



**In this Issue:** Class Size Language in Review, Catastrophic Sick Leave Bank, Upcoming Dates/Events, November School Board Races, Union Dues, Site Rep Training, COPE Ballot Results, SVFT History, Health Care Contacts and Focusing on a Leader

### IMPORTANT DATES

**9/16-9/27:** Nominating period for unfilled site rep positions, negotiating committee (advisory) and school site council delegates

**9/17:** Catastrophic Sick Leave Bank Open Enrollment & Re-enrollment period closes

**9/18:** MBPET Board Meeting commencing 4:30 PM at SHS PAC

**9/24:** SUHSD Board of Trustees (7:00 PM Open Session)

**9/25:** SVFT Executive Board Meeting (4:10 PM)

**10/8:** SUHSD Board of Trustees (7:00 PM Open Session)

**10/16:** SVFT Executive Board Meeting (4:10 PM)

**10/17:** SVFT Special Elections Day

### CATASTROPHIC SICK LEAVE BANK DAYS:

The bank's survival is dependent on both new membership to replace retirees and continued membership when the bank is low. If you are a current member or an eligible prospective member, please donate a day via the form from Human Resources by 9/17/13.

### HEALTHCARE CONTACTS:

**M.B.P.E.T. Executive Director:**  
Bill Casper (831) 757 - 2385 - office  
(916) 712 - 1787 - cell

**M.B.P.E.T. Trustee:**  
Steve McDougall [president@svft.net](mailto:president@svft.net)  
(831) 442 - 8234 - office  
(831) 214 - 6449 - cell

**M.B.P.E.T. Trustee:**  
Kati Bassler  
[katharine.bassler@salinasuhdsd.org](mailto:katharine.bassler@salinasuhdsd.org)  
(831) 442 - 8234 - office

**S.V.F.T. Health Care Resource Contacts:**  
Kyle Samuels  
[kyle.samuels@salinasuhdsd.org](mailto:kyle.samuels@salinasuhdsd.org)  
Pat Egan  
[patrick.egan@salinasuhdsd.org](mailto:patrick.egan@salinasuhdsd.org)  
(831) 796 - 7636 - classroom  
(831) 214 - 6194 - cell

### CLASS SIZE LANGUAGE:

Our most recent Contract agreement includes language requiring the district to honor daily class size averages. To date, all fall semester class size overages have been addressed. Thanks to all of the members that came out in force this spring to send a message to both the administration and the Board of Trustees that class size matters.

### NOVEMBER SUHSD BOARD OF TRUSTEES RACES:

The Federation has endorsed and is lending its full support to Phillip Tabera (Area 3), Evamarie Martinez (Area 5) and Lila Cann (Area 7) for reelection on November 5<sup>th</sup>. Jim Reavis (Area 1) is unopposed. If SVFT's fall campaign political director, Phil Moore, contacts you for help, it is because the help is needed. Please lend a hand when asked. Thank you.

### FOCUSING on a FEDERATION LEADER:



**Samantha Benish**

**Raised in:** American Samoa  
**College:** USF BA, MA

**Worksite:** WMS

**Positions:** Social Studies, AVID, Instructional Coach and ELD

**SVFT Member Since:** 2007

**Union Leadership:** Vice President for Middle Schools (second term)

Unity is ONLY for the members of the Salinas Valley Federation of Teachers AFT Local # 1020 and is edited by the Local's Executive Committee  
Questions? Contact Steve McDougall at (831) 442-8234

### SITE REP TRAINING...

was conducted on August 29<sup>th</sup> with 20 members of the Executive Board. Topics such as setting agendas for and conducting effective site union meetings, representation rights during disciplinary meetings and processing grievances were explored.

### GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING on 23 AUGUST:

Just over 100 members, not counting guests and significant others attended our annual Welcome Back meeting and social. The 2013-2014 SVFT Budget was passed and having a good time was the order of the day. SUHSD Board of Trustees Cann, Martinez, Ramirez, Reavis, and Tabera, all made appearances at Spreckels Veterans Memorial Hall.

### UNION DUES INCREASED:

FYI: Our national affiliate (AFT) increased its dues by \$0.82, and the local Federation (SVFT) increased its dues by \$1.00 for 2013-2014. Combined, that is an increase of \$1.82 per month over 10 months.

**SVFT HISTORY:** Did you know that collective bargaining did not become law in California until 1977, but the Federation has been in existence since 1948?

### SEPTEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup> COPE BALLOT ELECTION RESULTS:

Yes votes = 83.9%

No votes = 12.9%

Invalid ballots = 3.2%

Measure passed.