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May 2023



Congratulations, educators! There are under 20 days left of school. We're in the home stretch.

- SEA membership continues to grow! We are over 1475 members strong as of April.
- On July 1, Melody Cunningham (ESP Director), Katie McNelly (Elementary Director), Jeff Trigger (Middle School Director), Matt Lentz (High School Director), and Michele Wickman (Vice-President) will assume their new positions on the Executive Board. Cassity Stroud will continue her role of Treasurer, and a Secretary election is currently underway. We're excited to have a Board of nine leaders!
- On April 18th, despite weeks of advocacy from educators and community members, the Board of Supervisors adopted a budget that is over 7M short of the Superintendent's request, and 33M less than the School Board's request. You can view the results here. The bottom line? Elections matter. Stay tuned for information on how you can be involved in the SEA Political Action Committee (PAC). It's time to elect candidates whose actions match their words when it comes to supporting school funding.
- Underfunding from the BoS and delays in the state budget mean that budget advocacy is not over. The School Board will adopt a final budget over the summer, so you can start advocating NOW by telling them what your budget priorities are.

Union Members & Non-Members: Take Our Para Survey!

SEA has created a survey for paraeducators. We know there is a lot of uncertainty for a variety of reasons, as well as concerns that are specific to your jobs as paraprofessionals and questions that need answering. SEA would like to help you get answers to those questions and bring the concerns to the attention of Central Office leadership. The work you do is invaluable, and your voices matter. Please take a few minutes to share with us, and encourage your fellow paras to do the same.



https://tinyurl.com/4xp3k4r8

Questions/Concerns over the summer? Get in touch!

Union Office: 540-752-1902

SEA Website: www.sea-vea.org

MAY ADVOCALY CALENDAR

2Nd: <u>Bos Meetings</u>, 3p.m & 7p.m., Government Center

3Rd: OZB Committee Meeting, 5:30p.m., Zoom

9th: SB Budget work Session, 5p.m., Board chambers

9th: SB Meeting, 7p.m., Boald chambers

16th: Bos Meetings, 3p.m of 7p.m., Government Center