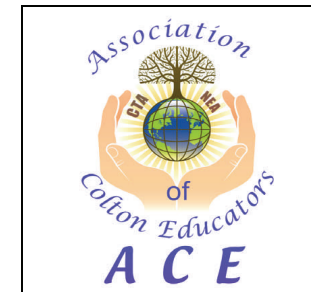


ACE Calendar December 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 NCUEA	2 NCUEA	3 NCUEA	4 Holiday Parades
5	6 Exec Board	7 Rep Training	8	9	10	11
12	13 Rep Council ACE Holiday Party	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 Recess	21 Recess	22 Recess	23 Recess	24 Holiday	25
26	27 Recess	28 Recess	29 Recess	30 Recess	31 Holiday	

Special Events

December 1-4: NCUEA
 December 4 am: Colton Parade
 December 4 pm: Bloomington Parade
 December 6: Exec Board
 December 7: Rep Training
 December 13: Rep Council
 December 13: Holiday Party
 December 20-January 7: Winter Recess
 January 8: San G SSC/Training



ACE ON TASK

President's Message by Karen Houck

WE DID IT! Thanks to all of the hard work of our four endorsed candidates and the ACE-PAC, at press time all of our candidates are victorious. Thanks to all of you who talked to parents, walked the precincts passing out door hangers and came in to phone bank. We made over 2,700 calls, passed out 20,000 door hangers and sent out 20,000 mailers. We still have to wait for the official certification by the registrar of voters and that can take 30 days so keep your fingers crossed that the numbers hold.

On December 4th, ACE will participate in the Colton and Bloomington parades. The Colton Parade starts at 10am and we will be assembling at ACE at 8:30 am to decorate the bus. Then we will continue on to the Bloomington Parade that starts at noon. You can come for either one or both. We will be passing out goodies to the children and riding the bus

with CSEA. If you want to help, contact us and we will make room for you on the bus!

Our ACE Holiday party is just around the corner. This year we will have a special set of prizes for the children. Join us on December 13th from 5pm-7pm at the ACE office. If you would like to be one of the elves, contact Jessica in the office and we can put you to work the week before getting the room ready.

At Thursday night's school board meeting, several major events occurred. The PPS audit was presented and there were very few surprises in the findings: unclear organizational process, limited communication within the department and with school sites, unclear job descriptions, and not knowing who was responsible for what. Dr. Carol Miller who was sent by Total School Solutions to conduct the audit, complemented many of the staff by stating she would steal many of them to work for her if she could.

The most disturbing action from the board came from the appointment of Jerry Almendarez to Superintendent on a 5-2 vote (Armenta and Haro voted no) and the subsequent appointment of Ingrid Munsterman to Asst. Supt. of Human Resources on a 7-0 vote. ACE protested the appointment as being unfair to students, staff and community who deserve the best candidates for the jobs. How can you get the best candidates when you don't post for the position? We are a large enough district to attract many qualified applicants and the newly elected school board members should have had a say. If they were going to appoint, they should have waited until December to allow the candidates the voters elected make that decision. One last Hoorah for the outgoing members.

Association of Colton Educators ACE/CTA/NEA

Issue 4

November 2010

ACE Executive Board

President	Karen Houck
Vice President	Robert Lemoine
Secretary	Rebekah Acord
Treasurer	Arlene Roper
Elem Director	Bernadette Pedroza
Elem Director	Cristina Puraci
Elem Director	Steve Villa
Elem Director	Linda Placencia
Mid. Sch Director	Paul Lucero
Mid. Sch Director	John Chovan
Sr. High Director	Robert Moses
Sr. High Director	Marcella Cook
PPS Director	Georgene Dixon
State Council	Paul Lucero
State Council	Rebekah Acord
State Council	Dona Hines

Blue Shield or ????

by Arlene Roper

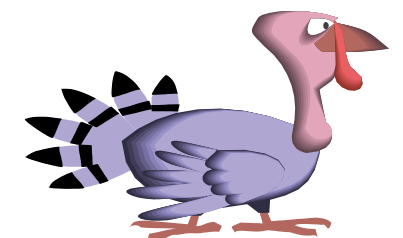
CJUSD gets Blue Shield Health Benefits through the High Desert Inland Employee Employer Trust. The Trust pulls together 9 different Districts in order to get better rates. Unfortunately in these hard economic times, all Districts are searching for ways to save money. Therefore the Trust is going to market this year and taking quotes from other

carriers such as Blue Cross and Aetna to see if we can obtain better rates. There is a good possibility that if the Trust receives better rates we'll be changing carriers. What does this mean to you? If the Trust changes from Blue Shield to another carrier then CJUSD needs to decide if they want to stay with the Trust or go out on their own and purchase Blue Shield as a stand alone. CJUSD could also decide to enter another Trust but would likely receive something different than Blue Shield. Leaving the Trust must be a joint decision between the Association and the District. It is our goal to continue to provide the highest quality, affordable health care coverage we can get!

