

The Voice

Bellflower Teachers Association



From the President

Hello Members,

Wow! It's April already. We have 7 weeks until the end of the year, and BTA hopes that it's been a better year for classroom behavior.

Your pay increase was included on your April 1 paycheck. The retro pay is expected to be included on the May 1 paycheck. Please double check your paystub online.

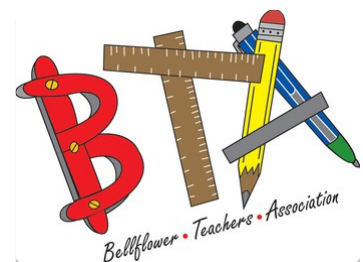
BTA is looking for your feedback. Please fill out this Google Form:

<https://forms.gle/WVgZ9mMgn3GQ3xer6>

In May, we will be bringing back our Day of the Teacher celebration at Simms Park on May 10, from 4-6pm. The Taco Truck will be back! Please save the date! More information to follow.

Finally, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact your site reps or email voiceofBTA@gmail.com.

In Solidarity,
Linda A.
BTA President



Celebrate Dr. Kirsten Robinson 2023 WHO Award Recipient

Every year BTA chooses a member to honor with the CTA WHO (We Honor Our Own) award. This year we chose Dr. Kirsten Robinson. Kirsten has been a BUSD teacher since 1999. She has 29 years of teaching experience. She has been on BTA's Bargaining Team, PAC for School Board Elections, and Elementary Director on the E-Board. She has attended many CTA Conferences including Bargaining Training at Summer Institute, The Issues Conference, and Region 3's Leadership Conference. Kirsten has been an instructor for CTA'S Instructional Leadership Core. Kirsten is always available to go into difficult meetings with members and their admin to provide union support across the District. Kirsten is lightning in a bottle! We are so lucky to have her as part of our union family.



Things to Note

New Pay Scales

Members, below are copies of the new pay scales that reflect the 15.5% pay increase. They are also posted in Business Plus and also on our website bellflowerteachers.com.



BAE - J Salary Schedule 2022-23 as of July1.22 15.5% (1).pdf

[Download](#)

19.1 KB



M & R Schedule 2022-23 af of July1.22 15.5% (1).pdf

[Download](#)

19.4 KB



Psychologist - P Salary Schedule 2022-23 Jul.1.22 15.5% (1).pdf

[Download](#)

12.7 KB



Preschool - SP Salary Schedule 2022-23 Jul.1.22 15.5% (1).pdf

[Download](#)

17.7 KB

MOU and TA Approved

Hi Members, the MOU and TA was approved with a 99.8% pass rate! We had the highest participation rate in this ratification. Attached are the PDFs for your reference. Thank You for your vote!



MOU - BUSD v. BTA.pdf

[Download](#)

1.1 MB



Bellflower Teachers Association and Bellflower Unified School District Reach a Tentative Agreement.pdf

[Download](#)

135.8 KB

BUSD Website Survey

Bellflower Unified School District is revamping our district and school websites, and we would appreciate your feedback. Your opinion is valuable and will assist us in the redesign process. Thank you for taking the time to participate.

[BUSD Website Survey - English](#)

[BUSD Website Survey - Spanish](#)

Know Your Teacher Rights

CTA members have the legal right to a safe and healthy workplace. A mini-guide to teacher's rights was placed in your teacher mailbox for your reference and review, but if you missed it or didn't get one, the link is below for you to visit and bookmark.

<https://www.cta.org/for-educators/your-rights>

Know Your Ed Code

When can you suspend a student? What are your rights as a teacher? Check out this PDF!

[https://www.lbusd.org/uploaded/1-](https://www.lbusd.org/uploaded/1-District/Departments/Instructional_Services/Documents/Student_Handbook_Section_7_California_Education_Code_for_Student_Discipline.pdf)

[District/Departments/Instructional_Services/Documents/Student_Handbook_Section_7_California_Education_Code_for_Student_Discipline.pdf](https://www.lbusd.org/uploaded/1-District/Departments/Instructional_Services/Documents/Student_Handbook_Section_7_California_Education_Code_for_Student_Discipline.pdf)

Know Your Contract

www.bellflowerteachers.com has the most updated contract PDFs for your reference.

<https://bellflowerteachers.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/2020-2022-BTA-Contract-FINAL-for-printing.pdf>

Important Dates and Deadlines

- Summative Evaluation due 30 days before the end of the year
- Tentative Assignments due 4-weeks before the end of the year.
- No meetings the week of Open House Elementary = May 1-5
- No meetings the week prior to report cards being due (Elementary = May 18-25)

Unchallenged Days

There are 3 unchallenged days in the contract. The first one used has no restrictions.

Only the 2nd and 3rd unchallenged days cannot be attached to a legal holiday like the Friday before or Tuesday after Martin Luther King Jr. Day or Presidents Day. Spring Break is not attached to a holiday.

Unchallenged days fall under Article XI K 1 i page 42. They are for other emergencies not specifically covered under paid personal necessity leave. They are unchallenged and you should definitely not give the reason.

Follow the procedure in Article XI K 2 page 42 for requesting the leave.

CalSTRS Retirement Webinars

You're never too young or old to learn about your CalSTRS benefits, programs, and services. There will be materials and discussion of the CalSTRS retirement benefit formula, options, Defined Benefit Supplemental program, survivor benefits, legislative changes, and Social Security Offsets. Visit the website below for all the free webinars CalSTRS offers!

<https://www.calstrs.com/webinars>



CTA CALIFORNIA TEACHERS ASSOCIATION 

Virtual
RETIREMENT TRAINING

You're never too young or old to learn about your CalSTRS benefits, programs, and services. There will be materials and discussion of the CalSTRS retirement benefit formula, options, Defined Benefit Supplemental program, survivor benefits, legislative changes, and Social Security Offsets.

Topics

- STRS - Overview of The System and How It Works
- Social Security - Effects on CalSTRS Members

Tuesday, September 6, 2022	Thursday, January 5, 2023
Tuesday, October 4, 2022	Tuesday, January 10, 2023
Thursday, October 6, 2022	Tuesday, February 7, 2023
Thursday, November 1, 2022	Tuesday, March 7, 2023
Thursday, November 3, 2022	Thursday, March 9, 2023
Tuesday, December 6, 2022	Tuesday, April 4, 2023

Each training is limited to 250 participants. If you receive a message that the training you selected is full, please select a different date.

REGISTER NOW! 

ALL WORKSHOPS - 4:30 - 6:30 PM

If you need to cancel a training you registered for please email: gdcomencipta.org

Have you joined PTA?

Did you know that you can still join PTA and support your school? PTA does a lot of great things for our kids, and teachers too, so if you haven't joined, please do!

www.bellflowercouncilpta.org/p/join-our-ptas.html



Get the Calm App for Free with CTA!

Free subscription to CTA members. To access your free subscription, you will need to log into the CTA Member Benefits site, <https://www.ctamemberbenefits.org/en/Life-Events/Calm>. This link will take you to our Calm site and you will follow the instructions on the page to create your Calm account. You will need your CTA member ID; if you do not know your member ID, you can call Member Benefits at

(650) 552-5200. They can also help create your Calm account. Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you!

The Standard News

Effective July 1, all CTA members enrolled in the CTA-endorsed Disability Insurance **will automatically get a new, lower rate**. I know you'll be happy to hear this change is automatic, and there is nothing you or your members need to do. The Standard is working directly with the districts on this change.

CTA and The Standard are always looking for ways to make sure the Disability plan is an excellent value for your members. I'm glad your members will save a little money every month, and **I am also really excited about is the New Summer Benefit** that is available this year. If you haven't seen information about that yet you can click the link below – **it's a great benefit of \$500 per week** for members who are disabled over the summer!

<https://www.standard.com/cta/member/disability/additional-benefits>

Email your Board Members

Whew! The election is over, and now the work begins. Please reach out to the board members and let them know your concerns, invite them to your classrooms, share the exciting things going on at your site.

Mayra Garza (President) mayragarza@busd.k12.ca.us

Brad Crihfield (Vice President) bradcrihfield@busd.k12.ca.us

Amie Stewart (Clerk) amiestewart@busd.k12.ca.us

Renita Armstrong (Member) renitaarmstrong@busd.k12.ca.us

Sue ElHessen (Member) Selhessen@busd.k12.ca.us

Events

Save The Date - Day of the Teacher Celebration

The Day of the Teacher Celebration is back! Come join us at Simms Park on May 10, 2023 from 4-6pm. Food, Non-alcoholic drinks, raffle prizes, and more!

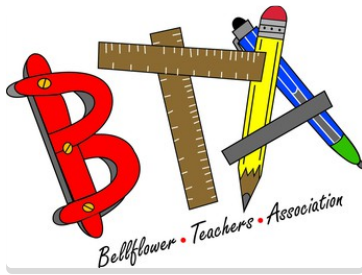
School Board Meeting

When

Tuesday, April 25th, 6pm


Where

16703 Clark Avenue Bellflower, CA




Bellflower Teachers Association

 Facebook

 17434 Studebaker Road, Cerrit...

 voiceofBTA@gmail.com

 5629249311

 bellflowerteachers.com