SCHOOLS & COMMUNITIES FIRST FOR THE NO VEMBER 2020 BALLOT:

- Collect petition signatures starting in October 2019
- Spread the word to friends and family
- Join the campaign: text "our future" to 97779
- Onate to help power our movement



Redlands Education Support Professionals Association 410 Alabama St., Suite102 Redlands, CA 92374 (909) 793-1526

www.respaonline.org

Your Board

Gladys Kershall, President respapresident@gmail.com John Havard, **Vice President** havardjo@gmail.com Mary Ambriz, Executive Secretary ambrizmary2015@gmail.com Fred Nuñez, Treasurer **Directors - At - Large Child Nutrition Services:** Joleen Carlson **Clerical:** Sheila Best **Fiscal and Technical:** Mike Newmeyer Maintenance, & Service Center: Richard Stead **Para Professionals:** Sharon "Liz" Huerta-Brewster **School Safety:** Marisela Gonzalez **Transportation:** John Valdez

CTA AWARDS PROGRAM IS AMAZING!

If you are looking to go back to school or have dependents are taking those first steps, there are many CTA Awards Programs that you, as a CTA Member, can take advantage of.

Cesar Chavez Award: recognizes educators and their students who demonstrate an understanding of the vision and guiding principles by which Cesar Chavez led his life. Deadline to enter is **March 6, 2020.**

CTA Scholarships: in amounts of up to \$5000 available to CTA Members, their dependents and CTA Student members. Deadline to apply is Jan 31, 2020

Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Scholarships: in amounts up to \$6000 available to CTA Members, their dependents and CTA Student members of an ethnic minority group. Deadline to apply is **Feb. 14, 2020**

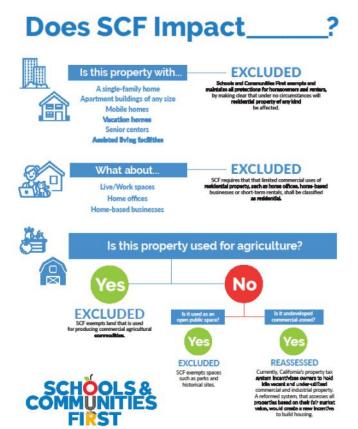
LGBTQ+Safety in Schools Grant and Scholarship Program in honor of Guy DeRosa: scholarships up to \$2500 to self-described LGBTQ+ educators, and grants up to \$2500 to CTA Members, students, etc. who support projects that encourage understanding. Deadline to apply is Jan. 10, 2020

Questions? Go to cta.org/scholarships

SCHÖOLS & COMMUNITIES FIRST

Top Three Messages

- Most of us want similar things: good schools for our children, a healthy family, and safe neighborhoods. Yet, for nearly four decades, many wealthy investors and big corporations have not been paying their fair share, leaving California with the most overcrowded classrooms in the U.S. and with some of the worst ratios of counselors, librarians, and nurses per student. Meanwhile our local communities are on the front lines of big challenges like safety and housing, while wildfires burn and homelessness grows.
- Reclaim Funding for Schools and Communities
 Schools and Communities First reclaims \$12 billion every year to ensure that our schools and communities have the resources to educate all of our kids and the services to support all of our families.
 This initiative restores funding for schools, first responders, parks, libraries, public transportation, health
- 3. End Shady Tax Evasion Schemes & Corporate Loopholes Schools and Communities First closes commercial property tax loopholes and ends shady schemes that big corporations and wealthy investors use to avoid paying their fair share of property taxes. They benefit from public schools, roads and public safety just like the rest of us, but they use schemes and loopholes to avoid paying for them. Schools and Communities First stops these shady avoidance schemes that have robbed our schools and local communities of the funding we need to invest in our future.



clinics and much more.







HOW TO SURVIVE THE HOLIDAYS

For some of us the holidays are wonderful. You enjoy your extended family; money is not an issue and time....well, you have so much extra time that you honestly don't know what all those folks are complaining about! But for some of us the holidays can be expensive, stressful and at times, a logistical nightmare. What's a person to do? Aside from running away very, very quickly some early preparation might be called for, some strategies and ideas.

Love her or hate her, Oprah does have some good advice on how one can navigate the next few weeks and not just survive, but enjoy! Here's just a little taste of the article from the December issue of "O" Magazine-Ways to Survive Your Next Family Gathering by Martha Beck (with some thoughts from your newsletter editor sprinkled in!).