Member Benefits

Your membership in CTA entitles you to a number of additional benefits. TSA, a subsidiary of First Financial Credit Union, offers discounted tickets to a variety of savings for Disneyland, Knott's Berry Farm, Legoland, Medieval Times Dinner and Tournament, Pirates Dinner Adventure, Movie Tickets (AMC Cinemas, Regal, Edwards, United Artist and Pacific Theaters), SeaWorld, Universal Studios Hollywood, San Diego Wild Animal Park and San Diego Zoo. Also available are See's Candy Gift Certificates. For a complete list of availability, prices, and service charges, call (800) 537-8491 or visit their website at www.tsaspecialservices.com

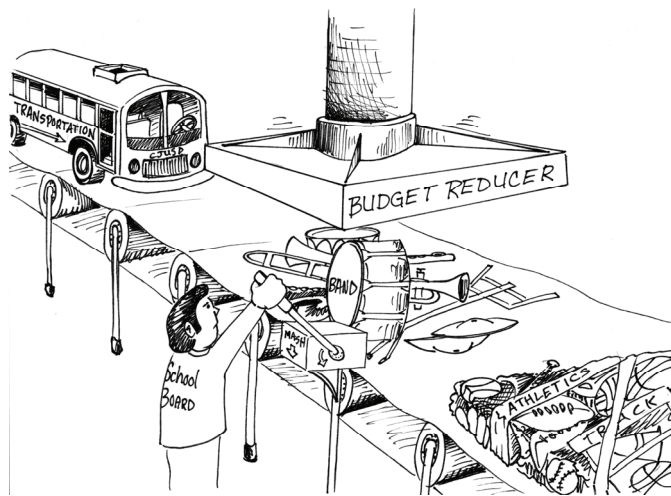
ACE ON TASK is a publication of the Association of Colton Educators
 190 W. H St #101 Colton, CA 92324 (909) 825-0332
aceteach@aol.com
 Edited by: Steve Villa and Rebekah Acord and published once monthly for the Representative Council and its membership.



The Future According to CJUSD by Sam Gallo



Since the Cuts, School just hasn't been the same...



State Council Update by Paul Lucero

At the October CTA state council meeting, the Teacher Evaluation Committee was given a briefing on teacher evaluation sentiment in the United States. Some of the findings were:

- More than two of three Americans support paying teachers higher salaries as an incentive to teach in schools identified as needing improvement.

- Almost three of four Americans believe quality of work and not standard scale should determine teacher pay.

- 60% of Americans believe that helping teachers improve their ability to teach should be the primary purpose for evaluating teachers.

These findings should indicate that evaluation of teachers has been, and will continue to be, a hot topic for some time. As the people directly impacted by this we must stay vigilant and force our way into any conversations surrounding the changes of evaluation procedures. At the local level, we must insist that changes to our evaluations are subject to bargaining. At the state and national levels, we must make our voices heard to prevent any unjust and misguided legislation. Finally, we must educate ourselves about what methods of evaluation are in use and how we can make them better.

Being Different is Not A Crime by Molly Green

We all know what it's like to be different, to not fit in, to be made fun of. Maybe you were too tall, or she was too fat, or his ears stuck out, or she wore the wrong kind of shoes. Unfortunately, school bullying is on the rise. Our students deal with it every single day. One of the groups in our schools that has been hard hit by bullying are our LGBT kids, or those perceived to be LGBT. LGBT stands for Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender. And whether you believe it or not, some of your students are LGBT. And just like all the rest of our students, we have a responsibility to protect them from bullying. In fact, not only do we as educators have that responsibility, we have a legal obligation to provide our LGBT students with a safe environment. California Assembly Bill AB537 states: "All California public schools have a duty to protect students from discrimination and/or harassment on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity." AB537 protects our students/staff who are LGBT as well as those who are perceived to be LGBT.

This past year we have seen a surge in the amount of LGBT teen suicide because of bullying. From New Jersey to California, teens have taken their lives be-

cause they feel alone and believe that suicide is their only option. Society needs to show these kids that they have options, that there is help and support for them. As educators, we make a difference in dozens of children's lives every day. We have the opportunity to show them that they are not alone and that it will get better.

In your own classroom you can work to put an end to bullying, not just for your LGBT students, but for ALL your students. We can stop the violence and stem the bullying. Create a hostile-free environment in your classroom, where everyone is treated with respect. Address the teasing and the jokes. When we ignore the negative words and behavior, we are equal accomplices in the bullying. Report bullying and harassment. Don't let it just go by, show that there are consequences for inappropriate behavior. Let's end "that's so gay" and eliminate the use of the word "fag" on all of our campuses. When you hear it, stop it. Affirm and validate the students who come to you and refer them to organizations that will support them.

The It Gets Better Project hosts videos to encourage LGBT youths and adults to hang in there, because life gets better and the bullying will end. Many videos include the speakers' personal experiences and support. The Trevor Project provides a national 24-hour, toll free confidential suicide hotline for gay and questioning youth. The Give a Damn Campaign, started by singer Cyndi Lauper, is for everybody, especially straight people, who care about LGBT equality.

This past week a lesbian student in Temecula hung herself because she could no longer take the taunting and teasing she endured for being gay. LGBT students are 4 times more likely to commit suicide than their straight peers. And those who come from an anti-gay, rejecting community are 9 times more likely to commit suicide. Don't let any of your students decide that a hangman's noose is the only option for them. Be a positive force in their lives and show them that it truly does get better.

www.wegiveadamn.org
www.thetrevorproject.org
 1-866-4U-TREVOR
 (1-866-488-7386)
www.itgetsbetterproject.com