

A Promise of Partnership

BHEA Leaders and BHUSD School Board Members attend the CTA Bay Valley Service Center School Board Dinner for a festive and relaxing night of conversation and collaboration at the Sheraton Gateway Hotel

On Monday, December 7th, school board members and local leaders from around the Los Angeles area gathered for the CTA Bay Valley Service Center School Board Dinner held at the Sheraton Gateway Hotel near the Los Angeles International Airport.

Taking place every two years, the dinner is an opportunity for educators and school board members to gather for a festive and relaxing night of conversation to get to know each other better and to build positive relationships moving forward.

Pre-dinner entertainment for the event was provided by the Long Beach Wilson High School String Quartet and the Beverly Hills High School Madrigal Singers.

Attending the event on behalf of BHEA were Certificated President Telly Tse, IA President Carol Courneya, HS Director and Political Action Committee Chair Chris Bushée, and BHEA member Claudia Bushée. Attending the event on behalf of the BHUSD Board of Education were Howard Goldstein, Noah Margo, and newly-elected member Isabel Hacker. Newly-elected member Mel Spitz was expected to attend but was unable to due to illness. Board member Lisa Korbatov was unable to attend because she was out of town.

The keynote speaker at the event was CTA President Eric Heins. He shared his story of how he became a teacher and later, a labor leader. He also discussed recent victories



Standing from L to R: Christopher Bushée, Telly Tse, and Carol Courneya. Sitting from L to R: Howard Goldstein, Noah Margo, Isabel Hacker, and Claudia Bushée.

for educators as well as the challenges that continue to face public education today.

Representatives from fifteen districts attended the event.

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www.facebook.com/BHEAEducators

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(BHEA members only):
[www.facebook.com/groups/
BHEAEducators/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/BHEAEducators/)

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[@BHEAEducators](https://twitter.com/BHEAEducators)

Stories Shared at SSC Reception

The Southeastern Service Center invited BHEA President Telly Tse to speak and share his story of how he became involved in the union at their annual Ethnic Minority Reception on Wednesday, December 9th at the Rio Hondo Event Center.

In his speech, Tse said that someone who has chosen to work in education has chosen to be an advocate for what is right and therefore already has what it takes to be an active member of the union.

Among the other speakers at the event was CTA Vice President Theresa Montaña.

BHEAlthy

Final Standings (as of 12/15/2015)

1. John Braddell (HS) 919 miles
2. Kyle Kobe (HS) 613
3. Fidel Coronel (BV/HM) 530
4. Telly Tse (HS) 475
5. Alana Castanon (BV) 469
6. Colleen Davenport (HS) 420
7. Vonzie Paysinger (HS) 415
8. Alexis Crane (Haw) 397
9. Tricia Fegan (HS) 383
10. Andrea Kay (ER) 311
11. Christie Shaffer (DO) 270
12. Scarlet Penalzoza (HM) 258
13. Sarah Rosenblum (ER) 238
14. Cassandra Chavez (HS) 220
15. Jillian Morris (HM) 210
16. Michael Federman (HS) 209
17. Heather Ash (Haw) 163
18. Claudia Ordonez (BV) 156
19. Ryan Guinto (Haw) 120
20. Howard Edelman (HS) 119

Thank you to everyone who participated and to the Beverly Hills Drink Company for supporting this program!



BHUSD School Board Members Contact Information

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Contract Corner

A certificated unit member may request for a secondary evaluator mutually agreed upon by the member and the primary evaluator. The secondary evaluator may conduct one 30-minute independent observation. (Article IX, Section 3).

News Briefs

Committee Reports & Updates

Certificated Bargaining

The district cancelled the scheduled December 2 bargaining date because they wanted an attorney present during negotiations. However, a new date could not be scheduled for later in the month. The next bargaining date is January 28, 2016. The 2016-17 school calendar may potentially change as a result of negotiations during the remainder of this school year. Questions regarding certificated bargaining can be sent to Bargaining Chair Gregg Riesenber at ag.ries@att.net.

Bylaws

Committee Chair David Siskin (who also serves as BHEA Treasurer) is working with the committee to revise the bylaws to give dues reimbursement to certain committee chair positions and to bargaining team members. Possible changes to stipend amounts for the treasurer and secretary starting with the 2016-18 term is also being discussed.

Elections

After the results of the November Special Election were announced, some members stated that they never received information about the election in their district emails. Although some BHEA announcements will be made through district mail, members need to provide us with their personal email if they wish to receive all information. The next election will be in March to elect state and local delegates to the NEA RA (National Education Association Representative Assembly) in Washington, DC.

Grievance

BHEA does not have any active grievances at this time.

Social

Look for more information about a possible BHEA social event early next semester!

BHEA Members Give Thanks

Our Colleagues Share Who They
Are Thankful For This Holiday
Season

Carol Courneya

BHHS Instructional Assistant

"I am particularly thankful for Carol Courneya for her efforts as both a special education instructional assistant and as president of the Instructional Assistants Unit of BHEA. Very few people understand just how difficult and time-consuming her job as president is."
- Telly Tse, BHHS Teacher

Christina Bahk

BHHS Teacher

"I'd like to mention how thankful I am for BHEA Member Christina Bahk, a HS English teacher who both models and instills generous values, enthusiasm, and courteous habits in her students. Ms. Bahk's candid, thoughtful, and professional feedback about the library program is always appreciated."
- Karen Boyarsky, BHHS Librarian

BHHS Social Studies Department

"I am most thankful for [the] social studies department at the high school. Everyone works together to develop not just curriculum but collegiality. I know that I can walk into anyone's room and ask for help or vent about a problem and they can do the same. I am very lucky to work in a place where the entire department works together to help each other out. Over the past couple of years, the department has done so much in covering classes for me while I have been out that I cannot thank them enough."
- Ann-Marie Fine, BHHS Teacher

*What are your resolutions for 2016?
Let us know at info@bhea.org and
we will publish them in our
January issue!*

Info from CTA

News, Resources, and Events

CalSTRS Workshops

Do you know how much money you will need for your future? A recent study found that only 20% of workers have estimated how much money they need in retirement. Since the average CalSTRS worker is retired for 25 years or more, that's a long time to without a secure financial plan. Take action now by signing up for two workshops, *Save For Your Future* and *Plan For Your Future*. To sign up for a workshop near you, go to <http://www.calstrs.com/workshops>

CTA Go

Interested in attending a CTA conference? Check out <http://www.ctago.org> for information about upcoming events.

CTA Retired

Aside from holding the institutional knowledge of the organization, retired members often serve CTA by volunteering in election campaigns and represent retirees' special needs on CTA's State Council of Education. Encourage your retired colleagues to stay involved and learn more about CTA/NEA-Retired at <http://www.cta.org/retired>

Friedrichs v. CTA

As many of you know, Friedrichs v. CTA is a court case filed in 2013 seeking to overturn agency fees as an unconstitutional violation of non-members' First Amendment rights. The suit also contends that it is unconstitutional for unions to require non-members to "opt out" of supporting non-chargeable expenditures.

Needless to say, we strongly question the merits of this case. The U.S. Supreme Court has decided to hear this case next year with a decision expected in June 2016. To learn more about fair share, association membership benefits, and other information related to the case, go to <http://www.cta.org/friedrichs>



BHEA members Chris (HS) and Claudia Bushée (BV) at the High Desert Service Center Fall Leadership Conference held in Las Vegas, NV. In addition to serving as BHEA Grievance and PAC Chair, Chris is a member of the CTA ABC (Association for Better Citizenship) Committee.

BHEA OTBS Elect New President, Vice President; Other Vacancies Filled

A special election for BHEA took place on Wednesday, November 18 to fill several vacancies including OTBS President, OTBS Vice President, and K-12 Director.

HS Senior Attendance Assistant Margo Bender was elected OTBS President with 100% of the vote. She ran unopposed and returns to a position she has held in previous years. HS House A Secretary Andre Law was elected OTBS Vice President with 86.7% of the vote. He previously served as a HS representative for his unit.

Hawthorne teacher Josh Schmidt was elected K-12 Director as a write-in candidate with 89.4% of the vote. Schmidt served as BHEA President from 2004-05 and as a certificated bargaining team member from 2014-15.

Gene Michelman (HS), Ryan Lisko (BV), and Alana Lefkowitz (Haw) all ran unopposed for certificated site representative positions for their school sites.

The six members will serve in these positions until the terms expire at the end of the school year. Elections for the 2016-18 term will take place in April 2016.

Upcoming Board of Education Meeting Dates

Regular Board Meeting
5:00 pm
Tuesday, January 12, 2016
Cherney Lecture Hall

Regular Board Meeting
5:00 pm
Tuesday, January 26, 2016
Cherney Lecture Hall

Regular Board Meeting
5:00 pm
Tuesday, February 9, 2016
Cherney Lecture Hall



Members, have you received your free BHEA T-shirt or lanyard yet? If you are one of the remaining few who have not, please let a site rep know and we will have one sent to you immediately. You can also request for one directly at info@bhea.org.