Give Up Hope

Most of us go home for the holidays thinking (along with comedienne Abby Sher), God, grant me the ability to change the things I cannot accept. The hope that our families will act perfectly—or even reasonably well—sets us up. Before you meet your relatives this season, take a few moments to sit quietly and acknowledge what you wish they were like. Then prepare to accept them even if they behave as they have always done in the past. At best you may be surprised to find that they actually are changing, that some of your wishes have come true. At worst you'll feel regrettably detached from your kinfolk as you watch them play out their usual psychoses.

Set Secure Boundaries

Prior to the event, think through various boundary options until you come up with a scenario that makes you feel comfortable. Would you be more enthusiastic about a get-together if you planned to leave after no more than four hours? Or three? Two? One? Would you breathe easier if you rented a car so that you could get away without relying on relatives for transportation? Would it help to have a friend call you on your cell phone halfway through the evening, providing an excuse for a graceful exit? Sometimes just having an exit strategy is all you need. And who knows? Maybe you will end up having a lovely time and not want to exit at all! Also, come up with some great responses for those awkward questions like "So, is that ex husband of yours still in prison?" or "Why hasn't your son found a nice girl yet?" Now, you know that your son is gay and your ex husband—well, you have moved on and don't want to spend any more energy on that guy! A response of "My, that's a personal question." followed by "that blouse is just lovely, where did you find it?" or "How about those Dodgers? Wasn't that an exciting season? Oh look, there's Aunt Betty! Must go say HI!" come to mind more quickly if you have practiced them a few times before you need them.

Lose Control

Remember this: Any attempt you make to control other people actually puts you under their control. If you decide you can't be happy until your mother finally understands you, her dysfunction will rule your life. The only way you can avoid getting stuck in other people's craziness is to follow codependency author Melody Beattie's counterintuitive advice: "Unhook from their systems by refusing to try to control them." Don't violate your own code of values and ethics, but don't waste energy trying to make other people violate theirs. If soul-searching has shown you that your mother's opinions are wrong for you—as are your grandfather's bigotry, your sister's new religion, and your cousin's alcoholism—hold that truth in your heart, whether or not your family members validate it. Feel what you feel, know what you know, and set your relatives free to do the same.

Traditions Are Wonderful....unless you hate them!

Be bold, be brave! If Christmas Day always depresses you do something to change it up- go serve dinner at a homeless shelter; visit a new place that looks fun and uplifting; go to the movies and eat take out! If you are struggling with a behavior you want to let go of-change the scene, mix it up....go on a bike ride or walk instead of that cocktail party, create a new tradition of pizza and board games instead of an expensive four course dinner that always makes you feel like the family servant; do "Secret Santa" with a budgetary limit instead of maxing your credit cards out. You are only limited by your desire and imagination! Be bold, be brave!

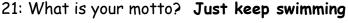
Debrief

It's crucial to follow up on family events by debriefing with someone you love. If your brother really "gets" you, call him after a family dinner you've both survived. If you don't trust anyone who shares a shred of your DNA, report to a friend or therapist. Generally speaking, you can schedule a debriefing session for a few weeks after the holidays, when everybody's schedule is back to normal. However, you should exchange phone calls with your debriefing partners within a day or so of the family encounter, just to reconnect with the outside world and head off any annoying little problems. There is no greater joy than shared laughter!

Read the entire article at: http://www.oprah.com/omagazine/Dealing-with-a-Dysfunctional-Family-During-the-Holidays#ixzz2lFHBNXFU

GET TO KNOW YOUR E-BOARD: JOHN HAVARD, VICE PRESIDENT

- 1: What is your idea of perfect happiness? Spending quality time with my family.
- 2: What is your greatest strength? Considering all sides.
- 3: What historical figure do you most identify with? Um.... ̄_(ツ)_/ ̄
- 4: What is a trait you most appreciate about yourself? Being able to listen and not pass judgment.
- 5: What do you consider the most overrated virtue? Asking for help.
- 6: What living person do you most admire? Sounds cheesy but dad.
- 7: What words or phrases do you most overuse? Tech Services, this is John
- 8: What is your greatest regret? Ask me sometime
- 9: When and where are you happiest? At home
- 10: Which talent do you wish you had? Speaking another language, fluently
- 11: If you would change one thing about yourself, what would it be? Letting things go easier.
- 12: If you could change one thing about your family, what would it be? Spending more time all together
- 13: What is your most treasured possession? Mydog
- 14: What is your favorite occupation? Working in Tech
- 15: If money were no concern, what would you be doing? Working in Tech
- 16: What do you most value in your friends? Being there, no questions asked
- 17: Who are your favorite writers? Max Brooks
- 18: Who is your favorite hero of fiction? **Definitely not Thor**
- 19: Who are your heroes in real life? My parents
- 20: What is it that you most dislike? Writing





