



IN STRENGTH & UNITY

COLLEGE STAFF GUILD
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS LOCAL 1521A

On the Web at WWW.LOCAL1521A.ORG

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Hot Off The Press

STAFF GUILD HIGHLIGHTS

- **Health Benefits Amnesty Period 2013:** Earlier this year, District employees were advised to take action during open enrollment regarding eligible and ineligible dependents. If you realize now that you have an ineligible dependent such as ex-spouses, over-aged children or grandchildren that aren't legally adopted, there is still time to make the correction without incurring any CalPERS medical expenses. Members who do not submit proper dependent verification to CalPERS during the verification process July 1, 2013 through December 2013 will have their dependents dis-enrolled from their health plan and may be subject to incurred costs of plans. Active employees will need to go on-line to www.laccd.edu and download the Amnesty Disenrollment Form to make adjustments.
- **Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA):** Employees covered by CalPERS medical plan will receive their HRA funding for 2014 per our negotiated agreement. Specifically, our HRA is considered part of an integrated plan with our CalPERS medical benefits. There were concerns that the implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) our HRA would no longer exist after January 1, 2014. However, the Staff Guild leaders on the JLMBC questioned the LACCD health benefits consultants regarding the HRA and it was determined that it will continue into 2014.
- **LACCD Health and Wellness Expos 2013:** The annual Health and Wellness Expos were a great success! Screenings for cholesterol, blood pressure etc. were available along with blood donation registration, back massages, Wheel of Wellness, Fitness Bingo and Hula Hoop contests. Free manicures given by LA Trade Tech Cosmetology students were a special highlight. Many thanks to Katreliia Walker and the Wellness Committee for the great events.
- **Women Leaders Declare Closing Walmart Loophole:** In Sacramento on June 11, 2013 women leaders in the legislature came together with women of labor to declare protecting women's health by passing Assembly Bill 880. AB 880 protects women's health by preventing Walmart and other large employers from exploiting what's come to be known as "Walmart loophole" in the Affordable Care Act (ACA). The loophole allows profitable corporations to shift their healthcare costs onto taxpayers. Walmart

and other large corporations exploit the loophole by cutting hours and wages so workers so workers do not qualify for company benefits and are forced to apply for Medi-Cal. Contact your legislator immediately by phone, email, fax or U.S. mail and urge them to support AB 880.

[www.legislature.ca.gov/legislators_and_districts/legislators/your legislator.htm](http://www.legislature.ca.gov/legislators_and_districts/legislators/your_legislator.htm)

- **Joint Labor Management Benefits Committee (JLMBC):** The JLMBC is continuing to look at long-term care provider. Other areas of interest are voluntary pet insurance.
- **Save The Date:** The Annual Staff Guild Membership meeting 2013 is scheduled for Saturday, September 21st at the historic Biltmore Millennium Hotel in downtown Los Angeles. Mark your calendar! Members are encouraged to invite their family to join us for breakfast and participate in our meeting. There will be guest speakers, entertainment, prizes and activities for the kids. See you there!
- **Council of Classified Employees (CCE) Division Meeting:** The CCE met in Manhattan Beach on May 4, 2013 to report on everything classified from up and down the state. The CCE is the classified council of the CFT which focuses on educational and work related issues impacting our classified employees. The next Division meeting is scheduled for September 28, 2013 in Oakland.
- **California Federation of Teachers (CFT) Lobby Day 2013:** Staff Guild members attended the annual Lobby Day on April 8 and 9 in Sacramento. Lobby Day was designed for the union to meet with their legislators to discuss issues and lobby them on legislation affecting classified employees and their communities.
- **Shoes That Fit: Every Child Deserves Them –** “Please share this on your Facebook page and ask your friends to vote too”! The mission of Shoes That Fit is to provide new shoes to children in need so they can attend school in comfort and with dignity, better prepared to learn and play. **VOTE FOR SHOES THAT FIT IN DSW’S SHOE LOVERS CARE AND LEAVE YOUR MARK CONTEST!** Vote once a day on Facebook from June 6 through June 19, 2013. Help us win \$ 75,000 to help kids in need.
- **Congratulations to Staff Guild Retirees:** The AFT Staff Guild would like to congratulate the following employees for their outstanding service to the Los Angeles Community College District. These classified employees have contributed significantly toward providing quality service to our students and the public.

March 1, 2013 through May 31, 2013

Name	Classification	Years of Service	Campus
Debbie Swarens	Assistant Administrative Analyst	19	Pierce
Agnes McBride	Administrative Secretary	21	District