

# PERSPECTIVE



Central Valley Education Association

January 2014

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## This year's CVEA Elections

In this issue of the Perspective you will find Candidate Bios and Statements (if submitted by the candidates), as well as additional election and balloting information. As of this newsletter, many of the positions are uncontested. All positions except a few of the 13 WEA Representative Assembly Delegate positions, do have candidates running. Historically speaking, uncontested races at the time of the Building Representative meeting are elected by acclamation of the Building Representative Council. The ballot then addresses the contested races.

## CVEA Financial Status

Over the last three years we have had to draw from our reserves to meet our obligations. This is because our income is solely from member dues and just as you have lost buying power as a result of no COLA or salary schedule increase, so has the Association. The dues are based on the salary base. The good news is that with an increase in membership and restoration of the 1.9% we are beginning to restore our reserves.

## IMPORTANT!

### CVSD EMAIL IS PUBLIC

This is just another reminder that ALL of your cvsd.org email is public record and NOTHING is private. Please consider this when writing emails.



## TEACHING STRATEGIES ACROSS THE CURRICULUM K-12

By CVEA member Marci Haynes

Differentiated research based teaching strategies are needed to meet the needs of the diverse student population in today's classrooms!

General Teaching Strategies for Students with Specific Learning Disabilities:

- Phrase statements positively ("Remember your homework" instead of "Don't forget your homework.")
- Be sure to include students with disabilities as much as possible – with capable students and flexible groupings
- Be sure to gain attention before giving directions by prompting with silent signals (proximity, eye contact)
- Visual demonstrations and multisensory materials
- Frequent breaks offered
- Emphasize successes with concrete, positive reinforcement (specific praise, thumbs up, acknowledgement)
- Check for understanding (privately, so attention is not drawn to the student)

- Use simple, brief verbal directions and also write them on the board (1,2,3 or first, then, next, last)
- Write assignments, due dates, test dates on the board in the same place daily
- Structure time in your class for writing in planners and check all student planners/assignment notebooks daily until all students are using them consistently – then spot check frequently
- Teach organization skills – notebook dividers, planning/time management for classwork and homework assignments
- Allow students to re-do work to improve quality and increase learning
- Give page numbers and where to look on the page when students are trying to locate specific information
- Provide summary sheets/outlines/study sheets of the most important facts
- Shorten assignments to focus on most important concepts
- Teach to class procedures
  - o Class routine/schedule (post in classroom)
  - o Entering and exiting classroom
  - o Where to turn in completed work
  - o How to seek help (buddy system)
  - o Make up work when absent
  - o Planner/assignment notebook/assignment sheet use
  - o Self-monitoring for work completion

# ELECTIONS

## Candidate Bios

### President

#### **Vicki Arnold**

- CVEA Executive Board Secretary
- CVEA Vice-President
- CVEA Middle School Executive Board member-at-large
- NEA Representative Assembly Delegate
- WEA Representative Assembly Delegate
- Team of 12 (Bargaining)
- Team of 5 (Bargaining)

### Secretary

#### **Suzanne Smith**

- CVEA Building Representative

#### **Danielle Stroe**

- Special Services (Building) Rep

### High School Executive Board member-at-large

#### **David Smith**

- CVEA Building Representative
- CVEA High School Executive Board member-at-large (current)
- CVEA Academic Freedom committee

### Middle School Executive Board member-at-large

#### **Monica Larson**

- CVEA Building Representative
- Current Middle School Executive Board member-at-large
- WEA Rep Assembly Delegate
- NEA Rep Assembly Delegate
- Team of 12 (Bargaining)
- Team of 5 (Bargaining)

### Elementary Executive Board member-at-large

#### **Keith Hoekema**

- CVEA Building Representative
- Current Elementary Executive Board member-at-large
- WEA Rep Assembly Delegate
- Team of 12 (Bargaining)
- Team of 5 (Bargaining)

### Special Services Executive Board member-at-large

#### **Heather Graham**

- CVEA Building Representative
- Current Special Services Executive Board member-at-large
- WEA Rep Assembly Delegate