GET TO KNOW YOUR E-BOARD: SHARON "LIZ" HUERTA-BREWSTER, DIRECTOR, PARA PROFESSIONALS

- 1: What is your idea of perfect happiness? Spending time at the beach
- 2: What is your greatest strength? Being a compassionate caring person
- 3: What historical figure do you most identify with? Agatha Christie
- 4: What is a trait you most appreciate about yourself? I try to keep my promises
- 5: What do you consider the most overrated virtue? Pride
- 6: What living person do you most admire? Michelle Obama
- 7: What words or phrases do you most overuse? It is what it is.
- 8: What is your greatest regret? Not becoming a Probation Officer
- 9: When and where are you happiest? outdoors, anywhere
- 10: Which talent do you wish you had? Dancing
- 11: If you would change one thing about yourself, what would it be?

Not to take things personally

- 12: If you could change one thing about your family, what would it be? Be around more
- 13: What is your most treasured possession? My artwork
- 14: What is your favorite occupation? When I worked Parks and Rec. in Fontana
- 15: If money were no concern, what would you be doing? Traveling
- 16: What do you most value in your friends? No judgment
- 17: Who are your favorite writers? Stephan King love the scary
- 18: Who is your favorite hero of fiction? Batman of course
- 19: Who are your heroes in real life? My dad
- 20: What is it that you most dislike? Lobster
- 21: What is your motto? No matter how you feel, Get up, Dress up, Show up and never give up.





Arroyo Verde Elm. School



Thomas G. Williams Next generation!



Arroyo Verde Elm. School



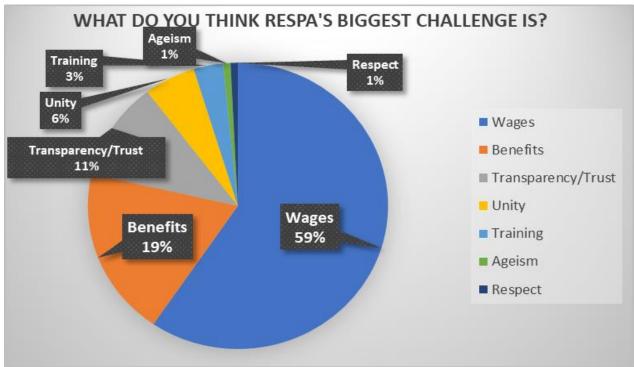


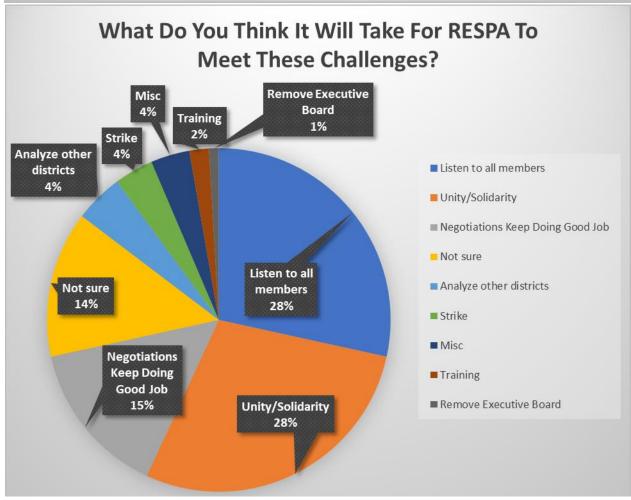




Volume 15, Issue 3

2019 MEMBER SURVEY RESULTS





Volume 15, Issue 3

2019 MEMBER SURVEY RESULTS



Is there anything else you would like us to know? Your Comments and Suggestions....

:)

A thought...I loved our bag, thank you. Maybe next time we can get a t-shirt. This way when we need to come together we can all have our power shirts on? Maybe you can make it a group project have us submit a simple jingle or logo to print on them. We can vote it in and make it our official shirt. If it can not be supplied I would purchase one. We need to get some union spirit.

As I discover more of what the union is and what it represents I will formulate questions.

As we transition with new RESPA board members I urge you to be present. visit the sites and meet people. Each one of you were elected by the classified people and we put our trust in you. Not every member can come to a RESPA meeting, therefore go find them. Thank them for their vote and let them know you are there for them.. I look forward to working with you all... Congratulations and to those of you who remain in your positions Keep up the great work!

change the rest of the union exucative board panel

Child Nutrition issues

Diversity is essential.

Getting our kiddos fed all year long

Having easier access to the contract so that reps can memorize some of it so that they are able to be of better help to our classified workers so they know if it is a valid complaint and that time isn't wasted on petty grievances that are not against the contract.



