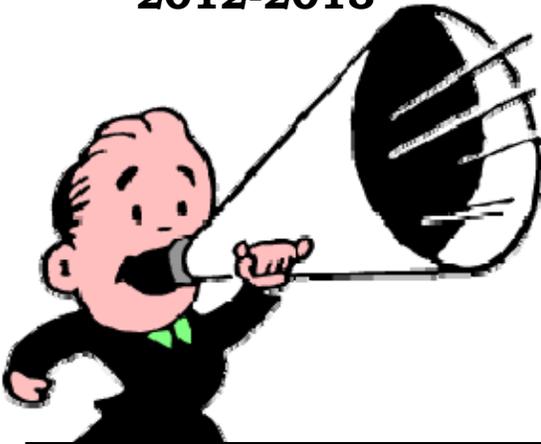


# PVFA ANNOUNCER

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**Happy New Year!**

## PVFA President: "It's back to handling PVFA business"



### President's Message:

Welcome Back!

Happy New Year; I hope you had time to rest and relax during the Winter Break. I always have the best intentions to catch up on a few things I let go during the year. But then, the fun and enjoyment of the season takes over and there go those best intentions! Fun with friends and family is important, so I guess I will get those other things done on the next break! For now, it's back to handling PVFA business. The good news out of Sacramento is a proposal for \$1.6 billion for public education. The bargaining team is following this with the help of Sandra Goins and CTA. Sandra suggests, "Let's be cautiously optimistic!"

Please read through the newsletter. It is full of a lot of information about CCSS (Common Core State Standards), CTCL (California Teachers of English Learners) and District information. Last bit of information: The February 1<sup>st</sup> paycheck will have the four furlough days paid in it. So enjoy the check and realize it's an advance on the three days of work still ahead of us.

Kathy Santarosa  
PVFA President

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## Hats off to PVFA Members and Bargaining Team!

After many hours and countless meetings, the bargaining team and district representatives completed the best compromise agreement possible during tough budgetary times, the brilliantly crafted Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Our "180" Campaign to restore the instructional year is still short one day, but we are happy to report that we are now at 179 days\*. Without standing together with our green "180" buttons, we could not have gotten this far! **What did we get?**

- Restored instructional days: Jan.28, Feb.8 & May 17
- \$1 increase in hourly pay for extra duty work
- \$50 increase to members attending overnight science camp
- June 10 is no longer a potential work day
- No freeze to step and column on the salary schedule

\*An updated calendar is on the District website.

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## CTEL: What's it all about?



**What is CTEL and why is CTEL certification important to me? How do I earn my CTEL certificate? Will my job be affected in the future if I do not have a CTEL certification?** These are some of the questions floating around now about the CTEL (formerly known as CLAD) certification.

We don't have all the answers, but this is what we know for now.

- ❖ CTEL is an acronym for California Teachers of English Learners. California requires all public school teachers who have one or more English Learners (EL) in their classroom to receive CTEL certification.
- ❖ It is likely that many teachers on temporary status won't be rehired without committing to earning their CTEL certification.
- ❖ If you are a teacher who is low on the seniority list, not having the CTEL could work against you and your ranking, versus other teachers with like credentials.
- ❖ Veteran teachers without CTEL certification could be transferred to a site with teachers who have CTEL or to a site with no English Learners so that all students can be served according to their needs.

There are two ways to earn your CTEL certification. (1) Take the free review class being offered at the district on Tuesdays and then PAY (out of your own pocket) to take the three-part test. The test is approximately \$250-300. (2) Complete the coursework at a university. Many offer CTEL courses online. The coursework is typically four parts and enables you to earn the certificate without taking an exam. The cost is approximately \$495/part = \$2,000 total for the coursework.

**PVFA  
Successful  
Open  
Enrollment to  
The Standard:**

**More than 54  
PVFA  
members  
signed up for  
THE  
STANDARD**

**disability  
and/or life  
insurance and  
with no health  
questions or  
concern for  
preexisting  
conditions.  
Way to go!---**

## Common Core State Standards (CCSS) - In service

Many teachers have questions regarding CCSS in service attendance during the teacher's contractual work day. This is the district's stance: Teachers will **NOT** be paid to attend in service that goes beyond the contractual day. Furthermore, the district acknowledges that teachers are **not required** to stay at a workshop beyond their contractual day. This is why the district's workshop fliers and emails state that teachers are "encouraged to attend". The district is free from the obligation to pay teachers for their extra time, knowing that teachers **may leave at the end of the contractual day**. Lastly, if you attend a workshop where a substitute has been reserved for you, it will run during your contractual day.

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## **IN YOUR CORNER!** by Renae Roberts, PVFA Bargaining Chair

The PVFA Bargaining Team is a diverse group comprised of unit members from each teaching level and we are in your corner!

**Every dollar of salary, health benefits, calendar days and your work conditions have been negotiated by your Bargaining Team, and the Team remains determined not to give away advancements or gains made from previous contract settlements. We will soon enter negotiations for the 2013-14 agreement.**

**If you're interested in a \$salary increa\$e and improved health benefit\$, your participation is needed!** Complete the Bargaining Survey that will be sent to your email in the near future. United we stand.



## **The Case of the Ever Changing Pay Check**

Okay, so you got a pay check in September for the first time, but it was less than last year's 10thly pay check. Still, it was nice to get a pay check in September, since we began work in August.

Then January happened! The increase in health care costs made the now 11thly pay check even smaller!

Here comes February and Woohoo! But, don't think the district is giving you a Valentine's gift—no, the February pay check will reflect payment for the three additional instructional days and the one staff development day restored as negotiated by the Bargaining Team. The restored work days will be paid at your daily professional, not an hourly rate. The March paycheck will go back to the January 11thly amount.

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## PVPUSD OFFERS GOLDEN HANDSHAKE TO PVFA MEMBERS AND ADMINISTRATORS!



Thursday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, the PVPUSD board approved the Public Agency Retirement Services (PARS) retirement package to be offered to PVFA members and administrators. The plan offers 100% of the PVFA member's current annual salary in the form of an annuity. This is in addition to the retirement earned through CalSTRS. Each eligible PVFA member, and eligible administrator, will receive a personalized statement of the plan in the next week or so. The program will offer several pay-out options from which to choose.

The following is used for example only. Whatever your base salary is, that is *your* correct number. Example: if your base salary is \$75,000, the retirement offers you \$75,000 in an annuity (you choose from the options). There is a time-line, so you may want to start considering this now. While waiting for your packet from the district, visit [www.calstrs.com/calculators](http://www.calstrs.com/calculators) to see what retirement from CalSTRS might look like for you. This is separate from the PARS plan. You can also see your most recent statement and get information about making an appointment from a CalSTRS counselor at the website. Once you receive your personalized statement, you'll be able to make an informed decision.