



I Choose to Teach!



A PUBLICATION OF THE STUDENT CALIFORNIA TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
DECEMBER 2004

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SCTA FALL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE: THE FUTURE OF PUBLIC EDUCATION

SHAUNA ARAGON, UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO AND DE ANZA COLLEGE



SCTA is laying an impressive foundation for the future by cultivating tomorrow's leaders today! During the course of the SCTA Fall Leadership Conference, students attended the Leadership Skills, Building Chapters or the Political Academy track. This new "track" approach allowed a strategic and focused delivery of specially designed sessions.

The result was a tremendous learning opportunity, but the most valuable and beneficial aspect was spending the entire weekend in the company of the same people within the track! Not only was there time within the sessions for small group activities, but also time between sessions to share! It amazed me how much I learned from other campus leaders. Each campus seems to be struggling with similar issues and many have discovered innovative solutions. I now have a bag full of things I learned during the sessions and from chapter leaders.

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CONNECT WITH YOUR SCHOOL COUNSELOR!

TONI BICE, SCTA NORTHERN REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT, CSU CHICO



NEA President Reg Weaver (center) with students from California.

Do you know the role of school counselors? It is not to teach the students in your classrooms what you are already teaching but rather to instill in them time management, test-taking skills, interpersonal communication skills and social skills; all of which contribute to a successful future in

education and life.

"How to Work With Your School Counselor" was just one of the interesting workshops offered at the National Education Association Student Program (NEA-SP) Connections Conference held in Miami, Florida. I was impressed with the uniqueness of this workshop and because this information is so useful, I want to share it with you, our California members!

One focus was developing a collaborative relationship between teacher and counselor. In order to have a successful collaboration you must agree on common goals. Once this relationship is established it will do three things: 1) create a sense of community 2) offer new perspectives and materials that may enhance your own teaching and 3) prevent unnecessary stress, burnout and job turnover.

Some of the groups that counselors work with are divorce groups, multicultural awareness, friendship and anger management groups.

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CONTACT THE EDITOR! SUBMIT AN ARTICLE!



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MARK YOUR CALENDARS

DECEMBER 2004

4 CBEST & RICA EXAMS
11-12 SCTA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING,
BURLINGAME
22-JAN. 3 CHRISTMAS RECESS

JANUARY 2005

14-16 RURAL ISSUES CONFERENCE
LAS VEGAS, NV
17 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. HOLIDAY
21-23 GOOD TEACHING CONFERENCE,
BURLINGAME
22 CSET EXAM
28-30 STATE COUNCIL/SCTA BOARD MEETING,
LOS ANGELES

FEBRUARY 2005

12 CBEST & RICA EXAMS
19 SCTA SOUTHERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE
21 PRESIDENTS DAY HOLIDAY
25-27 URBAN ISSUES CONFERENCE, SAN DIEGO

MARCH 2005

2 READ ACROSS AMERICA
4-6 CTA EQUITY & HUMAN RIGHTS
CONFERENCE, SANTA CLARA
11-13 GOOD TEACHING CONFERENCE,
HOLLYWOOD
19 SCTA NORTHERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE
BURLINGAME
19 CSET EXAM
25 GOOD FRIDAY HOLIDAY

APRIL 2005

8-10 STATE COUNCIL/SCTA BOARD MEETING,
LOS ANGELES
9 CBEST & RICA EXAMS
29-MAY 1 CTA REGION 4 LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE,
NEWPORT BEACH
30-MAY 1 **SCTA REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY,
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (TBD)**

SCTA FALL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE: THE FUTURE OF PUBLIC EDUCATION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Since there were three tracks, the campuses that sent three or more students benefited the most by sending one student to each track. The Building Chapters track focused on strategies for organizing and recruiting members; chapter communication systems; connecting with CTA Service Centers and writing sample grants. The Political Academy track held a mock election for school board (Darth Vader, the incumbent, won a narrow victory). All of this was to illustrate how everything in education is political and why educators must advocate on behalf of their profession and students. The Leadership Skills track included dealing with difficult behaviors; assertive behavior and effective communication and using leadership skills to create SMART schools.

