

The Chronicle



RESPA Members,

As the time grows closer and a new era dawns , I want to thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve you as your President these past 6 years. I may have not always been able to solve every issue but it wasn't from lack of want, desire or effort. I gave it my all, pouring my heart, soul and even my health into being the RESPA President and representing it members.

We have a had number of wins and advance but there is still a lot more to be done. It is time for me to make the change and move to a different place in life allowing the next wave of great leaders to move things into the next level.

I have the confidence and faith that RESPA will thrive and grow to new and higher levels. You are in good hands with the folks that you have elected.

Again thank you for your support and for giving me this wonderful opportunity. I look forward to all the new and wonderful things that RESPA will do in the future.

With respect and admiration,

Dan Kivett

The Man in the Arena

"It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes up short again and again; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least he fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory or defeat."

-Teddy Roosevelt

Redlands Education Support
Professionals Association
410 Alabama St., Suite 102
Redlands, CA 92374
(909) 793-1526
www.respaonline.org

Your Board

Dan Kivett 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

Maintenance, & Service
Center :
Richard Stead

Para Professionals:
Liz Huerta-Brewster

Transportation: Patty Hale

Clerical:
Gladys Kershall

Technical:
Mike Newmeyer

THE RESPA ELECTIONS- JUST THE FACTS

There were various challenges to the recent RESPA Elections. These challenges were reviewed by the Elections Committee and they did not find the elections invalid and did not require RESPA to hold another election.

However, the RESPA Board chose to repeat the elections so there could be no question as to the validity of those elected. We have outlined below the various challenges made and the justification/reasoning behind each.

- **A person who was on the ballot counted votes.**

This concern refers to Elections Chair Heather Layton and her place on the NEA representative ballot. Those votes should not have been counted as there were 7 positions available and only 7 members ran, so all members on the ballot obtained a seat as NEA representatives. It made no difference that Heather Layton was present, everybody who ran "won".

- **RESPA did not allow enough time between the nominations and the actual election.**

Although it may seem quick, RESPA followed historical precedence and allowed the same number of days for members to vote as previous elections.

- **Why didn't all Presidential candidates get a chance to participate in the Town Hall Forum?**

Your Site Rep Council suggested the Town Hall Forum AFTER the ballots were counted and a run off had been decided between Richard Stead and Gladys Kershall. There was never a conscious effort to exclude all candidates, it was just that by the time the Town Hall was imagined, only Gladys and Richard were running. The Board thought the Site Reps had a good idea in holding a Town Hall, so we went with it.

- **It is inconvenient to use paper balloting– why can't we do it on line?**

We can, and are working toward that option. One problem is that we need personal email addresses for every one of our members. We cannot use the RUSD email addresses. So, if you do not have a personal email address please make a point to get one. The email addresses from www.gmail.com are free. We are working diligently towards on line voting, but the cost is a bit. So, we first need to get your personal email address, then find the funds to pay for the service. But we agree, it's a good idea...just kinda hard to implement. .

RESPA Members,

Even as the school year is winding down, the RESPA teams are still in full work mode, participating in contract negotiations and insurance committee work. The District response of 2.5% is unacceptable and we are ready to fight to get you the increases cost of living and cost of healthcare demand.

We will be sending out updates and holding meetings as things move forward to provide you with important information. Please take the time to keep yourself informed with accurate firsthand information.

Education Support Professionals: An Essential Part of One Education Workforce

In early 2009, Education Support Professional (ESP) membership in the National Education Association topped half a million, reflecting a **3200% growth** since we gained full membership status in 1980.

Education Support Professionals were first recognized as Association members in 1967, when “Educational Secretaries” received membership. A category for “Auxiliary Personnel,” or paraprofessionals, was added in 1972. “Educational Support Personnel”—encompassing all non-teaching education employees— was established as a separate membership category in 1980. ESP won a position on the NEA Board of Directors in 1983, and we continued to expand our representation in governance throughout the 1980s.

In 1988, Education Support Personnel were included as active members rather than a separate membership category. ESP were recognized as “professionals” in 2001, and in 2002, we gained our own NEA department, Education Support Professionals Quality, charged with promoting professional quality for ESP.

Currently, there are more than 3 million education support staff in the nation’s school systems. Because nearly one half of the employees of any given school district are support professionals, we represent the biggest opportunity for NEA membership growth.

Our power can only increase as our numbers grow.

Issues of Importance for Education Support Professionals

To attract a skilled, dedicated and experienced Education Support Professionals workforce, and to be a full partner in a strong Association, ESPs need:

Respect

ESPs need to have our importance acknowledged by school districts, administrators, teachers, parents, and our Association.

Inclusion

ESP want to be treated as full partners in the education team at the school level and within the local, state and national Association.

Job Security

ESP need protection from layoffs and privatization.

Pay and Benefits

ESP need pay commensurate with the skills and responsibilities of our positions—no less than a living wage.

Training and Professional Development

ESP need opportunities and meaningful education that provides both for career path development (e.g. paras becoming teachers) and for continual improvement within our current jobs. We want training to bring our skills up to date with 21st century changes.

(www.nea.org)

June/July/August 2019

June 1st & 2nd: State Council (Los Angeles)

July 4th-7th: NEA RA—
Houston, Texas

June 6th: Last day of school

July 18th-21st: President's Conference— San Jose

June 16th: Father's Day

July 28th-August 1st:
Summer
Institute-UCLA

June 21st: Executive Board Retreat—
RESPA Offices

August 7th: School resumes

You have a choice, you can support a living wage or you can complain about the number of people on welfare, but you can't do both.

Mary Ambriz is beyond happy to announce her youngest son, Matthew married Jessica Medvec on Saturday, May 25th. She would say it's about damn time, but that would be rude.



Looking for bargains and special deals this summer?

Check out www.cta.org for so many discounts on travel, amusement parks, hotels and more.

Don't miss out.

NEA® Complimentary Life Insurance

To help provide for your family, the NEA Members Insurance Trust® makes valuable benefits available at **no extra cost** to Active, Staff, Reserve and Life* members.

This complimentary coverage includes:

- Up to \$1,000 of term life insurance
- Up to \$5,000 of accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D) coverage
- \$50,000 of AD&D insurance for any covered accident that occurs on the job or while serving as an Association Leader†
\$150,000 of life insurance for unlawful homicide while on the job

Want to know more?

<http://www.neamb.com/insurance/nea-complimentary-life-insurance.htm>