

Below is the latest news and information pertaining to our CSEA Members.

CSEA has launched their new web site, and I am having some trouble signing in. Until I get that worked out, all I can do is share links and general information. You'll have to sign-into the [CSEA website](#) yourself for more details.

- 1) **January Chapter Meeting:** TOMORROW Wednesday, January 19, 12:00-1:00 pm, via Zoom
 - a. Join Zoom Meeting: <https://MercedCCD.zoom.us/j/93798778567>

- 2) **Union Plus Scholarships Deadline:** The last day to apply for a Union Plus Scholarship is January 31.
 - a. <https://www.unionplus.org/benefits/education/union-plus-scholarships>

- 3) **FREE At-Home COVID-19 Tests Now Available:** Beginning today, every home in the U.S. is eligible to order four free at-home COVID-19 tests. The tests and shipping are completely free.
 - a. <https://www.covidtests.gov/> or <https://special.usps.com/testkits> (both will link you to the USPS site)
 - i. "Orders will ship free starting in late January."
 - ii. Limit of one order per residential address. Duplicate orders will not be processed.
 - iii. One order includes 4 individual rapid antigen COVID-19 tests.

- 4) **Blue Cross Anthem COVID Coverage:** The latest information about our health benefits and COVID-19. "We know these are challenging times, and want you to know that we remain deeply committed to supporting you to get care and protect your overall health and wellbeing."
 - a. <https://www.anthem.com/ca/coronavirus/individual-and-family/> .
 - b. Update your email with BC Anthem to stay informed of helpful information.

- 5) **COVID-19 and Sick Leave:** California's 2021 COVID-19 Supplemental Paid Sick Leave (2021 SPSL) law expired on September 30, 2021. State officials are discussing extending this law, but until the State makes a decision on that, here is how it currently works:
- a. If you are infected with COVID-19 while you are working, it is considered workman's comp.
 - i. Please be aware that for one to claim they were infected at work if they were not would be workman's comp fraud, which is a felony.
 - b. If you are infected with COVID-19 outside of work, you will have to use your sick or other personal leave as permitted.

- 6) **Want to Help?:** Our chapter has not had some of our usual expenses during COVID, so we have a little money saved up and are looking for ideas on how to spend it, if at all. Whatever we do should be something for ALL of our Members. We had thought maybe we would hold a casual social event for our Members to better get to know each other, but a committee could discuss and develop this idea.

So I am looking for CSEA members who would be interested in forming a committee to help decide if this is the best use for our funds, and to help bring whatever this committee plans into fruition. At this point, all of the details are up in the air as this committee will determine options, and then plan and host. It would be nice to hold an event in spring 2022 if we can make it happen and COVID doesn't ruin it. If you're interested in being part of this CSEA committee, send me (Christine Grimaldi Clarkson) an [email](#) or catch me on campus and let me know. We'll meet via zoom during the noon hour sometime late this month. We'll take as many volunteers as we can get - more hands means less work for all.

- 7) **CSEA Website and App:** The newly built CSEA website launched in January 2022. CSEA is hoping that by July they'll also have the CSEA App done and ready to launch.
- a. <https://csea.com/> (If you have not logged-in before, you will need your CSEA Member number to create an account. If you don't know your Member number, contact Member Benefits at 866-487-2732 or memberbenefits@csea.com. We are Merced College Chapter # 274.)
- 8) **CSEA Annual Conference:** The CSEA conference has been moved from Sacramento back to Las Vegas in 2022, and has also been moved up 1 week to July 24 - 28th, 2022. Hotels

that will be used are LINQ and Harrahs. Our newly appointed Area E Conference Committee member is Juan Mungia from Sylvan chapter. Congratulations to him on his appointment.

