



# The CNTA CONNECTION

WITH CHRIS RODRIGUEZ & MEG E'AMATO

Issue 10, December 2019



## HEY YOU! WHAT'S NEW? Giving the Gift of Togetherness

It feels like the time between Thanksgiving and gift-shopping/giving just gets shorter and shorter! As I frantically try to finish my shopping, I am thankful to have one gift taken care of: the gift of CNTA togetherness. One of the best gifts of togetherness I ever received was the support of my department when I needed something for my class. They didn't teach the same course, the outcome wasn't personally beneficial to them, but as my Work-Family... they had my back & supported me. (Love you guys!)

I don't take for granted having clear expectations in my contract, participating in surveys to impact future contracts, and my CNTA Family being in my corner when things don't seem right, when I need resources & support, (or when I need to de-stress over a happy hour & some Karaoke). Teachers' unions provide duty-free lunches, fair wages, academic freedom, compensated planning time, due process, voice in curriculum changes and more! But the gift CNTA educators give ourselves is being a part of the CNTA Family. Like **all** families, sometimes we have differing ideas... but at the end of the day, the things we have in common matter the most (like educating kids)!

This holiday season, I am reminded that my classroom mission **continues** in my role with CNTA...identify supports needed for success and do everything I can to provide it. Thank you for sharing your questions, concerns, support, suggestions, reporting when our contract wasn't being upheld, and for trusting me to be there and help. My wish for each of you this year is that you welcome in the New Year with **health, joy**, knowing that you are **valued**, and that **you** make our CNTA Family stronger. - Chris Rodriguez

## A Few Bright Lights for our Members

Some recent developments we hope will light up your School Year:



**1. Discipline Matrix:** CNTA has been a strong advocate for consistency in Student Discipline. We are happy to announce CNUSD is in the process of rolling out an Elementary & Secondary Discipline Matrix to meet this need, while a collaborative committee works over the next 2 years to refine the Matrix and MTSS Structures.

**2. Instructional Resource Center (IRC):** Upon learning that the IRC was closing, CNTA began a collaborative process to ensure our members continue to have access to resources. We are happy to announce that many of the Self-Serve items will be available at the CNTA office beginning in January and we continue to work with CNUSD to plan alternative access to Laminating & Poster Printing services at a reasonable rate.

**3. Negotiations Survey:** Be on the lookout for a link in your PERSONAL EMAIL to take the CNTA Negotiations Survey. This is the opportunity for our Members to guide us in the right direction for Negotiations this year, so please make sure your voice is heard!!



# Yes, Virginia, there is a ~~Santa~~ ~~Claus~~ Prep Period



Before you add a prep period on your Christmas list this year... Did you know that all grade levels have compensated "prep time"?

- Secondary members' have a longer 7.5 hour bell to bell workday (Example: 7:40am-2:46pm) with their prep time embedded within the school day as students rotate classes.
- Years ago, Elementary members were required to report for a 7.5 hour day as well; working their "prep" one hour before or after their bell to bell day (Example: Prep 7:30am-8:30am, School 8:30am-2:32pm).
- With our Professional Day Contract Language, all members must report to work 10 minutes before and stay 10 minutes after the bell. (Examples above become: Secondary 7:30am-2:56pm & Elementary 8:20am-2:42pm). Elementary members are provided the flexibility as professionals to utilize their compensated hour of "prep time" at the time that works best to support their classroom.



Now you can add that much needed Tropical Vacation to Santa's List instead (or is that just me?)



## Important Dates!!

December 17- Rep Council (Site Reps & All Members welcome)



CNTA Office Open- Dec. 30th, Jan 3rd, & Jan 6-10th (9am-5pm)



January 21- Rep Council (Site Reps & All Members welcome)



Happy Christmas, Hannukah, Kwanzaa, New Year's, &/or Winter to ALL

## Contact Information

We are committed to serving our members and want to provide answers to your questions quickly. Since we are in and out of meetings with Members, sometimes email is a more expeditious way to get an answer to your question.

Please reach out to us anytime!



Chris Rodriguez, President CNTA  
President@wearecnta.org  
Office #: (951) 737-3414

Discounts  
AND Fun?!



## SNOW Way!

We truly hope our Members enjoy your time away from School and here are some discount opportunities to help make the Season even COOLER.



Visit [www.wearecnta.org](http://www.wearecnta.org) & Select Services>Entertainment



Click on the Icons/Links to Access Discounts



Tickets at Work Provides Access to Theme Park, Ski Resorts, Movie Tickets, Hotel & Travel Discounts (Must access through CNTA Website)  
Use Promo Code: **welcome10off**  
For an additional 10% off when you make a \$100 purchase

