

AUG 24
2016

UNION UPDATE



BARGAINING UPDATE: TAKE THE PLEDGE & GET READY!

We are expressing our commitment to stand up and fight for a strong contract by taking a pledge to participate in all Local 1000 authorized actions.

Contract negotiations came to a halt when state negotiators made their position clear: Even in a time of budget surpluses – and California being the sixth largest economy in the world - they will not make a real, meaningful investment in the people who make California a great place to live.

The message we delivered at town halls was also clear: The state's offer simply does not value our work or the sacrifices we've made. And we're ready and willing to let them know they must do better.

Your participation makes all the difference. Take the pledge as we gear up for our next actions. Together we are unstoppable.



"By standing up and stepping out together, we can win a contract we can all be proud of and ensure a great future for ourselves, for our families and for California."

– Yvonne R. Walker
President, SEIU Local 1000

Take the Pledge!

Contact your steward
or worksite organizer

Call the MRC at
866.471.SEIU (7348)

TAKING BACK CA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF



Local 1000 members and other California School for the Deaf (CSD) families and faculty took action on August 19 to demand the immediate resignation of the school's site superintendent amid growing and unanswered concerns about declining student enrollment, high staff turnover and a culture of fear and retaliation caused by his gross lack of leadership.

The action is part of an ongoing campaign to bring attention to the problems arising from Dr. Sean Virnig's failed leadership. Families and staff have documented multiple accounts of

how the unchecked destructive behavior of Virnig is directly causing teachers to leave, student enrollment to drop and morale to sink, creating far-reaching implications for the surrounding community.

Local 1000 is working collaboratively with the Association of Families, Teachers and Counselors and the California Association of the Deaf to urge State Superintendent Tom Torlakson to act in the best interest of the CSD community and remove Virnig as site superintendent. Our message is clear: To preserve the school's vision for exemplary bilingual education for deaf children, CSD requires new leadership now.



"To preserve the school's vision for exemplary bilingual education for deaf children, CSD requires new leadership now."

– Sulghi Hong
CSD Teacher, Local 1000 Steward

Upward Mobility Through Our Union



Local 1000 spearheads program to train LVNs to become RNs

Thanks to a collaborative effort between Local 1000 and the state, Licensed Vocational Nurses (LVNs) from Unit 20 are getting the opportunity to move forward in their careers by becoming Registered Nurses (RNs). As part of a pilot program, students started nursing classes on August 15 at San Joaquin Delta College. A second group of LVN students will be selected to start at San Joaquin Delta in the fall. It is our hope that having initial success will give us the ability to spread this throughout the state.

The new LVN-to-RN apprenticeship program was created by securing a \$1 million state grant—money that usually goes to unskilled worker training. Unlike those programs, this will assist already-skilled workers in becoming more skilled, providing upward mobility for our members as well as a viable solution for the state's RN shortage.

"This program is truly new and innovative," said Rionna Jones, Bargaining Unit 20 chair. "It shows what a difference having a union can make when it comes to professional development."

The grant will be used for tuition for up to 50 students and to hire a success coordinator. Local 1000 will work to get the grant renewed and expanded to more locations.

The first class was limited to LVNs who worked at Mule Creek Prison in Lone; Deuel Vocational Institution in Tracy; CHCF in Stockton; and who also met criteria set by Delta College. Interest in the program was overwhelming with almost 300 LVNs at those institutions responding to a 2015 survey.

Those who participate will have their work schedules coordinated so they work 20 hours a week, then attend school for 20 hours. Participants will get their full-time pay plus school expenses, such as textbooks. The state will gain a new fleet of registered nurses to work at state prisons, where recruiting can sometimes be difficult.

"I'm shaking in my skin because I'm so excited," said Alexis Barba, who is in the first class. "I just saw no opportunity for doing this because of my work schedule." She thanked her union for making this possible.

"I'm so excited. I feel blessed to be chosen," said Juanita Esquer, also in the first class. "I've always dreamed of getting my nursing degree while I work. This is going to be life-changing because I can better provide for my family."



"This program is truly new and innovative. It shows what a difference having a union can make when it comes to professional development."

— Rionna Jones, Bargaining Unit 20 Chair

Resource Center

Monday-Friday
7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
866.471.SEIU (7348)

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