- a. *Page 4 of our [Contract Agreement](#): “Paid release time shall be granted for three (3) CSEA chapter delegates to attend the CSEA Annual Conference. #Travel and per diem are not the responsibility of the District.”
- b. Page 20-21 of our [Constitution/Bylaws](#): “*Delegates*: Voting delegates to an annual conference of the CSEA Association (and their alternates) shall be designated from among the Active members in good standing as follows:
 - i. The Chapter President.
 - ii. Additional delegates in such number as may be authorized by the Chapter for attendance (per our Contract: *2 additional more = 3 total).
- c. *Election*: Nominations for the authorized delegate positions, other than the President, shall be taken at the regular Chapter meeting in March, and election shall be by secret ballot at the regular Chapter meeting in April. Alternates in sufficient numbers for each of the authorized delegates, to include an alternate for the President, shall also be elected.
- d. *Responsibilities*: Delegates shall attend all conference business and other sessions of importance to the Chapter. In addition, the delegates shall:
 - i. Attend at least one (1) orientation meeting at the regional or area level of the CSEA Association concerning the resolutions to the upcoming conference.
 - ii. Provide written and oral reports on conference activities to the Chapter membership at the first Chapter meeting following the conference.
- e. #*Delegate Expenses*: The Chapter shall provide delegate expenses (housing, travel, per diem/meal allowances, registration fees, etc.) in

accordance with Association and Chapter policy,
and subject to the approval of the Chapter
membership.”

9) **Draper Initiative:** Next year WE WILL ALL need to step it up for the fight of our lives. The Draper Initiative threatens our very existence and the existence of all unions and collective bargaining. Each and every one of us will need to play a role in getting this defeated and we will also have another CalPers election next year. Watch for upcoming opportunities to help fight this attack on unions.

- a. <https://newrepublic.com/article/164496/tim-draper-anti-union-ballot-measure>

10) **CSEA TruHearing Program:** CSEA has partnered with TruHearing to provide their Members with a comprehensive hearing care solution. TruHearing provides high-quality hearing aids at a low out-of-pocket cost.

- a. Try their free, fast online screening: www.truhearing.com/CSEA
- b. Call TruHearing to learn more and schedule an appointment: M-F, 8 am - 8 pm, 1-855-632-3893 TTY:711



CSEA Leadership Mail

Leadership Mail for Monday, January 17, 2022

You'll need to log into the CSEA website for the links below:

[General Information Bulletin 6-22; Member of the Year Awards](#)

Nomination forms for 2022 Member of the Year Awards are now available.

Who should we nominate?

***General Information Bulletin 7-22; Organizing Institute**

Announcement and application for the virtual Organizing Institute to be held March 8-11, 2022.

*** I have taken the CSEA Organizing Institute training and it was fantastic! In fact, I have a graduate training coming up at the end of this month and am looking forward to it. I recommend this training to all of our Members; especially if you want to fight the Draper Initiative.**

#CSEA CalPERS Pre-Retirement Webinar Schedule Flyer for Winter/Spring, 2022

Announcing CSEA CalPERS Pre-Retirement Webinar Schedule for Winter/Spring 2022. CSEA's Pre-Retirement Committee has arranged for FREE online webinars. All K-12, Community College and County Office of Education CalPERS Members are invited to attend. Space is limited and pre-registration is required. See the included flyer for dates and links to pre-register.

Some of our Members have been talking about retiring soon. If you are one of those people, be sure to first attend one of these online pre-retirement webinars. You should also know that it takes CalPers 90 days / three months before they start mailing out retirement checks. Therefore, you should complete your retirement paperwork at least three months before your retirement date.

Our mission: To improve the lives of our members, students and community.
2045 Lundy Avenue, San Jose, CA 95131 | 866-ITS-CSEA (866-487-2732)

Sent via [ActionNetwork.org](https://www.actionnetwork.org). To update your email address, change your name or address, or to stop receiving emails from CSEA - Leadership Mail, please [click here](#).

MCCD CSEA website: <https://www.mccd.edu/about/organizations/csea/index.html>



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