Over one hundred dynamic student leaders attended the conference in San Francisco. Among our California students, we were fortunate to welcome two dynamic students from the Kentucky Education Association (KEA) Student Program, Kayla Davidson (Chapter President) and Karen Bailey (Chapter VP) of Alice Lloyd College. Through their presence, many of our SCTA chapter leaders and members were able to extend their network and broaden their perspectives with fellow future educators outside of California.

The chapter leaders that attended this conference demonstrated an amazing sign of great growth within SCTA. The future of public education is in good hands!

CONNECT WITH YOUR SCHOOL COUNSELOR!

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Talking directly with your school counselor about specific issues can assist you with initiating this relationship.

Some schools may require a written referral form as well. School counselors are busy too; so don't wait until the last minute when the problem is out of control before making the referral. According to the U.S. Department of Education website, in California the student to counselor ratio is 971:1. School counselors are there to assist teachers. Introduce yourself to them, get to know each other and begin that collaboration that is sure to help down the road. If you would like more information on this topic, feel free to contact me via email at tonib9716@aol.com.

The California delegation to the NEA-SP Connections Conference included Monica Masino, Jane Rodgers, Chie Nudell, Rosario Quinoñez and Toni Bice.

READ ACROSS AMERICA

CHRISTINE TRAN, SCTA COMMUNICATIONS EDITOR,
UC LOS ANGELES

Literacy! It is something that all educators want to instill in students. Not only do we want students to read, but moreover be in love with the act of reading. From the *Harry Potter* series to Shakespeare's plays and poems, reading is both educational and enjoyable. The National Education Association (NEA) Read Across America program is celebrated year-round. Every year it is kicked off on **March 2nd** across the country.



Do you need ideas to promote literacy in your campus or community? You can definitely contact your chapter leaders or SCTA Executive Board. Also NEA has the 2004-2005 Read Across America Resource Kit. It is newly designed with posters and reproducible items such as logos, certificates, bookmarks, and reading activities. They have also added a poster for teen readers and a CD-ROM for members. Here are some quick ideas:

- Ask students to be authors and create their own books.
- Do a read-around with a short story.
- Have a poetry recital.

SCTA members can request the Resource Kit by filling out an online form at www.nea.org/readacross/raa-request. Bring the joy of reading into your classroom on March 2nd and all year round!

TECH FOR THE CLASSROOM: PEN DRIVES

NAM NGUYEN, SCTA SECRETARY-TREASURER, CSU SACRAMENTO



Technology and computers are improving in speed, size, and quality. The latest technology is the thumb drive, also known as the PenDrive, JumpDrive, or Flash Drive, depending on the manufacturer. The benefits of these drives are vast:

- They are really easy to use. All you have to do is plug in the drive into a USB port on any computer

running Windows 2000, Windows XP, or Mac OS X, and they will automatically open, allowing you to add, remove, and edit files.

- They are small. Typical pen drives measure 2-3 inches long and half an inch thick. This means you can carry it with you everywhere.

- They are cheap. On websites such as www.newgg.com, www.mwave.com, and www.directron.com, you can get a 128MB pen drive for \$21.00. 128MB is equivalent to 88 floppies.

- Pen drives are superior to floppies, because they store a lot more and are a lot faster than their ancestors. A floppy drive stores at most 1.44MB of data, meaning if you had a file that was too big, you were out of luck. With a pen drive, you could store larger pictures and documents, such as entire PowerPoint presentation. Pen drives utilize the newer USB technology, meaning that they transfer data anywhere from 12Mb/second to 480Mb/second, depending on if it's USB 1.1 or 2.0. Floppies, on the other hand, transfer data at 90KB/second (.06MB/sec), so they are much slower than the pen drives.

- Pen drives contain no moving parts, because they use flash memory. Since the memory sticks have no moving parts, they are less prone to corruption. Because they are encased in hard plastic, they are less likely to be damaged.

- These drives come in varying sizes, ranging from 8 megabytes (MB) up to 1024 MB (1 gigabyte). They usually come with a clip, lanyard, or keychain, since they are easily lost due to their small size. Their name is derived from the fact that they are typically the size and shape of a pen or cigar. They are the latest technology and soon to replace older technology such as the floppy and zip drive.

Write an Article!

Do you have something to share? Write an article! The following are just some ideas that might catch your fancy:



- Chapter updates
- Educational issues
- Membership concerns
- Community service deeds
- Recognize an outstanding person
- Classroom stories
- New teacher news or stories

Let us know what is going on with you! Get recognized, or recognize someone!

Please submit all ideas, questions, and stories to the following address:

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NORTHERN & SOUTHERN REGIONAL CONFERENCES



Confused about your pathway to a career in education?

Want to know more?

Ever feel alone in your pursuit of a career in education? YOU'RE NOT!

Come to a Regional Conference!



Northern Regional Conference

When? Saturday, March 19, 2005

Where? CTA Headquarters, Burlingame

Contact your Northern Regional Vice Presidents for more details. *See you there!*

Toni Bice:

ToniB9716@aol.com

Deanna Arellano:

northernregional@hotmail.com

Southern Regional Conference

When? Saturday, February 19, 2005

Where? TBD

Contact your Southern Regional Vice Presidents for more details. *See you there!*

Dianna McSherry:

dianna20717@sbcglobal.net

Rosario Quinoñez:

Quinonzesctasouthernregional@yahoo.com

ISSUES OF DIVERSITY FORUM: THE ROAD TO THE UNIVERSITY

CHANTAINE FAUNTLEROY, ETHNIC MINORITY REPRESENTATIVE, CSU HAYWARD
 CHIE NUDELL, ETHNIC MINORITY REPRESENTATIVE, CSU NORTHRIDGE



As we mentor and work with students from middle and high school we should remind them that a college degree is an important key to the doors that will ensure them a better life. Even though obtaining a college education requires a good deal of time, effort and careful planning by both the parent and the student, it is more than worth the effort. A college education will provide our youth with the skills and knowledge that they will need throughout their life and help them to succeed in their career of choice. As we enter the classroom we will be able to assist students and their parents in preparing for college.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

When should parents begin thinking and talking about a college education to their children? What type of information do parents need in order to help prepare their children to go to college? What type of financial aid is available to help students go to college or university? And how do these things affect students of color and new immigrant families?

YOUR TURN! WHAT DO YOU THINK?

What are your thoughts on the above questions?

Please email your Ethnic Minority Representatives:

Chantaine Fautleroy, tinachrissy@msn.com or Chie Nudel, chirako@aol.com

SCTA PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

CHRISTINE TRAN, SCTA COMMUNICATIONS EDITOR,
 UC LOS ANGELES



SCTA Southern Regional Vice President, Rosario Quinoñez (Riverside Community College), smiles for the camera with Robert F. Kennedy Jr. Mr. Kennedy was the guest speaker at the October CTA State Council Meeting.

His book, *Crimes Against Nature*, was recently released this Fall. It discusses the Bush Administration's poor environmental record in relation to past Republican and Democratic administrations.

Mr. Kennedy serves as Senior Attorney for the Natural Resources Defense Council, Chief Prosecuting Attorney for the Hudson Riverkeeper and President of Waterkeeper Alliance. Earlier in his career he served as Assistant District Attorney in New York City.

MATH MANIA

				12
	2			22
		3	5	14
				9
4	6	5		24
14	14	19	22	23



1. Try to fill in the missing numbers.
2. The missing numbers are integers between 0 and 9.
3. The numbers in each row add up to totals to the right.
4. The numbers in each column add up to the totals along the bottom.
5. The diagonal lines also add up the totals to the right.

CHAPTER UPDATES: SCTA UC DAVIS!

HAIDE ALBARRAN, CHAPTER SECRETARY, UC DAVIS



On September 29th, UC Davis SCTA participated in the "Chicano/Latino Bienvenida" at UC Davis' Recreation Pool Lodge from 2-6pm. The participants were President Annie Pestolesi, Secretary Haide Albarran and Public Relations Helen Tam. This event takes place every year before the Fall quarter begins. It is a way for the Chicano/Latino freshmen and transfer students to get informed about and involved in the different organizations on campus. SCTA was able to recruit new members and give out useful information to future teachers.

I am glad we had an opportunity to participate in this event because it is important to outreach to diverse communities. Students who want to enter careers in education benefit by joining professional organizations such as SCTA.

MONEY FOR COMMUNITY OUTREACH: GETTING A C.L.A.S.S. GRANT FOR YOUR CHAPTER!

CHRIS SUMNER, STATE COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE, COLLEGE OF THE CANYONS

Do you have a great idea for community outreach and need money to get it going? If you do, you could apply for the NEA Community Learning through America's Schools (CLASS) grant. The CLASS grant allows you to request money for use in all aspects of your project. When my chapter decided to do a book fair for the elementary school kids in our valley, I applied for the CLASS grant and received \$1,000 dollars from NEA. We used all the money, and a little of our own, and put on a great fair with about 100 in attendance.

The first step in applying for a CLASS grant is to figure out the logistics for your event. This includes all the details that will go into planning, implementing and evaluating the event. Next is to get the application from the NEA website at www.nea.org/student-programs/class-faq.html. The third step is the grant writing process which requires a description, timeline and budget for your project.

In your description, address these questions: Who is your project for? Who will benefit from your project? Who is involved? Why do you want to do this project? What will be the expected result of your event? In my case, the outcome was to promote literacy in the elementary schools. Give a detailed timeline of the activities that need to be done to make your project successful. In this part of the report, include all planning meetings, deadlines, and the event itself. A good method is to plan month by month. Include the roles and responsibilities of everyone involved. Responsibilities can range from coordinating food, supplies or publicity for the event. Include any publicity that will be used for the project. An example of a press release is on the CLASS grant web site. The last aspect to include in your report is on-going projects. Let NEA know about any future plans that you may have. After your event has taken place, NEA will send you an evaluation form to fill out at the end of the project.

Applying for a grant may seem complicated if it is your first time. I received help from my chapter advisor as well as the CLASS grant web page. You can also contact Gail Watts, SCTA Staff Organizer for help. Good luck with all of your projects this year.

There are a variety of sources for grants to support your chapter's activities and events. The National Education Association's Student Program (NEA-SP) has two grants that are available to student chapters across the country. For more information, contact the SCTA Office or check the NEA-SP website (www.nea.org/student-program).

- 1. CLASS Grant – Community Learning Through Americas Schools. Provides grants of up to \$1000 to any student local chapter that is involved in a project to better the community.*
- 2. SOAR Grant – Student Organizing Assistance Resources. Provides grant money to assist state affiliates and local chapters in the recruitment of student members.*

Also, check with community organizations and businesses that provide grants in your area.

SCTA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

NAM NGUYEN, SCTA SECRETARY-TREASURER, CSU SACRAMENTO

October 22-24, 2004 – Los Angeles, CA

Present: Monica Masino (President), Leo Solis (Executive Vice President), Nam Nguyen (Secretary-Treasurer), Deanna Arellano (Northern Regional Vice President), Toni Bice (Northern Regional Vice President), Dianna McSherry (Southern Regional Vice President), Rosario Quinoñez (Southern Regional Vice President), Chie Nudell (Ethnic Minority Representative), Lisa Diggs (State Council Representative), Peggy Guernsey (State Council Representative), Chris Sumner (State Council Representative), and Jane Rodgers (CCTC Liaison), Rhonda Lewis (Past Officer)

Advisory/Staff: Gail Watts (Staff Organizer)

Called to Order at 11:52 a.m.

Board Member Reports:

Monica Masino - Met with CTA Retired members about the retired mentoring program at CSU Fullerton and Sonoma State.

Leo Solis - Visited CSU Northridge with Dianna McSherry and Monica Masino. Working on the SCTA Representative Assembly.

Rosario Quinonez - Will be attending the CTA Region 4 conference and providing a SCTA informational table.

