As we prepare for yet another ending of a school year, for me, it is the end of my 25th year in BUSD and the end of my 38th year as a teacher, I want to remind you to make sure you are taking care of you.

May is Mental Health Awareness month. Too many times we put ourselves last and then we wonder why we are limping toward the finish line. As we near the end, take some time to reflect on your successes. As a union, we have a lot to celebrate. We continue to grow in our unity and strength.

Recently there was an election held for new officers and we now have a full slate on the Executive Board. Thank you for participating in the election and for putting your trust in me to serve you for another two years.

There are a few things to bring to your attention. First, we are still in negotiations and are hoping to have a counter to our wage proposal after May 10 when the Governor comes out with his revised budget. Due to the ever-changing tax receipts, we won’t know what monies will be added, if any, to his budget. Please be aware of reports from our Negotiating team in The News from the Table. Our entire contract will be up this year so now is the time for you to give us feedback. A survey should be coming out soon, but you can always email us at office@burbankteachers.org

BTA Business Buddy has been a successful campaign to bring community awareness of why we have quality schools. It starts with having quality educators who we want to retain and recruit. We are going to print a list of all the businesses in Burbank that have our sign in the window stating they support us. Please make it a point to frequent these places now and in the summer and when you do, please thank them for their support. We will try to highlight a few over the summer especially if they are offering discounts. If you have a favorite business that you go to and want to ask them about putting a sign in the window, just contact the office and we can get you a sign or you can leave us the contact information and we can deliver the sign.

Our retiree event is on May 15th. Please consider attending if one of your colleagues is retiring. New teachers should be encouraged to attend so they can see the importance of supporting each other in all years of our teaching career.

Mark June 8th on your calendar for our Community Read-In event. It will be on the terrace at the Burbank mall. This event will be for TK to 5th grade. The Burbank mall is graciously offering to host this event for BTA. This is what community looks like, so I
UniServ Director’s Message by Nate Banditelli

You may have noticed a flyer with the headline “Burbank, Our Schools Need You” in your inbox, around your school, or even on your doorstep. The flyer is a call to action. BUSD Superintendent Matt Hill in an effort to educate the Burbank community about the District’s budget shortfall kicked off the event at Burbank High School. Copy Central, a local print shop, donated 25,000 copies of the flyer. BTA, CSEA, and PTA members joined students, members of the Board of Education, and administrators on Saturday, April 27th when we all met at BHS for a rally and handed out flyers in Burbank neighborhoods. We hope that the flyer will dispel misconceptions and build support for a local funding source.

Why Does BUSD Need a Local Funding Source?
When Measure QS narrowly failed to gain the 66.7% approval necessary for passage in November, 2018, the District was forced to make cuts and BTA members lost out on an additional 3% salary schedule increase above the 2% that we negotiated for 2017/2018. The Burbank Education Foundation raised money to save the three elementary music teachers who were facing a RIF, but the money is a short-term fix. Other cuts will probably occur. With the District making cuts, negotiating a salary schedule increase is difficult and the best that we can hope for is a modest increase. Any salary schedule increase may lead to more cuts down the road.

While Burbank has class sizes that are smaller than many districts and great educational programs, state funding does not cover the cost of running the District. Burbank teachers are among the lowest-paid in Los Angeles County, our salary increases are not keeping up with increases in other districts, and our health benefits costs continue to increase. Without a local funding source, the problem will continue to get worse and we, along with the Burbank community, will have to choose between dismantling our first-class educational programs in order to pay teachers a competitive salary or continuing to fall behind other districts’ ability to hire and retain quality educators. BUSD is in danger of becoming a teacher’s second or third option when they do not get hired in a neighboring district.

What's Next?
The Burbank community believes in funding our schools, but opinions differ on several important points: should the parcel tax have a sunset date? Should it be assessed per square foot or per parcel? Should it be placed on the general election ballot, primary election ballot, or a special ballot? We hope that these questions will be resolved soon and that a citizens’ campaign committee will develop a message for the community so that we can begin to campaign for a local funding source. The process may begin over the summer. It may begin after the school year starts. Either way, though, the future of BUSD depends on voters’ support for a local funding source. We ask you to educate yourself on the District’s budget problems. Spread the word about the need for a local funding source. Volunteer during the campaign. Our future depends on it.
President’s article continued:

want to encourage you to attend and then support our retailers and food court in the mall. A flyer will be given to all elementary sites to hand out to the students before the end of the year.

Last but not least is the Awareness Campaign that kicked off April 27th. BUSD, BTA, and CSEA are working together to put another Parcel Tax on the ballot. This is a must because we cannot maintain the excellent staffs and programs without an ongoing source of revenue. Without this, cuts will occur, and salary raises will be zero. This is the reality of being in a district that does not get extra funding, nor do we have a multi-million-dollar educational foundation that contributes dollar per dollar for every student. I know there are questions to answer regarding the type of tax and regarding the amount needed to keep quality programs and educators. More will be coming, and, in the summer, we will send updates. Please make sure we have accurate emails for you. Take this seriously as if your job depends on it because it does. Remember, we all need to work together to ensure that our students are getting the best public education they can get. The power of one is the impetus for social change, but the power in number is what ensures success.

I am advising all of you to leave a pleasant “Away message” on your email at school. Do not access work! If your principal or school or the District needs to contact you, they can do it through your personal email at a time when you can access it at your leisure. You do not get paid over the summer and it does no one any good to be volunteering to come in and “help.”

Have a peaceful ending of the school year and a restful summer!

In unity,

Diana

Want to take a vacation but stuck in Burbank all summer?

Take a trip to Italy...All without leaving the city limits!

BTA’s Business Buddy Program is featuring five Italian themed restaurants for Summer 2019!

Please continue to support our small business partners by visiting any of these five businesses on June 2nd, July 2nd, and August 2nd.

Thank them for supporting local public education.

Monte Carlo Deli / Pinocchio’s
3101 W. Magnolia Blvd.

Martino’s Bakery
335 N. Victory Blvd.

Bella Vista Italian
3116 W. Magnolia Blvd.

San Marco Coffee
401A N. Glenoaks Blvd.

Dino’s Pizza
3520 W. Burbank Blvd.
The BTA negotiating team comprised of BTA’s Executive Director, Nathan Banditelli, Sue Conway (Luther), Heidi Lavitt (Stevenson), Laura Mixon (McKinley), Brenda Kosbab (BHS), and Les Cohen (JBHS) met with the BUSD team, comprised of Sarah Niemann (Human Resources Director), John Paramo (Director of Secondary Ed.), April Evans (Assistant Principal Jordan), Laura Flossi (Principal Edison), and Sandra De Barros (Principal Jefferson)

**Hot Topics**
- Care Centers
  - Concerns about the cost of the Care Centers at the high schools were discussed.
  - The cost of the care centers is about $140,000.
- Report Card Committee
  - Discussed preserving time during the preschool week for the committee to meet. John Paramo will look at the schedule.
  - If possible, the committee will meet in the first week of school.

**Budget**
- There was no budget update. We are waiting for the revision of the governor’s budget in May to resume discussions.

**MOUs**
- BTA and the district agreed to the following Memorandums of Understanding:
  - BTA President Release Time for 2019 – 2020
  - The 3 middle schools will extend 0 period for Spanish through 2021.
  - The stipend for 4 department chairs at Burbank Adult School will extend through 2020.
  - The Early Release Schedule for JBHS will extend through 2020.

**Article 7: Wages**
- No proposals were made.

**Article 9: Hours of Employment**
- BTA and the district tentatively agreed to the following:
  - 9.3.3.1 and 9.3.4.1: Independent planning days can be added to the early release days for secondary if there is mutual agreement between site administrators and faculty and department chairs.
  - 9.11.3: Language was removed regarding professional assignments outside of the regular school day.
  - Language for required meetings was changed to be consistent with 9.11.5:
    - Meetings shall be no longer than 90 minutes and/or end no later than 4:30 pm.
  - 9.11.5: Language was added to make it a priority to hold certain meetings during the instructional day.
  - BTA withdrew its Article 9 proposal that would have granted 1 hour of additional pay per week to SPED teachers as compensation for IEP paperwork. The cost of the proposal was equivalent to a 0.25% raise for all District employees. If a future parcel tax passes, BTA will bring this item back to the table.

**Article 35: Term of Agreement**
- BTA and the district tentatively agreed to the following:
  - Article 34 and 35 language was changed to facilitate a smoother negotiations process.

**Health Benefits Committee**
- BTA and the district discussed the structure of the committee and future training for the committee.

Next bargaining session is May 15th at the District office
Red for Ed: Raising Our Voices, Protecting Public Schools

Wear Red. Grab your neighbor during a break. Take a selfie. Share on Social Media. Tag #RedForEd #WeAreCTA #WeAreBTA

- Show solidarity with the thousands of teachers from across California who will converge on Sacramento to rally and lobby for fair education funding on May 22\textsuperscript{nd}.

**Fighting for Our Students**

- CTA members are seeking increases in education funding. California ranks 44\textsuperscript{th} in the nation in the amount of money it spends per student. This lack of investment makes no sense considering California is the 5\textsuperscript{th} largest economy in the world. Recent studies show California students and schools need an additional $30 billion to help all students succeed. For years, education funding has taken a hit and missed out on billions, thanks in part to corporate loopholes, tax inequality, and an outdated tax structure. We have to address these inequities and fast.

**Protect and Fund Our Schools**

- The Schools and Communities First initiative would eliminate an unfair corporate property tax loophole and raise $11 billion annually for schools, community colleges and vital community services. The measure, which has qualified for the November 2020 ballot, would close a loophole in Proposition 13 that has allowed corporations to keep their property taxes artificially low. The measure maintains property tax protections for homeowners, small business owners and agricultural land.
- CTA members are supporting AB 1505, AB 1506, and AB 1507. These bills will rein in unregulated charter schools.

https://californiaeducator.org/redfored/
WHO, We Honor Ours, is an award that recognizes the inspiring work of a member in a leadership role. The Bay Valley Service Center Council takes the opportunity to thank the recipients publicly at an awards dinner. This year, David Goldberg, newly elected CTA Vice-President, was the guest speaker. He has come to Burbank and spoken to our new teachers as well as marched with us to City Hall. On April 29, I had the pleasure of attending this event in recognition of Burbank High’s High School Director Tony Franco, BTA’s 2019 nominee.

When a teacher goes from being a member to be a member advocate, it is a win for our Association and Tony Franco is the reason why we have this victory. Tony has been a union member for 19 years. He teaches Calculus at Burbank High School and is also our High School Director. Two years ago, BTA went to Tony and he rose to the ask and became actively involved in the union. He himself said that he was tired of sitting on the sidelines and wanted to be a part of the solution. Tony hit the ground running by doing one-on-ones on a campus of over 100 members. He got our members to participate in rallies and to attend other union activities. He became an integral member of BTA’s Organizing Committee where he has put member surveys together and created data banks. Tony represents a new wave in leadership.

Delta Kappa Gamma grant recipients

Two BUSD teachers recently each received a $500 grant for school projects presented by Burbank’s Beta Epsilon chapter of the National Education Sorority, Delta Kappa Gamma.

Hilde Garcia, of Walt Disney, received the grant to help with her school-wide Hands On STEAM Night. Eighteen stations are set up so that students and their families can experiment with science and engineering using household objects. Hilde brought the idea back from a conference and hopes to add more experiments each year.

Darlene Crain of Bret Harte will use her grant for Palissy Plates, an art project for second graders which integrates what they saw at the Getty Museum with clay creations based on the art of Bernard Palissy. Their artwork is then exhibited at their own Open House gallery.

One of Delta Kappa Gamma’s missions is to support teachers in the classroom. The grants are awarded annually, and notification goes to Burbank Schools in the fall on how to apply.
REVITALIZED RETAIL + A NEW DOWNTOWN NEIGHBORHOOD

New Neighborhood-Serving Retail and Restaurants

A Variety of Residential Living Options

A Walkable Neighborhood With Accessible Transit Connections

VISIT US AT OUR NEW UPDATED WEBSITE:

iheartBurbank.com
BTA Business Buddies

These local businesses show their support for public education and acknowledge the important role that educators play in our community by displaying a “Quality Schools Start with Quality Educators” sign. When you’re shopping locally, please patronize these businesses. Even if you don’t need to buy something, if you see one of our signs, consider just stopping in and saying “Thank you for supporting quality education in Burbank!”

Food and Drink
Apollo
Bea Bea’s
Bella Vista
BurgerIM
Chili John’s
Dino’s
Emon Japanese
Larry’s Chili Dog
Lotus & Light
Martino’s Bakery
MexCocina Café
Pinocchio – Monte Carlo Deli
Ribs USA
Rocky’s Bar & Grill
Romancing the Bean Café
San Marco Coffee
Starz Liquor
Store2Door
Ugly Mug Coffeehouse

Home Improvement
Burbank Unpainted Furniture
Jon’s Window and Awning Inc.
Savon Appliances
The Floor Center
Thrifty Appliance Repair

Musical Instruments
Imperial Vintage Guitars
LA Vintage Guitars

Comics
Emerald Knights Comics & Games
House of Secrets Comics & Toys

Pet Grooming
Doggie Avenue
Hollywood

Health & Beauty & Fitness
Big O Barber Shop
Crowning Glory Hair Studio
Dream Beauty Supply & Spa
Fitness is Art Fitness Studio
Frenchy’s Beauty Parlor
Hair Town
Joseph Lamar Salon
MK Beauty Salon
Oasis Nail Spa
Oscar’s Barber Shop
Shocky’s Barber Shop
The Crooked Path
The Hair Place
US Hair Cutters & Beauty Supply

Professional Services
Barry Burnett Realty
Beau Stocking Optometry
Burbank Association of Realtors
C Davidson Tax
Dr. Geeksters
SecuriTax Financial Inc
Spectra Cine
The Camera Man
Town Center Realty Group
Z Bookkeeping
ZGS Law

Services
Ara Copy Plus
Printing
Cam Photo and Imaging
DeVaze Flower Shop
Gilbert’s Cleaners
Glenoaks Cleaners
Thrift-D-Lux Cleaners and Alteration
Yes Signs and Banners

Specialty Stores
Cathy’s Candles & Creations
Fleet Feet
Junk for Joy
Luxmary Handbags
Mindfulness
Things Unique

Miscellaneous
Alfonso of Hollywood Leather Co.
Burbank Antiques
Guns Direct
Ham Radio Outlet
St Anne’s Thrift Shop

Visit www.burbankteachers.org to find more information about these Business Buddies.
LUXURY APARTMENTS AT
TALARIA
BURBANK
BY
CUSUMANO
REAL ESTATE GROUP

BURBANK’S MOST EXCITING NEW RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY
(+ WHOLE FOODS MARKET!)

MAKE BURBANK YOUR HOME!
www.TALARIA BURBANK.COM
I AM BTA - BRET HARTE

Who shared a relaxing meal and conversation with their fellow teachers right before OPEN HOUSE?!? Bret Harte did!

Thanks to the I AM BTA grant. The Reps provided some pizza, sweets and sodas for our members to enjoy so they would not have to rush home to grab something to eat in order to return in time to find adequate parking. Teachers had time to relax a bit and connect in a friendly and peaceful atmosphere.

It was also a great opportunity to disseminate information about BTA issues and upcoming events.

There was a raffle at the end of the evening. Three lucky winners each got a $10 gift card.

Thank you so much BTA for this opportunity. It was a nice way to kick off Open House.

California Day of the Teacher May 8, 2019

California’s Day of the Teacher has its roots in the community and is patterned after the celebration of the traditional “El Dia del Maestro,” which is observed in Mexico and Latin America countries. Our California’s Day of the Teacher arose out of legislation co-sponsored by CTA and the Association of Mexican American Educators in 1982.

It is on this day and every day that the Burbank Teachers Association thanks you, the members, for your service and dedication. You make all the difference in Burbank.

We hope you enjoyed the sweet treats that were put in your work rooms. They were made fresh for the day by Snookies Cookies of Glendale.

Snookies Cookies was very glad to be able to help BTA acknowledge the quality educators that work in Burbank.

Relay For Life Event

May 18-19, 2019

Our goal is to raise $4,000.

Sign up to join BTA’s team or make a donation.

• Go to: www.relayforlife.org

• In the middle of the page go to:

Search - Click on Team

• Type: Burbank Teachers Association

• Select Burbank Teachers Association

• You can either chose to Join Our Team, Donate or Dedicate a Luminaria

Donations are accepted after the event.
WHY I TEACH....

