

The Voice

Bellflower Teachers Association



Pyle Recognized for PBIS



Sped Teachers attend Special Olympics Conference



Mayfair Teachers Holiday Luncheon

From the President

Hello Members,

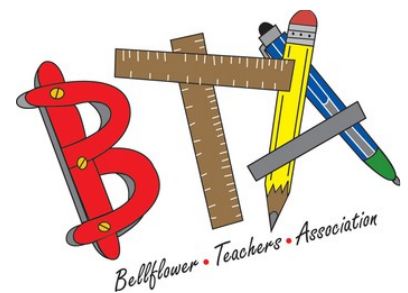
Happy New Year! I hope your holidays were joyous and refreshing.

I have posted a flyer below for those members who may live in the Compton Unified area and even those of you are willing to help.

BTA knows the importance and value of having quality board candidates, so if you are available and willing to canvas neighborhoods, the information is below.

Josh from The Standard also sent some information for me to share with you, it is posted below for your reference.


The School Board meeting highlights: The District recognized Pyle's staff and their PBIS program, Mayfair High Football team was recognized for their fantastic 2023 season, the board wall was done by Washington and talked about inclusion. Cerritos college talked about the partnerships with Mayfair and Bellflower High Schools and the services it provides its students. Dr. Reyes presented the updated dashboard data. We are trending in the right direction in most areas, and here was a presentation on the audit of the District's budget.



BTA will be sending surveys out in the new year as we prepare to sunshine the contract in March and start the bargaining process. We will also be sending out a safety survey as the next Alliance meeting will be discussing this topic.

BTA wants your pictures! Please send pictures of your teachers on campus. I use them in the newsletter and now the board presentation. School Spirit wear, Dress Up days, Special events. Teachers only please. Email them or text them voiceofBTA@gmail.com or (562)525-4557.

Stronger Together,
Kari M.
BTA President



URGENTLY NEEDED

COMPTON EDUCATORS NEED YOUR HELP!


Compton Education Association will be knocking on doors of the Compton community to support their endorsed candidates for the March 5th Compton School Board Election. Please join us in the fight to elect Trustees who will help make Compton Unified what the community deserves!

When: Saturday, January 20th
Saturday, January 27th
Saturday, February 3rd

Where: CEA Office
333 South Santa Fe Ave.
Compton, CA 90221

What Time: 10 am- 2 pm

What Else: All Materials for canvassing will be provided such as addresses, scripts, handouts, etc. Breakfast will be available starting at 9:30 am and there will be plenty of snacks to take with you while you're walking. You will be placed in pairs, so bring a friend or come alone and meet someone new! Don't forget to wear your walking shoes!



Board of Education Meetings - 2024.pdf

[Download](#)

36.1 KB

CTA-endorsed Life insurance includes extra features - at no additional cost - for members enrolled in the coverage.

Life Services Toolkit* hosts a suite of online tools and service you can use now. Plus, your beneficiaries have access to support services for up to 12 months after a loss. Life Services Toolkit provides you estate planning tools, a financial fitness center, a personalized legal center and more.

Travel Assistance* allows you to explore the world with confidence. This benefit can help you navigate unforeseen events or circumstances including passport and credit card replacement, help replacing prescription medication, connection to medical care providers and more.

Members can also learn more or apply for coverage at CTAMemberBenefits.org/Life.

19598 CTA Life Infographic Flyer.pdf

[Download](#)

181.8 KB

Did you know?

Schools First Summer Saver

Did you know that you can put up to \$2,000 in your summer saver? Schools First is currently offering 6.5% on their summer saver. The nice thing about it is that you can access the money if you need to at any time, but if you don't that interest can rack up!

Click the link below for more information

<https://www.schoolsfirstfcu.org/products/just-for-school-employees/savings/summer-saver/>

From NEA

'Enjoy the Magic': Classroom Veterans Share Tips for New Teachers

NEA Today recently asked [our Instagram followers](#) for their best advice for new teachers, and here is a sample of what seasoned educators from around the country suggest. They're good strategies for those new to the profession, and great reminders for everyone else!

"Show yourself just as much grace as you show your students."

@supbern Bernadette Supanick, Maryland

"From a mentor at my first teaching position, "Don't ever doubt yourself." Then last year from a teacher that was retiring, "Don't take it personal. Don't take it home."

@msmariae Maria Evardone, California

"Identify a seasoned educator who can be a mentor. Then meet with them regularly and when you have questions. Don't hesitate to ask. They are willing to help you."

@renokaiser Susan Kaiser, Nevada

"Forgive yourself! You're going to make mistakes, but that's ok... you can model a growth mindset for your students when you do."

@carlithomas21 Carlene Thomas, Texas

"Don't be afraid to ask for help. It's not a sign of weakness but instead a sign of your commitment to become an effective teacher."

@moemoe_951 Maureen Hickey, Massachusetts

"Build meaningful relationships with your students AND coworkers!"

@missemmala Emmala Gunnare, South Dakota

"Enjoy the magic. Forget about all the stress and remember why you became a teacher in the first place."

@devincentz Robyn DeVincentz, New Jersey

"Join and get involved with your union, make friends with the secretary and custodian."

@chanabenamy Annice Benamy, New Jersey

"Know you are appreciated for your fresh spirit and new ideas! Gravitate toward staff that nurtures you."

@kanthme Mary Ellen Kanthack, Wisconsin

"Take time unwind and relax...especially on the weekends."

@wolkidslc Valerie Johnson, Virginia

"Save the sweet notes your students (and colleagues/parents) give you. Put them in a folder and bring them out after "one of those days."...It helps me get through the days that aren't going the right way."