Dianna McSherry - Her local chapter, CSUF, is active, based on attendance by non-officers. They plan to hold more workshops. Visited UC Riverside and CSU Northridge.

Chie Nudell - Attended service center meeting with UCLA. Started an official SCTA chapter at CSU Northridge.

Chantaine Fauntleroy - Working with co-presidents to rebuild chapter at CSU Hayward.

Jane Rodgers - Attended CCTC meeting in Sacramento, which did not have enough members for a quorum. Contacted scholastic books.

Toni Bice - Worked with Deanna Arellano to schedule service center meetings. Working with Butte College chapter president to set goals.

Deanna Arellano - Attended CTA Region 1 conference. Drafted official member greeting email and sent it to members.

Rhonda Lewis - Continuing to teach. Attended a couple of Fontana Teachers Association meetings.

Nam Nguyen - Tabled at CSUS Homecoming. Attended UCD first general meeting.

Christine Tran - Started credential program and used that to promote SCTA to over 200 students in their program.

K.D. Garcia - Petitioned to change to Civil Rights in Edu-

cation Committee for State Council.

Chris Sumner - Had first local chapter meeting last Thursday. Assigned to Alternative Career and Technical Education Committee for State Council.

Lisa Diggs - Outreach at Bronco Fusion event. Had a booth to attract freshmen to clubs. Met with student cultural centers and with the Dean of Education to discuss the new club.

Committee Reports:

- **Special Services Committee:** Requested and received \$50 towards the purchase of merchandise for fundraising of SCTA scholarships.
- **Conference Committee:** The Northern Regional Conference will be held at CTA Headquarters and the Southern Regional Conference at Cal Poly Pomona. The SCTA RA will be at the Marriott Suites in Anaheim. Guest speakers for the Fall Leadership Conference were announced. Committee assignments were distributed, facilitators for the workshops were chosen and travel arrangements were discussed.
- **Student Political Action Committee (SPAC):** Created a flyer that will be going into the Fall Leadership Conference packet which will inform members about Lobby Day 2005.
- **Membership Committee:** Discussed bringing CBEST and CSET prep workshops to members and leadership training for chapter officers.
- **Community Outreach Committee:** Reviewed the process of collecting toiletries. This year, the toiletries will go to the Transitional Learning Center in Stockton, CA.
- **Student Ethnic Minority Affairs Committee (SEMAC):** Discussed collection of information for a Diversity CD and fundraising at the Fall Leadership Conference for the MLK and Cesar Chavez scholarships.

Officer Planning:

- The Ethnic Minority Representatives discussed visiting cultural clubs during campus visitations.
- State Council Representatives discussed what occurred at general assembly and plan to write a newsletter article describing the events that took place.
- The Northern Regional Vice Presidents - goals are visiting 2 campuses a month and contacting members via phone.
- The Southern Regional Vice Presidents - to send follow-up emails and plan for the Southern Regional Conference.
- Jane Rodgers and Lisa Diggs - nominated for Minority Incentive Grants for the Good Teaching Conferences.



ELEMENTS OF THE PERIODIC TABLE

Directions:

1. Unscramble each of the clue words.
2. Copy the letters in the numbered cells to other cells with the same number.
3. Find out what the mystery message is!

NIAMUMLU

NAGRO

12

CIERNAS

IBMURA

RYMLIBUEL

NOORB

BIMNEOR

MULCIAC

2

ROBNAC

MEISUC

NEHRILCO

MUHCIORM

TOABCL

ROCEP

FIELOUNR

DLOG

HULMIE

HYONERDG

NIODIE

5

RONI

TORNYPK

DEAL

TIIHULM

SIEMUMGAN



MANNEASEG

1

CURMEYR

10

NENO

11

LKNEIC

RINOTGNE

GOEXYN

4

HRSUPPOOSH

PNLTUMAI

8

SPASTUOMI

MIARUD

NSIICOL

6

LEIVSR

9

MUSDOI

NUTSOMTIR

RUSLUF

13

ITN

TAUNTMII

MANIURU

NXENO

7

NIZC

3

MYSTERY MESSAGE:

!

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13