Anthony Franco

The answer to why I teach has evolved over time, which I guess is just a product of me growing up and turning into an adult. Initially my reason for teaching was simple, I was unemployed, and needed a job! I graduated from college with a degree in engineering, but at the time, (due to the economy and possibly my 2.7 GPA), nobody wanted to hire me. Luckily for me, there was a teacher shortage at the time and a college friend of mine suggested that I give the profession a try. A year and half later, and almost done with my credential, I got hired to teach math in Pasadena at Blair High School.

I could tell you that the first year went great, but you all know that would be a lie. It was awful. I knew how to work hard and how to prepare, but had no idea how to work with kids. I persevered, devoted more time to the craft, and coached basketball... a lot! The coaching rounded me out as an educator and really let me work on my ability to motivate kids to give their best. At the end of year five it was time to try a new school and I ended up at Burbank High School. The transition was not as smooth as it could have been due to a different demographic of student, but I adjusted and fourteen years later here I am.

If you ask me today why I teach the answer is even simpler: I am good at it. That may sound arrogant to some, but the reality is that I worked hard in those early years to make the current years more effortless and for the most part easier. The truth is that having done most of my unit planning and test making in years past allows me to work on the subtler parts of the craft like keeping students motivated, injecting humor into Calculus, and developing individual relationships with most of my students. Ultimately, it is those relationships that keep me motivated and help me show up to work each day with smile.

BTA STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

By Diana Abasta

On Wednesday, May 1, I attended the Senior Award at Burbank High School. This event always brings what we do full circle because it is an opportunity to see the culmination of all of our efforts. Our young people worked hard to get to this point, and some have achieved above and beyond mastery of coursework. They have contributed to their school and community.

BTA awards four $500 scholarships to high school seniors who are interested in the field of education. Students submit a one-page essay that tells of their plans and why they are interested in going into education. A committee of teachers usually read the essays and select the best one. We award one student at JBHS, Monterey, Adult School, and BHS.

This year’s winner of the $500 BTA Award at Burbank High School went to Ennie Marie Ilasco. She has indicated that it is her plan to become an elementary teacher. She wrote, “Being a positive influence in children’s lives is my goal. Helping to change my community is my dream.” We congratulate Ennie Marie and wish her the best and hope she will return to us as a credentialed elementary teacher.
A Memorable Night!
by Mark Norberg

On the evening of Wednesday April 17th, The Burbank Council PTA hosted a lavish reception to honor those teachers, administrators, and parents who have gone the extra mile to make the PTSA the outstanding organization that it is. Held at the luxurious De Luxe Banquet Hall, the evening began with cocktails and socializing, after which it was time to sit down and eat -- and it seemed as though our hosts had spared no expense. The food was exceptional and seemingly never-ending. After several rounds of appetizers, guests were treated to main entrees of fish, chicken, pork and beef – all prepared with gourmet flair.

The ceremony was a heartfelt affair of testimonials and accolades for the numerous honorees. Afterwards, the guests let down their hair a bit for some spirited dancing along with more mixing and mingling. I was proud to represent BTA and conveyed to the PTA members how much each and every one of our members are deeply appreciative of the incredible work that they do. We are incredibly fortunate to have the Burbank Council PTA as a partner in our job of educating the next generation.

Retiring This Year?
Join the Autry’s Docent Class of 2019

Make new friends and expand your understanding of the American West! Autry docents provide guided tours of permanent galleries and special exhibitions to diverse audiences while gaining intimate knowledge of the museum and its collections.

TRAINING PROGRAM
Classes meet from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. on select Tuesdays and Thursdays, August 1 through September 16 (dates to be confirmed). Graduation will be on September 16. Participants in the training are required to tour one day per week for a minimum of one year after graduation, and attendance at every class is critical to successfully completing the class.

$50 program fee includes reading materials. Apply early, as class size is limited.

Contact Susan DiCato at 323.495.4237 or sdicato@theautry.org for more information.

The Autry Museum of the American West
CONGRATULATIONS

We honor our colleagues who are retiring and those who have served in Burbank Unified School District for 25 years.