Is there anything else you would like us to know? Your Comments and Suggestions.... (continued)

It would be helpful to have - district wide trainings on inclusivity and diversity AND customer service.

Listen I just want a raise I have a baby coming and 2100 hundred a month is not cutting it especially when my mortgage is 1400 so please please get us a raise cause no way to live with a check like that

Mary Ambriz is an amazing at all she does for RESPA

More training opportunities for paraprofessionals and more hours.

My team members and their happiness are very important to me. Unhappy staff will never be at their best. My children attend this district and what parent doesn't want the best for their children?

thank you...

Not getting enough hours for the transport sites that I am delivering too and preparing food for as a CNS worker. Also again not being paid accordingly to the work as a Manager.

Ok thanks

One-time payments are hush money. Salary schedule is what counts! Tell the Board that we aren't stupid.

Some of us happen to be well-educated and know more than they think.

PARA are not treated as valuable employees yet they spend as much or more time teaching students than teachers do because of testing and IEP meetings. Do a survey and see who's teaching special ed students? We are a 2ND TEACHER yet paid as minimum wage workers! We don't want to be paid as insignificant employees any more!!! RED for ED

Reclassification if school clerks. We all feel the same thing but they are afraid to speak up. No longer in that position because I'm fighting for my rights as a hard working person.

I'm new to the union and would like info on anything

Thank you

Thank you to everyone who has committed their time to the union, I appreciate you.

Thank you.

it is the Unoin Members that make the difference not the cabinets or the persidents and the every unoin member have the right to be heard ..their is no need for site reps.. for it is once agian the right of every unoin member to be part in everything the unoin carrys

More training.

THIS WHOLE REDLANDS UNIFED SCHOOL DISTRICT IS UN FAIR WE NEED THE SUPPORT AND HELP

We can't back down with pay. If us doing a walkout is what's needed then so be it

Thank you for all you do.

We have come a long way

We have spent so much time putting fencing up at schools and we have asked for a spring loaded self closing gate at OHS and that has yet to happen. Our campus is close to a high homeless population and anyone can walk on campus. Just concerned about safety of students and staff safety.

where to start-

Why are we not planning on addressing minimum wage increases? Our hourly employees deserve the same pay increase.

Would like to know why I was interviewed 10 different times during the 2018-2019 school year, was told by HR that I was a high candidate for the applied jobs but never hired.



Is there anything else you would like us to know? Your Comments and Suggestions.... (continued)

I also think our contract needs to be changed to make the professional learning stipend more accessible. As it stands, it is only for WASC accredited schools. Teachers are hired with many more degrees than just from WASC schools. There are many other accreditation than WASC that should also be allowed to qualify. I am a GCU student online and can't qualify even though our district has a partnership with GCU. That seems stupid to me. If we have a partnership with a college, then they should qualify for the stipend.

I am excited to see how unified we become this year! Let's keep rocking thru this year!! Go RESPA!

I appreciate the new president already as she has responded immediately to me and was super helpful and available and knowledgeable!

this is the Unoin that is not to be divided and keep secrets... from unoin members...this is a unoin that is to listen work together in untity for it is us unoin members that make the unoin what it is .recruiting new members to make our union stronger!

I feel that we do not get rewarded for all the hard work that we do at our school site.

I have been the RESPA rep at my site for the last 4 years. This year I have a lot going on with my job and some extra classes I am taking. I appreciate what RESPA does and stands for, but I will not be as involved as before.

I think it would be interesting to know about open/closed cases/grievances/issues that were brought by members to the union by the end of the school year (#s/type) and how the union was able to help intercede/resolve those issues; kind of like a mini report. I feel that would really highlight just how important and beneficial the union is for members and increase an understanding of the importance of being a union member.

I've been wanting to talk to someone about the Professional development stipend that the district gives its employees for going to school. It has a lot of restrictions that aren't practical in 2019 and im not sure if people really know about those restrictions. It would be nice to work with the district to change what the stipend covers.

I'd like to see a union that is united to work in the way members are promised it will work (you know, for ALL MEMBERS?); not just for the ones at the "capstone" of what I now seen (in the last couple of years) has been developed into - a pyramid scheme. That, again, would require a supernatural change of heart on behalf of those operating behind the scenes who are still operating this way. One can only pray, I suppose.

Thank You!

RESPA SUNSHINE COMMITTEE NEEDS YOUR HELP!

We all need a little cheer, sympathy and kindness from time to time and our Sunshine Chair, Liz Huerta-Brewster needs your help to make that happen for our members.

