# The Voice

**Bellflower Teachers Association** 







#### From the President

Hello Members,

Happy Summer vacation! It's been a busy couple of months, and I hope you are getting the rest and relaxation you deserve.



In May, we celebrated the Day of the Teacher at Simms Park, over 100 of our members came to hang out and eat tacos. We were invited to Bellflower High School to recognize Melissa Ellis as BUSD's teacher of the year for 2023. We also held an end of the year mixer at BJ's which we also used to recognize out going president Linda Adkins-Arndt for her hard work and dedication to BTA, as she retired at the end of the year.

In June, we rushed to summer vacation. Summer School and Summer Academies started, and I hope they ran smoothly and students got what they needed to be ready for the upcoming school year.

July 1 started my term as your new president. I hope to continue the hard work and dedication that has been started. Beginning in August BTA will be part of the Board Meeting rotation under section 9.

BTA has a new phone number (562) 525-4557. Please use this number if you need to reach me. The <a href="mailto:voiceofBTA@gmail.com">voiceofBTA@gmail.com</a> will stay the same. If you no longer work for Bellflower, please let me know so I can update the email lists.

Stronger Together, Kari M. BTA President

#### Celebrate Mrs. Melissa Ellis

In May, Linda and I were happy to attend the breakfast at Bellflower High School honoring teacher Melissa Ellis. She has served the Bellflower Unified School District for 17 years, beginning as a science teacher at Bellflower Middle/High School, and progressing to become a full-time Career Technical Education (CTE) educator. She teaches Intro to Health Careers, Medical Assistant, Counseling, Mental Health courses and serves as the CTE department Chair, always making decisions in the best interest of her students. Congratulations Melissa!



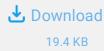
## **Things to Note**

## **New Pay Scales**

Members, below are copies of the new pay scales that reflect the 4.5% pay increase beginning July 1 for the 2023-2024 school year and the 8% on the stipends. They are also posted in Business Plus and also on our website bellflowerteachers.com.



M & R Schedule 2023-24 July1.23 4.5% .pdf





Preschool - SP Schedule 2023-24 July1.23 4.5%.pdf





Psychologist - P Schedule 2023-24 July1.23 4.5%.pdf



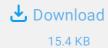


BAE - J Schedule 2023-24 July1.23 4.5%.pdf





Summer School (S) Schedule 2023-24 July1.23 4.5%.pdf





Stipends - Coaching 2023-24.pdf



## **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-

<u>District/Departments/Instructional\_Services/Documents/Student\_Handbook\_Section\_7\_California\_Education\_Code\_for\_Student\_Discipline.pdf</u>

#### **Know Your Contract**

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

 $\underline{https://bellflowerteachers.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/2020-2022-BTA-Contract-FINAL-for-printing.pdf}$ 

## 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 Renefits 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!

## **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 ) <u>mayragarza@busd.k12.ca.us</u>
Brad Crihfield (Vice President) <u>bradcrihfield@busd.k12.ca.us</u>
Amie Stewart (Clerk) <u>amiestewart@busd.k12.ca.us</u>
Renita Armstrong (Member) <u>renitaarmstrong@busd.k12.ca.us</u>
Sue ElHessen (Member) <u>Selhessen@busd.k12.ca.us</u>

## **School Board Meeting**

When

Thursday, Aug. 10th, 6pm

Where

16703 Clark Avenue Bellflower, CA



## **Bellflower Teachers Association**

Facebook

17434 Studebaker Road, Cerrit...

**(** (562) 525-4557

bellflowerteachers.com