### WEA Representative Assembly Delegate

#### **Wally Watson**

- CVEA Building Representative
- CVEA Grievance Committee Chair (current)
- CVEA High School Executive Board member-at-large
- CVEA Vice President (current)
- WEA Rep Assembly Delegate
- WEA Eastern Washington Rep Council

#### **Vicki Arnold**

(see above under President)

#### **Keith Hoekema**

(see above under Elementary Executive Board member-at-large)

#### **Heather Graham**

(see above under Special Services Executive Board member-at-large)

#### **Cheryl Sampson**

- CVEA Team of 12 (bargaining) for two contracts
- CVEA Building Rep for 6 years

- WEA RA - 1 year volunteer, 4 years as delegate
- CVEA Insurance Committee (current)
- School Nurse representative on WEA ESA task force
- Testified before the legislature on ESA pay for prior years of service

#### **Brad Thew**

- CVEA Building Representative
- CVEA WEA Rep Assembly Delegate
- CVEA NEA Rep Assembly Delegate

### NEA Representative Assembly Delegate

#### **Brad Thew**

(see above under WEA Representative Assembly Delegate)

## Candidate Statements

### **Vicki Arnold**

#### **Running for President**

Since 1998 I have been involved in the Association either as a Building Rep or as a member of the Executive Board. After 15 years of union work and 30 years of teaching, I believe this is the next step for me. I believe I am well versed in how a union functions, as well as why we must remain diligent in the union process.

### **Suzanne Smith**

#### **Running for CVEA Secretary**

I am honored to have been asked to run for the position of CVEA Secretary. In today's data driven world, the accurate recording and compilation of data is essential to the wellbeing and vitality of any organization. My commitment to accuracy and my highly organized nature can be traced to my service

in the United States Army Department of Military Intelligence during the Cold War, where I was stationed in what was then West Germany as an Electronics Signal Voice Interceptor. Accurate transcription, notation, and documentation of information was a matter of national security. Today, the accurate transcription, notation, and documentation of CVEA business is a matter of our job security and also leads to improved working conditions for all of us.

I am currently in my second year as a building representative for Central Valley High School. I have been teaching Spanish at CV since 2011. Prior to the 2011/2012 school year, I taught Spanish at University HS for seven years where I also coached Knowledge Bowl. I am looking forward to my continued work with our union and would appreciate your vote for CVEA secretary.

### **Danielle Stroe**

#### **Running for CVEA Secretary**

My name is Danielle Stroe, and I am running for CVEA secretary for the 2014-2015 school year. I have worked in Central Valley as a school psychologist for the last 7 years. I am also the wife of an educator and the parent of children attending South Pines Elementary and the Early Learning Center. As a school psychologist, I have a broad perspective of the educational system. I must collaboratively work with special educators, general educators, itinerate staff and administrators. Accurate and timely recording of information is an essential part of my duties. I understand the law and can work towards solutions to issues for the benefit of all involved. I also possess quick and

flexible thinking. The combinations of these characteristics make me a valuable asset to CVEA and I look forward to continuing to serve you in a new capacity. Thank you for your consideration.

### **Heather Graham**

#### **Running for CVEA Executive Board Special Services member-at-large**

I believe strongly in providing a voice at Executive Board meeting and at the bargaining table for the itinerant staff in our district. I want to continue to represent this small but important group of people. I would like to attend the WEA Representative Assembly again because I want to represent nurses, PT's, OT's, School Psychologists and SLP's at the state level.

### **David Smith**

#### **Running for CVEA Executive Board High School member-at-large**

I have served for three years as a building representative for University High School and was recently elected to the position of High School Executive Board Member-At-Large to complete the term of Wally Watson, who is now serving as Vice President.

My employment with the Central Valley School District began fifteen years ago when hired to teach English and debate at U-High. I have also taught American government, current world problems, and history in the district's summer school program. Prior to my employment with the district, I taught at the YWCA Transition School for Homeless Children and was a practicing attorney for ten years.

My appointment as chair of the CVEA Academic Freedom Committee initiated me to union activism. We successfully represented

our membership's interests when individuals sought to have Huckleberry Finn removed from the district curriculum and we wrote the CVEA Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom.

I am looking forward to continuing to serve the interests of our membership and appreciate your support.

### **Cheryl Sampson**

#### **Running for WEA RA delegate**

I am in my 19th year as a School Nurse in Central Valley School District. In 2008 I decided that the ESA's (Education Staff Associates - School Nurses, OTs, PTs, SLPs, Psychologists) would benefit from having a voice on the Team of 12 for our contract bargain that year. From that experience I became really interested in how CVEA/WEA/NEA work. I have been a Building Rep since the 2008-2009 school year, served on the Team of 12 again in 2010, served as the School Nurse representative on a WEA ESA task force, attended the 2009 WEA Rep Assembly as a volunteer, and have gone as a delegate since then. I find the Rep Assemblies fascinating so would like to continue to go as a delegate to the WEA one in April.

### **Brad Thew**

#### **Running for WEA RA and NEA RA delegate**

My name is Brad Thew. I am in my third year of teaching secondary Language Arts. I am currently teaching at Central Valley High School where I serve as the debate coach- a job that tends to keep me busy!

I am writing to you as a candidate for the NEA Representative Assembly. I attended last year's RA in Atlanta, and I would appre-

ciate the chance to represent you again. In addition to my NEA-RA experience, I have also served as a representative at the WEA-RA, and will be serving as a Lobby Team member for WEA- Eastern Washington this February in Olympia where we will be focusing on earning legislative support for COLA increases.

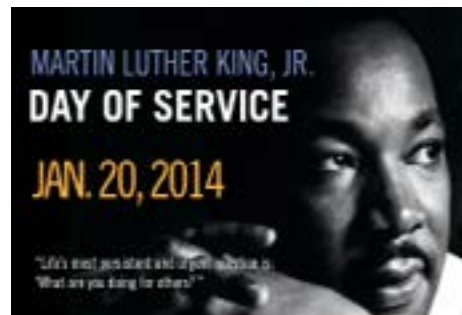
I enjoy the experience that attending the RA provides. As a young teacher and union member, I appreciate the opportunity to connect with other delegates, and to learn about the inner-workings of our larger union organization.

I hope that I can count on your support.



rectly to the quality education our students deserve. Even after they leave our system some receive scholarships provided by the Association.

One of the serendipitous results of providing this quality education is the fact that we have many educators in this district who were past students in this district. To whatever degree they benefited from the efforts of the Association as students, they are now contributing members of our Association.



### Retirement Seminars UPDATE

Your Building Representatives have the information and forms for the Retirement Seminars put on by WEA Retired. Here is the current status of the seminars being offered so far:

February 7&8 - Full  
Feb 28 & March 1 - Flyer forthcoming (no pre-registration)

There are no plans for others this year.

## Calendar

**Jan. 21** - CVEA General Membership meeting - Cuppa Joe's: 4:00 followed by Building Rep meeting - ballots out

**Jan. 29** - CVEA ballots due at office

**Feb. 3 (or before)** - Election results

**Feb. 4** - CVEA Executive Board

**Feb. 11** - SEAT (Superintendent Education Association Team)

**Feb. 18** - CVEA Building Rep meeting

## CVEA YOUR Association

Reprint from last January's Perspective  
**The mission of the Central Valley Education Association is to contribute to excellence in education in the Central Valley School District through professional training and support of its members.** This Mission Statement was approved by the Executive Board on Feb. 1, 2011.

Sometimes members become confused about the purpose of this Education Association. Educators, as individuals, appropriately focus their energies on educating students. Collectively as members of the Education Association we are charged with representing and supporting our members, and thus indirectly contribute to quality education through supporting the providers of that education.

Because our membership is made up of educators, we also look for opportunities to contribute di-

### CVEA Executive Board

#### President -

Steve Lalonde

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#### Vice President -

Wally Watson

University High School

228-5240

#### Secretary -

Vicki Arnold

North Pines

228-5020

#### Elementary Rep -

Keith Hoekema

Broadway Elementary

228-4100

#### Middle School Rep -

Monica Larson

Evergreen

228-4780

#### High School Rep -

David Smith

University High School

228-5240

#### Special Services Rep -

Heather Graham

Greenacres MS/Lib. Lake

228-4860 / 228-4300