

the

FMEA Observer



Summer Edition

A letter from the president, Scott Shulimson

Hi FMEA members,

Early June is always an intense and emotional time. There are all the loose ends to wrap up, and the goodbyes to our friends and colleagues who are leaving. Overall, I believe it was a good year. We settled bargaining without having to go to impasse, we held four great FMEA student events, and we had a successful retirement incentive for the first time in six years. This year will also mark a turning point as we watch the leadership change at more schools than any year in memory.

Important Dates!

June 16

Last day of school!

June 30

**Final day to notify
HR if you are not
returning next
year.**

August 15

First teacher day.

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This was Superintendent Cruz's second year running the district. While I think progress has been too slow, I do believe things are moving in the right direction overall. However whether it's special education, communication, or procedures like work or bus orders, there is still a lot of room for improvement, and I look forward to continuing to work on these issues next year.

FMEA means different things to different people. Around five years ago, we began refocusing on student events such as our track meet, spelling bee, basketball tournament, and literacy fair. These are routinely my favorite events of the year, and they connect FMEA to the community in an important and meaningful way. They also offer teachers a different way to get involved with FMEA. I want to say thank you to all the people who coordinated these events or helped out at school sites. It couldn't happen without you!

Next year will mark a big transition. Not only are we seeing the biggest number of retiring teachers since 2009, but also more than one third of FMSD schools will have new principals in the fall. As someone who started teaching in this district in 2001, it's interesting, and a bit scary, watching my peers move closer to becoming "the old-timers." However, that is part of the process, and it's always exciting to see our newer teachers get involved. It's going to take renewed involvement in our union and our district to compensate for all the great teachers we are losing this year. I look forward

to doing my part next year to help support and energize the teachers and other FMEA members who will always comprise the backbone of this challenging and rewarding district.

Sincerely,

Scott Shulimson

Board Briefs

May 9th

- The Board was presented with an update on the costly electronic attendance program the district has been using for the last few years.
- The Tentative Agreement with FMEA was approved.

May 23rd

- Global Learner students were honored.
- Employee SPIRIT awards were given out.
- A public hearing was set for June 13th for the district budget.
- A public hearing was set for June 13th for grades 4-8 ELA adoption.

Contract Issues

4.6.1.1

“Staff...shall form a joint committee with the site administrator to prepare a plan for providing the daily instructional minutes. The plan for instructional minutes shall be presented to the local staff. Should the staff be unable to reach agreement through a majority vote, the issue shall be referred to the Assistant Superintendent of Education Services for a final decision”

4.5.1

“During parent conference weeks, time not spent on parent/teacher conferences after the student dismissal shall be teacher directed...During these conferences and weeks that include Back to School Night and Open House, unit members shall only be required to be on site a total of thirty-seven and one half (37.5) hours a week.”

Grievances

There are currently no grievances or arbitrations!



FMEA Election Results

President: Scott Shulimson- 184

Write Ins: Paul Ward- 1

Honda Cevallos- 1

Vice President: Kelly Bond- 179

Write Ins: Ashley Frost- 1

Secretary: Rachel Whitmeyer- 180

Treasurer: Kristi Billings - 180

Director At Large: Erik Whitaker- 181

Congratulations To All!

Union Dues

FMEA Rep Council voted last week to increase local dues by \$20 annually (\$1.66/month). FMEA still has the lowest local dues of any chapter with a full-time release president operating out of the Mt Hamilton CTA building. CTA will be increasing dues by \$21 annually.

Other Bits and Pieces

CTA State Council

Congratulations to Lyn Irvine who won another term on CTA State Council!

W.H.O Awards (We Honor Ours)

Congratulations to FMEA W.H.O. award winner Charlie Nave, and to Santa Clara County CTA W.H.O award winner Scott Shulimson!

FMEA On Facebook

Join the FMEA Facebook Group! It's easy - just search "FMEA" on Facebook and request to join.

FMEA Text List

FMEA is moving towards using text message blasts. Text "@fmeamember" to number "81010" to sign up for FMEA text message alerts



FMEA Bargaining Team

If you're interested in joining this important team, contact Scott Shulimson.

Reminders



- The “contracts” that are currently being distributed for you to sign are not binding. They are actually just a placement verification to ensure that you are being paid the correct amount. Signing them is not binding.
- If you do not plan to return next year, you must formally notify Human Resources by June 30th or the district can choose not to release you.
- Also, all PD or other work on non-work days is always optional. You can never be forced to attend work-related events on non-work days.

FMEA Calendar

June 13th School Board- 7pm

June 16th Last Day Of School

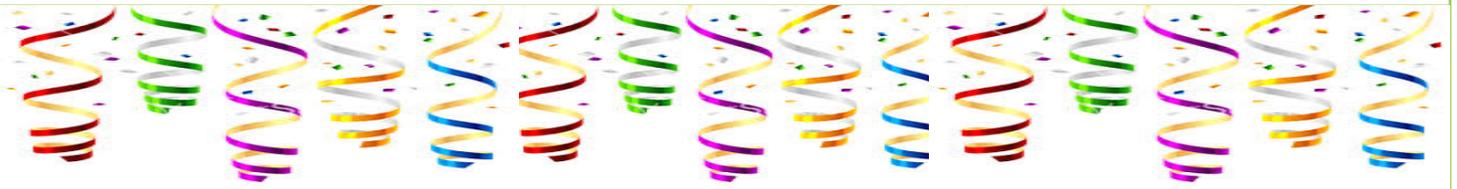
June 27th School Board- 7pm

June 30th Final Day To Notify H.R. You Are Not Returning Next Year

August 15th First Teacher Day

August 21st First Student Day





Congratulations Retirees!

Congratulations to the many retiring FMEA members. It's bittersweet to see so many friends and colleagues leave at once, but we wish you well! (Note: To receive the district retirement incentive, one just had to leave the district, so not all these people are retiring from education).

Bridges

Alexandra Adams

Kate Adams

Rodney Palmer

James Johnson

Virginia Gyorkos

Don Halog

Sharon Lee Nakayama

CCA

Ruth Gilley

Dahl

Irma Balzen

Kennedy

Anh Do

Julie Rambo

Linda Burge

Oanh Tran

Lairon

Edna Wong

Marion Kathleen Smith

Ricky Perez

Michelle Rose

Los Arboles

Laura Farris

Phyllis Chan

Janice Morse

Ramblewood

Denise Castillo

Santee

Cynthia Schroyer

Carmen Montano

Shirakawa

Teresa Sadler

Stonegate

Jan Theiss-Guffey

Sylvandale

Carl White

Windmill

Sherrill DeLuca

Vidya Tripathi



Until next time!

Please email any articles, suggestions, and advertisements for the next issue of The Observer to hondita@gmail.com

The Observer is a publication of FMEA/CTA/NEA. Ideas presented by the editors are those of the editors and not of FMEA/CTA/NEA. Articles submitted by individuals solely represent the views of those individuals and not of FMEA/CTA/NEA.

Important Contacts

New FMEA Site: fmea.mobi



FMEA Contacts

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Kristi Billings	Treasurer	Franklin	kdcurlly@hotmail.com 650-387-1435
Rachel Witmeyer	Secretary	Franklin	rachel@alumni.ucdavis.edu 408-373-0540
Erik Whitaker	Director (SPED)	Bridges Academy	sailingships@live.com 831-595-2679
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