@tmtco Tiffany Cooper-Ortega, California

"Teach routines and expectations the first few weeks, role model role model and role model!! Follow through with what you say."

@maryjo_wells Mary Jo Wells, Montana

"Find your community – the people who will support you through the toughest moments of the year and celebrate every little accomplishment!"

@ambereenkb Ambereen Khan-Baker, Maryland

Classroom Resources

Inspiring our students and leading our profession. If you're looking for classroom resources for educators by educators, you came to the right place!

<https://www.cta.org/for-educators/classroom-resources>

CTA Conferences 2024

Here are the upcoming CTA conferences. If you are interested in attending, click the link to register. BTA will reimburse you for your registration and parking. If the conference is out of town, please contact me for more information.

New Educator Weekend

February 23-25, 2024

Hilton Orange County/Costa Mesa

<https://web.cvent.com/event/19289e2a-0e58-44a0-b302-749ea65291fa/regPage:d4e29386-6c99-4a23-a66b-30a95d915e7d?RefId=CTA.org>

Good Teaching Conference

March 22-24, 2024

Hyatt Regency OC

<https://web.cvent.com/event/25e3e96f-e0be-474d-8b26-7969e5ff66f6/regPage:d4e29386-6c99-4a23-a66b-30a95d915e7d>

CTA Scholarships

23-24-Membership-Materials-071323-Info-Flyer-Scholarships_Final.pdf

[Download](#)

934.5 KB

Member Benefits

Member Benefits Poster 23-24 060723.pdf

[Download](#)

3.7 MB

Thinking About Retirement?

CTA Retirement Workshops

- It's always nice to find out how the system is working and to plan for our futures. Click on the link below to make an appointment and attend a retirement workshop.



Meet virtually with Cisco Webex. Anytime, anywhere, on any device.

Simple, modern video meetings for everyone on the world's most popular and trusted collaboration platform.

cta.webex.com

Below is the PDF explaining retirement benefits. Please note: for the insurance cash out option you must be enrolled in the district medical plan for at least your last year of teaching. If you are on the opt out plan you will continue to get what you are eligible for, but there is no cash out option.

23 BGB Retirement Guide Certificated Revised 05.09.23 (busd) (1) (1).pdf

[Download](#)
644.5 KB

Things to Note

2023-2024 BTA Dues Schedule

2023-24 dues schedule.pdf

[Download](#)
51.4 KB

Pay Scales

You can find the new pay scales on the Business Plus site and also on our website bellflowerteachers.com.

Know Your Executive Board

BTA Executive Board 2023-2024.pdf

Download

509.9 KB

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

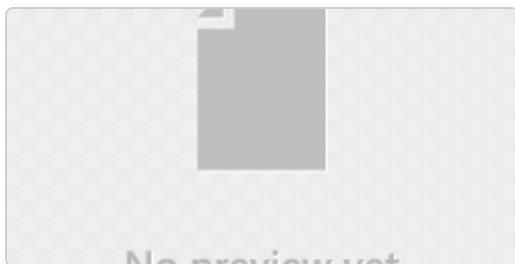
When can you suspend a student? What are your rights as a teacher? Check out this PDF!

<https://casetext.com/statute/california-codes/california-education-code/title-2-elementary-and-secondary-education/division-4-instruction-and-services/part-27-pupils/chapter-6-pupil-rights-and-responsibilities/article-1-suspension-or-expulsion/section-48910-suspension-of-pupil-from-class-by-teacher>

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>



Searchable BTA Contract

Searchable BTA Contract

docs.google.com

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!

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.

Brad Carihfield (President) bradcarihfield@busd.k12.ca.us

Amie Stewart (Vice President) amiestewart@busd.k12.ca.us

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

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

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

Event Information

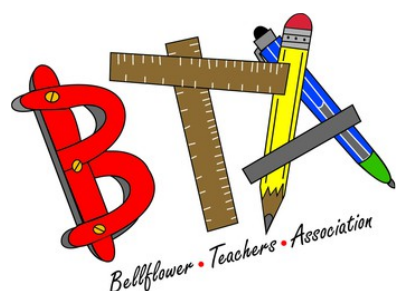
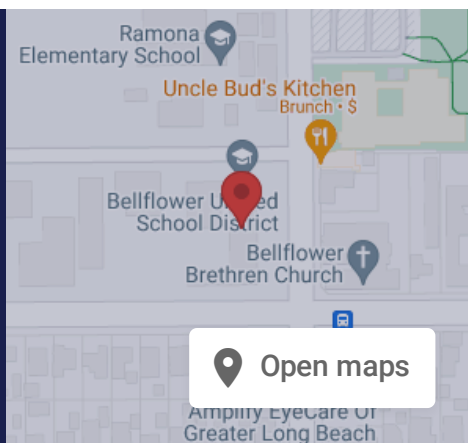
School Board Meeting

When?

Thursday, Feb 8, 2024, 06:00 PM

Where?

Bellflower Unified School District, Clark Avenue, Bellflower, CA, USA



Bellflower Teachers Association

Email: voiceofBTA@gmail.com

Website: www.bellflowerteachers.com

Location: [17434 Studebaker Road, Cerritos, CA, USA](https://www.google.com/maps/place/17434+Studebaker+Road,+Cerritos,+CA,+USA)

Phone: (562) 525-4557

Facebook: [Facebook.com/bellflowerteachers](https://www.facebook.com/bellflowerteachers)



Kari McDaniel

Kari is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters