



# Southwest Teachers Association

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear SWTA Members,

Fall Break, already? Where did time go? It has been a busy two and a half months.

In July your Executive team met to set goals and action plans for the 2019-2020 school year. SWTA's purpose is to empower members to advocate for and protecting teaching and learning conditions through communication, collaboration, and building relationships.

Our first action step was to build relationships by visiting all 12 sites within the first three weeks of the school year. Executive team members were able to connect with old colleagues and meet new ones. We will be reviewing the data collected and referring it to the correct person/committee. Remember that any SWTA member is able to join any committee. Currently there are openings in PAC (Political Action Committee), Organizing, and Election committees. In addition, there is a need for a Web Master and Bargaining Team member. Please contact me if your are interested in any of the positions.

As SWTA president I have the honor of sitting on the South County Teachers United Board. In July we spent a day setting as goals that will empower all our members. This year we will be offering many joint trainings that we hope will support our members inside and outside their classrooms. Please make sure your contact information is updated with your Site Rep. to receive the most current information from SWTA/CTA/NEA.

Thank you for all the work you do! Rest! Relax! Re-energize!

United We Stand,

*Vanessa Barrera*

SWTA President

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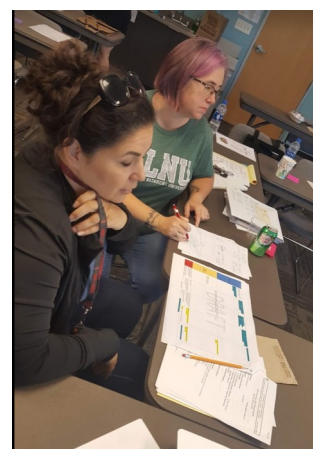
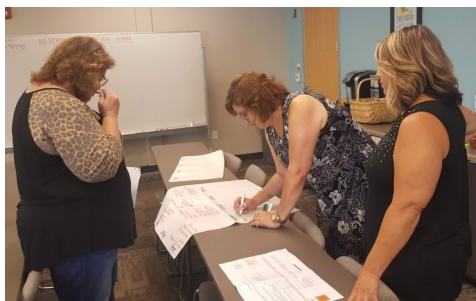
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CTA Access to Savings Smartphone App - My Deals Mobile

Ready. Set. Save!

**New User?** SETUP ACCOUNT and enter Program ID 200449 to continue. After, please verify eligibility with your email address and if prompted your 10-digit CTA Individual ID Number. Please contact the CTA Membership Department at (650) 552-5278 if you do not know your 10-digit CTA Individual ID Number.

**Already have an account?** Enter your Access email and password to log in.



## Know your contract 24.2 Co-teaching

**24.2.1** When school sites implement a co-teaching model they shall convene a team consisting of the principal, a specialist, a general education teacher, and the psychologist, to discuss the implementation of student IEPs. The team shall endeavor to reach consensus regarding all site-based co-teaching decisions. If consensus is not reached, the principal shall make the decision. **24.2.2** Any unit member who will be assigned a co-teaching partner shall be provided reasonable advance notice. Teachers whose class roster includes students with IEPs will be notified and provided the opportunity to review the files of students and participate in a meeting prior to the first day of school. If the student enrolls after the first day of school the teacher will have the opportunity to review the student's file prior to the students attendance if the IEP from the transferring school is available. **24.2.3** All unit members have the right to the voluntary process in Article 9, Transfers. **24.2.4** When co-teaching, the general education teacher and the special education teacher shall share students and will typically collaborate on IEP goals and report cards. **24.2.5** Whenever the ratio of students with IEPs (excluding students with speech-only IEPs) in a general education classroom exceeds 25% of the overall class size the site administration will meet with the general education teacher, within ten (10 duty days of the request to develop a plan which may include specific supports.

## MEET YOUR EXECUTIVE TEAM



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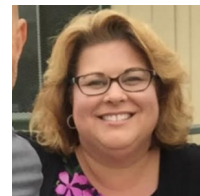
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## Hot Topics

Our students throughout the district continue to be in social and emotional distress. Currently we have students who are being evacuated multiple times throughout the day for their own safety. In some cases, students in crisis are physically and verbally assaulting other students, their teacher and support staff. The data shows that at many of our schools, students are performing below grade level, how are the constant disruption and evacuations supposed to support their academic needs? How are teachers supposed to teach when they are constantly putting out fires? SWTA is concerned with the lack of available services and resources that are needed to meet the needs of students in crisis, their well fair and that of the other students, teachers and support staff. Our students are still in crisis and teachers are yet to receive guidance and support from the district to meet the needs of their students. SWTA has invited the Board of Trustees to set up a meeting with teachers that are experiencing this daily. SWTA has heard back from President Cheryl Quinones and hopes to hear back from the other Trustees. During SWTA's monthly meeting with Dr. McNamara she informed us that the district has developed a referral form for principals to request support from the district behavior team. If you are a teacher who is in need of support please meet with your site administrator.

## Happenings



SWTA members at the South County Teachers United Member.



SWTA Site Rep. Training