



Count me in!

APRIL/MAY 2021



BENEFITS!

AFSCME Advantage Annual Scholarships
See our website for details.

MEETINGS

EDCEA, Local #1 has a Board of Directors (BOD) that meet on a monthly basis along with EDCEA staff, on the first Tuesday of every month at 5:30pm with occasional exceptions. All meetings are held via Zoom.

Upcoming meetings:
May 4th and June 1st
Email edceapub@gmail.com for the Zoom link.

OFFICE

EDCEA, LOCAL 1
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BOARD

Rebecca Klare
President

Tracy Melton
1st Vice President

Vacant
2nd Vice President

Greg Hicks
Chief Shop Steward WS

Mary Luckel
Chief Shop Steward SLT

Marcia Woods
Secretary/Treasurer

Jenny Wilson
Retiree



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

You have heard it said, many times this past year, what a year 2020 has been! This has been so true for all of us on a personal level, but this has been absolutely true for our Union, EDCEA, Local 1. During this unusual time, the focus of our work and personal lives has been (as it should be) on safety. The daily busyness that we are used to has quieted down as we have all adapted to our new circumstances. This quietness I think has led many members to believe that our Union, your Union, has stopped working on the many important activities that you care about. Issues like safe work environments, good wages and benefits and retirement benefits. With this idea in mind, I thought that I would take a moment and let you know what has been going on and is currently happening:

Negotiations:

- The devil is in the DETAIL. It really is. The often-boring language in our Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is more important than you think. It has been fought over in the past, it defines benefits, employee discipline procedures, what happens when the electricity goes off, working off-site, and more. The MOU needs to be changed as our world around us has changed. Without responding to those changes, we are all unprotected and that is not OK.
- We know that wages and benefits are the big picture and immediate concern. It may seem that these issues have been sidelined but that is not true. What is true is that because of COVID we have had to wait, TEMPORARILY, until key information is available. The negotiations team and the county are negotiating on these issues. We know how important wages and benefits are to everyone.
- If you are feeling upset, TAKE a MOMENT and try to imagine what your wages and benefits would be without the union being here...I can tell you they would be HORRIBLE.

Employee Access to Union Information:

- Currently we have the Website with updated information at <https://www.edcea.org>.
- Those who have opted in to receive texts get quick access to information. If you haven't yet signed up for text alerts at <https://mobile-text-alerts.com/subscribe/EDCEA> please do. So easy and we will not flood you with lots of texts!!!
- We are developing Zoom meetings as another way to stay informed. Again, sign up for text alerts to quickly find out about an up-and-coming virtual membership meeting at <https://mobile-text-alerts.com/subscribe/EDCEA>.
- We are re-generating the Newsletter. COVID temporarily stopped many activities, but we are getting back up and running!

Be Active:

- **You are the Union! The Board is a volunteer group of Union members. Join in** we need all the help you can give. If folks just gave a little bit, an hour here and hour there it makes a difference! Write a little article about something you see and care about. Share your opinions at Board of Director (BOD) meetings. Run for the BOD. We will be holding elections this December. There are so many ways, large and small.

This is OUR Union. Every Voice matters. Your VOICE matters!

Welcome New Members

HALEY MILLER — AQMD
KRYSTAL HAMON — SHERIFF'S
ASHAKA MALI — HHSA-BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

FIND US ON FACEBOOK - SIGN UP FOR TEXT ALERTS - CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE