Let’s Stand Together!

Welcome back and Happy New Year! I hope that everyone’s winter break was filled with joy, family, and that you are coming back refreshed! 2018 is shaping up to be a year of very important events for our union and campus community. Not only are we preparing to stand strong for the impact of the Supreme Court ruling in the case of Janus vs AFSCME, but we also have many local events that affect us and our community such as two seats in our Palomar College Board of Governors.

You might have seen the viral video of the Louisiana teacher, Deyshia Hargrave, who was arrested for questioning Administrator salary raises while Instructional budgets are slashed during a board meeting this last Monday. When I saw this video, I felt outraged, but the first thing I thought was, why is this teacher standing alone? Where is her Union? Then, it hit me; Louisiana is a “right-to-work” state, fair-share does not exist, the collective voice of the people is weak (or non-existent it seems). This is the time, sisters and brothers, to start mobilizing, connecting and engaging so that we are not caught flat-footed.

What does this mean? Attend your Union events, wear your Union shirts (we are working on new ones), and participate in shared governance! Your E-Council and Stewards understand the complexities of getting involved and juggling family life, friends, long commutes, and all of the other great stuff that happens after work; and yet, they choose to make our union one of those priorities. We invite you to do the same! We look forward to your participation and count on you to keep us strong!

-Anel Gonzalez

Classified Staff General meeting:

In case you have not seen the general email that went out January 10th:

General Classified Staff meeting, January 25, 2018, 6:45pm in MD-157. Please RSVP for food and on the PD website if you would like PD credit.

Get involved—CFT Convention “Fight for your Rights”

CFT Convention is March 23-25th we are looking for delegates to represent our Local 4522. The Convention will be held at the Orange County Hilton in Costa Mesa. Child care is provided by CFT. Please contact Amber Cross at: amber@palomarcceaft.org

Tips from your Grievance Officers:

- When reporting a Grievance:
  a. List what the basic problem is
  b. What violations have occurred?
  c. How can this problem be remedied?
  d. Use the Grievance Investigation Form found on the CCE/AFT website for initiating the first step in the Grievance process.

Our own Palomar College Electrician gets State-wide recognition!

Over the winter break, California Federation of Teacher’s December newsletter hit the homes of CFT members statewide. It was wonderful to see our very own, Rick Beach, featured for our state-wide, award-winning retrofit! If you missed it, follow this link:

Save the Date, Stay Informed & Participate

**Membership Update**

81% of our members completed the new statewide membership form between October and December!

Our Local also has 14 new members since October!

It is not too late to complete and turn in a new form.

Send them in via campus mail!

82.2% of all Classified employees at Palomar College are CCE/AFT Local 4522 Members

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**Executive Council**

Anel Gonzalez, President
Carmelino Cruz, Sr. Vice President
Buddy Springer, Vice President
Patti Serafin, Secretary
Amber Cross, Treasurer
Yvette Maynard, Grievance Officer
Kate Parshalle, Grievance Officer
David Vasquez, Technology Officer
Michelle Tucker, Communications/Membership Officer

**Stewards**

Leann Pell
Luis Alfaro
Rosalinda Tovar
Teresa Quainoo
Gordana High

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**Save the Date, Stay Informed & Participate**

**Classified Staff Development Fridays:**

♦ January 19th—Various workshops through PD

**Equal Employment Opportunity Hiring Committee Training:**

♦ January 22 & 23

Sign up for the above events on the PD Portal: www2.palomar.edu/pages/pd/

**Classified representatives please complete Committee/Council Meeting forms each month.**

♦ A link to the form is on the CCE/AFT website on the “Get Involved” tab.

**CCE/AFT Local 4522 Scholarships are coming!**

♦ An email with more details will go out soon

♦ HS Senior Applications will be available January 26th with a Feb 23rd Deadline

**Comet Information Exchange**

- [http://www2.palomar.edu/pages/cie/](http://www2.palomar.edu/pages/cie/)

- Read about what is happening in Council Planning, Meetings, and e-mail questions

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Want to see more pictures or have questions—go to our website: www.palomarcceaft.org

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“We must guard against being fooled by false slogans, such as ‘Right to Work’. It is a law to rob us of our civil rights and job rights. It’s purpose is to destroy labor unions and the freedom of collective bargaining”

-Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.