If you know of someone who has had a baby, gotten married, facing a serious illness, is dealing with a death of a family member, etc. please reach out to Liz and let her know. She will make sure that our members know that we are thinking about them.

Best way is via email..... shuerta1322@gmail.com

and please make sure to copy the RESPA President at respapresident@gmail.com so she is aware as well.

If you can include specifics— such as situation and home address, that would be great.



ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTIONS....

In the RESPA Member Survey you asked some really good questions. And we thought we would try to answer one or two in each Chronicle.

One of the questions that came up more than once was

"What if I don't agree with how CTA spends their funding? I especially don't agree with their political beliefs. Can I be a RESPA Member but not have my money go to causes I do not want to support?"

The answer: Absolutely!

Here's how: Fill out a new CTA Membership form and return it to the RESPA Office attn: Gladys Kershall.

You can find the form on the RESPA Website www.respaonline.org

You can send the completed form to the RESPA Office via District Mail.

When you fill out the form, write the word "REVISED" on the top and check off on the front page the box that says

CTA/ABC & INDEPENDENT EXPENDITURES
ALLOCATION (Optional)

Designated portions of CTA dues are allocated to the Association for Better Citizenship (CTA/ABC) and to Independent Expenditures (IE) through which CTA provides financial support for education-related issues (CTA/ABC) and CTA-endorsed bipartisan candidates for local and state offices (CTA/ABC and IE).

Please indicate if you choose <u>not to allocate a</u>
<u>portion of your dues to the CTA/ABC and the IE account and want all your dues to remain</u>
<u>in the general fund.</u>

TRANS YOU for choosing a cassor in addraction. While it's personally rewarding, it's also professionally demanding. That's why KEA, CIA and your local association will provide you the support you need to be great at what you do. Being a member connect you with other educators. Together, we've been the most powerful view of for students and public education in California since 1863. And together, we've been the most powerful view for students and public education in California since 1863. And together, we've been the most powerful view for students and public education in California since 1863. And together, we've been the most powerful view for students and public education in California since 1863. And together, we will are. We do this by:

| Improving justing and working conditions
| Im

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask President Gladys Kershall respapresident@gmail.com



REDLANDS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT CALL TO ACTION



BEST SOURCES FOR CREDIBLE DISTRICT INFORMATION







@RedlandsUSD #ThisisRUSD www.redlandsusd.net

School Safety Updates https://www.cityofredlands.org/ post/school-safety-updates





December 2019 & January 2020

Dec. 7th: Christmas Parade.

Dec. 9th: 4:45PM Exec. Board

Mtg.

Dec. 12th: New Employee Ori-

entation

Dec. 16th-Jan. 3rd: Winter

Break

Jan. 13th: 4:45PM Exec. Board

Mtg.

Jan,. 15th: Deadline to submit information for the Feb/March

Chronicle.

Jan. 17th-19th: Issues' Confer-

ence

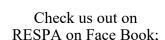
January 27th: 4:45PM Site

Rep Meeting

Jan. 31st: RESPA Social at

Johnny's Tacos.





Volume 15, Issue 3

@UNITEDRESPA on Twitter,

RESPAUNITED on Instagram and of course, our web site

WWW.RESPAONLINE.ORG



CINNAMON BAKED FRENCH TOAST

This is a totally yummy recipe that you make the day before and then bake for one hour in the morning. Great for Christmas morning—and yes, it is totally fabulous and no...this is NOT health food! Go to http://lovintheoven.com/2012/08/cinnamon-baked-french-toast.html for more details if needed.

1/2 cup flour

1 t cinnamon

1/4 t salt

1/2 cup firmly packed brown sugar

1 stick cold butter, cubed

Loaf stale bread (I have used challah or French bread-

both worked well)

8 whole eggs

2 cups milk

1/2 cup heavy whipping cream

3/4 cup sugar

2 T vanilla

EVENING BEFORE

- 1. Grease a 9 x 13 inch pan.
- 2. Tear the bread into chunks and place them in the greased pan.
- 3. Mix together eggs, milk, cream, sugar, and vanilla. Pour the mixture evenly over the bread. Cover and refrigerate overnight.
- 4. In another bowl, mix together the flour, brown sugar, cinnamon, and salt. Add the butter and mix until the batter comes some what together, like little pebbles. Store in a plastic bag in the fridge. (I do this night before as well)

MORNING OF

- 1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees.
- 2. Take your pan with the soaking bread inside and sprinkle crumb mixture on top.
- 3. If you like soggier french toast, bake for 45 minutes. For a firmer and less liquid-y french toast, bake for an hour.





Serve warm with maple syrup and butter, if desired.