



## Classified School Employee Week is May 15–21, 2016

Since [CSEA's founding in 1927](#), members have strived to make their communities aware of classified employees' contributions to public education. Gov. Ronald Reagan first proclaimed Classified School Employee Week in 1969, stating that "The classified employee is proud of his status and the integral part he plays in the total field of education throughout the State of California."

In 1984, CSEA members passed a resolution to establish an official recognition week, and a year later it was adopted as a state-sponsored resolution. Then, in 1986, Senate Bill 1552 (Campbell) permanently solidified Classified School Employee Week as an annual week of statewide recognition.

Bill sponsor William Campbell said, "I urge all citizens to work closely to take time out and to think about school days and recall the efforts of the bus drivers, secretaries, custodians and all the other classified staff they met and knew. As much as any other group of employees, the classified school staff is a valued and integral part of our public schools system and their work is vital to our children's success."

In the modern age, school districts could not function without classified school employees. These essential staff members perform a wide range of vital services for students, parents, teachers and administrators. This extraordinary workforce keeps our campuses safe, clean and organized. Most importantly, they strive to improve the lives of our students every day.

CSEA is proud to represent more than 215,000 dedicated classified employees in California public schools and community colleges who perform a variety of services that keep our schools and community colleges up and running, including school security, food services, office and clerical staff, school maintenance and operations, academic assistance, transportation, library and media assistance, computer services and more.

### **Essential to our schools and colleges**

From the time students enter campus or board a school bus in the morning to the time they head home at the end of the day, every aspect of their education experience is impacted by a classified school employee. Whether it's the classroom or the playground, the school cafeteria or the college financial aid office, classified employees make a difference daily in the lives of students.

### **Serving our communities**

Just as classified employees are on the front lines working to ensure the safety and care of students on campus, many are working to build better communities as well. The typical classified employee has worked in education for decades, building strong ties within the community. Classified employees know generations of the same families and are immersed in neighborhood culture. Whether they're working for local charities, campaigning for schools bonds, or volunteering in youth sports programs, classified employees serve their communities with pride.