

UPDATE

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Rebecca Harper, SBTA-President

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New SBTA Website

We are currently launching a new interactive website. The new website is now titled "SBTA in Action". This website will have stories, surveys, pictures, opinions, articles and important links. At this site, you will be able to give input, comment on articles, write your own commentaries as well as write a response directly to the writer. You can access this at <http://sbtainaction.wordpress.com>.

We will continue to have the regular website: www.sbta.org. This website will contain basic information about SBTA.

San Bernardino County Sheriffs Athletic Federation

SBCSAF is an organization that sponsors activities providing positive contact between area children and law enforcement officers. One way they do this is by providing toys and holiday dinners for underprivileged families. SBTA Board of Directors has agreed to send a donation of \$100 to SBCSAF. If you would like to also donate to this worthy cause, please have your site reps bring your donations to the Rep Council Meeting on December 8, 2009, where we will be passing around the hat. This might be a good opportunity to donate any loose coins you have lying around. Checks are made payable to the SBCSAF.

CTA Special Election

There will be a special election to fill a vacancy for the office of CTA/ABC Member-At-Large. The election will take place at the January State Council. Anyone who is a member of NEA/CTA/SBTA and a member of an ethnic minority group as defined in the CTA bylaws may declare their candidacy for this position. The CTA/ABC committee is an advisory committee to the CTA Board of Directors. This committee reviews applications for campaign funding of local school board elections and local bond measures.

Declaration of Candidacy forms can be found at www.sbta.org. For this election, Declaration of Candidacy forms must be received by 5:00 PM, January 15, 2010 in the CTA Governance Support Department. You can mail it in to 1705 Murchison Drive, Burlingame, CA 94010. Or you can fax it to 650/552-5010.

Lesson Plans for Sale?

Have you sold your lesson plans? Have you bought lesson plans? Are you considering either buying or selling lesson plans? Do you have strong opinions about the sale of lesson plans? If so, a CTA staff person from the Communications Department would like to interview you for an article she is writing on this concern. She says that she can keep you anonymous if you are worried about the District or your administrators. If interested, email me your contact information (phone and email) to Rebecca@sbta.org.

The article may address the following issues, among others:

- Is it ethical for teachers to sell lesson plans they create?
- Do districts have any right to the work teachers create under contract? What if the teacher created the lesson plan at home?
- What if district resources are used?
- Can districts ban teachers from selling lesson plans used in the classroom?
- Don't teachers have the right to profit from their ingenuity?
- Should teachers be entitled to some credit - and cash - for lessons they have put hard work into designing, if others use them in other districts?
- Have teachers found the lessons they have purchased to be excellent or mediocre?