BHEA Leadership

President: Telly Tse (HS)
Vice-President: Lisa Dickens (HS)
IA President: Carol Courneya (HS)
IA VP: Malahat Yomtoubian (HS)
OTBS President: Margo Bender (HS)
OTBS VP: Andre Law (HS)
Secretary: Kate Marks (HS)
Treasurer: David Siskin (HM)
K-12 Director: Josh Schmidt (HM)
HS Director: Christopher Bushée (HS)
HS Director: Dan Moroica (HS)
MS Director: Terry Postlewaite (BV)
K-5 Director: Shelly Lucky (BV)
K-5 Director: Temmy Lehman (BV)
BV Site Rep: Judith Chan
BV Site Rep: Ryan Lisko
ER Site Rep: Amy Arebalo
ER Site Rep: Rebecca Metrano
Haw Site Rep: Alana Lefkowitz
Haw Site Rep: Lori Schwartz
HM Site Rep: Ethan Smith
HM Site Rep: Mary White
HS Site Rep: Tim Briggs
HS Site Rep: Phil Chang
HS Site Rep: Josh Glass
HS Site Rep: Gene Michelman
HS Site Rep: Molly Peterson
HS Site Rep: Marla Weiss
DO Site Rep: Sergio Mandiola
HS IA Rep: Elisa Ibarra
K-8 IA Rep: Claudia Ordonez (BV)
HS OTBS Rep: vacant
K-8 OTBS Rep: Estela Castaneda (ER)
DO OTBS Rep: James Hanson

Certificated Bargaining Team

Gregg Riesenber (HS), Chair
 Christopher Bushée (HS)
 Rebecca Hickok (HM)
 Jeff Harris (Haw)
 Alana Castanon (BV)
 Phil Chang (HS), Alternate
 Dan Moroica (HS), Alternate

Committee Chairs

Bylaws: David Siskin (HM)
Election: Josh Glass (HS)
Grievance: Christopher Bushée (HS)
Human Rights: Andre Law (HS)
Organizing: Lisa Dickens (HS)
Political Action: Christopher Bushée
PD: Debra Joseph (HS)
Social: Melony Bronder (HS)

PAR (Peer Assistance & Review): Katy Carter (HM), Roel Hinojosa (HS), Marla Weiss (HS)
Extra Pay: Malia Frutschy (HS), Shelly Lucky (BV), Carly Verstegen (BV)

Have a question or concern?

We have many resources available to help you find the information and answers you need.

- Visit our newly-renovated website at www.bhea.org
- Contact your school site rep (they are trained and happy to help you)
- Email us at info@bhea.org using your personal email address
- For potential grievances, email (again, using your personal email address) Grievance Committee Chair Christopher Bushée at christopherbushee@gmail.com

STAY INFORMED & UP-TO-DATE USING



As a BHEA member you can use your phone to receive important news and updates. Here's how:

1. Download the free Remind app (available for Android phones on Google Play & iPhones on the App Store)



2. Enter the class code

@bheam

Or visit this link:

www.remind.com/join/bheam

Or join via SMS:

Enter this number:
(541) 359-4488
 with the message
@bheam

By joining BHEA on Remind, you are agreeing to receive messages via push notifications, SMS, or email. Your phone number will not be shared with BHEA or anyone else in the group.

Upcoming CTA Conferences

Good Teaching Conference
 February 26-28, 2016
 Hyatt Regency Orange County
 Garden Grove, CA

Equity and Human Rights Conference
 March 4-6, 2016
 Torrance Marriott Redondo Beach
 Torrance, CA

To apply for funding to attend a conference as a BHEA representative, please email us at info@bhea.org.

To apply for an incentive grant, go to www.cta.org/conferences

Remaining Rep Council Meeting Dates

January 14, 2016
 February 11, 2016
 March 10, 2016
 April 14, 2016
 May 12, 2016

All meetings are on Thursdays at 3:45 pm (unless otherwise stated) and are held at BHHS in Room 118. Members are welcome to attend and observe.

Remaining Certificated Bargaining Dates (Revised)

January 28, 2016 (Thursday)
 February 16, 2016 (Tuesday)
 March 10, 2016 (Thursday)
 April 7, 2016 (Thursday)
 May 13, 2016 (Friday)

Bargaining meetings take place at the district office board room between 8:30 am to 2:00 pm. These meetings are private. Updates from meetings are announced through BHEA-BHUSD Joint Communications.

Get ready for BHEA Trivia!

Starting in 2016