Retiree
Irene Boelke
Fernando Camacho
Les Cohen
Sandra De Surra
Kevin Duffy
Bradley Frank
Janet Harlan
Nunush Haroian (after 2017-18 recognition)
Gregory Izay
Glen Jaffe
Lynn McClellan
Rosemary Mitchell
Teresa Scheerer
Mary Schindler
Judy Shalhoub
Linda Walmsley (after 2017-18 recognition)

25 Years
Diana Abasta
Dawn Barnes
Christopher Bickelmann
Nicole Diamond
Traci Fellman
Margaret Hess-Witucki
Agnes Hoover
Patricia Ivankovic
James Koontz
Michelle Mac Neill
Rachelle Shipstad
Roseann Webb

Wednesday, May 15th at 3:30 pm
Pickwick Gardens
Magnolia Terrace Room
1001 West Riverside Drive
Burbank, CA
March State Council Report  by Alexis Weiner

The March CTA State Council (March 29-31, 2019) was jam-packed. It was election season, and the race for the next CTA Executive Board was heating up. Every seat—president, vice president, and secretary-treasurer—was contested by long-standing, qualified Association leaders. After a long morning of speeches and a run-off election, representatives voted in the executive board for a two-year term. The CTA president-elect is Toby Boyd, a current CTA board member from Sacramento County; vice president-elect is David Goldberg, the current CTA secretary-treasurer; and secretary-treasurer-elect is Leslie Littman, also a CTA board member who represents Burbank and surrounding areas.

There were a number of non-election speeches as well, as the California teachers of the year and Educational Support Professional of the Year were honored. The body recognized the hard work and success of the Oakland Education Association strike and heard from OEA’s president Keith Brown and members of the OEA bargaining team. #RedForEd isn’t over after the UTLA and OEA strikes; Sacramento City Teachers Association voted to authorize a strike, and other locations around the state are in similar situations. Don’t put away that red yet! May 22 is a CTA day of action in Sacramento, so get that red back out for this particular day and every Friday. Find out more at cta.org/RedForEd.

March is also heavy with state legislation, as various committees discuss and decide on CTA’s positions on certain California senate and assembly bills. State council representatives voted on positions on over three hundred bills, some with much public debate and rationale. A few particular bills to take note of: AB 1505, 1506, and 1507 close loopholes that prevent charter schools from the unregulated growth that they have enjoyed for decades. Also, keep your eyes open for the Schools and Communities First initiative, which has qualified for the November 2020 ballot. This would close a loophole in Proposition 13 and raise $11 billion annually for schools, community colleges, and community services. This measure will NOT change property tax laws for homeowners, small business owners, and agricultural land. Find out more about some of these bills at the #RedForEd site listed above.

You can continue to be a member of CTA, even after you retire! Until June 22, 2019, pay a one-time fee of $450 for lifetime membership; after this date, the price goes up to $550! If you plan to sub or work at schools after retirement, you can keep your liability insurance and some other benefits with continued membership. Find information at www.cta.org/About-CTA/Who-We-Are/CTA-NEA-Retired.aspx.

Members who have worked with multiple employers over their careers may want to request a CalSTRS Service Credit Breakdown to verify the accuracy of their Annual Progress Report. Members can call (800) 228-5453 to make this request.

The Teacher Evaluation and Academic Freedom committee is collecting member experiences and questions about academic freedom in your classrooms. Have a story to tell or a concern to voice? Share them with the TEAF committee so it can continue to develop CTA policy and create resources for members. Share at https://bit.ly/2WkGErE.

Advocacy is not just for our profession; it is for our students and their families and communities. Find resources for social justice in education at https://neaedjustice.org, and download the Racial Justice in Education Resource Guide on the page.

To follow the action at the next State Council, which will be at the Bonaventure Hotel in DTLA on June 1 and 2, follow #CTAStateCouncil on social media. Or better yet, since school is out, come visit! Any CTA member may come and observe the workings of this democratically-elected body. Just let us know if you’ll be there!
**Support Students and Local Accountability for Charter Schools**

**AB 1505** (O'Donnell) ensures local communities control the authorization and renewal of charter schools and allows local school boards to consider the economic, facilities, and academic impacts of a charter school applicant on students in neighborhood public schools. Approving and renewing charter petitions should be made by the school communities in which the charter will be located. Studies show that in four California school districts alone, neighborhood public schools lost more than $650 million dollars that was shifted to charter schools.

**AB 1506** (McCarty) establishes a cap on the unregulated growth of charter schools in California and brings the state in line with the intent of the original charter school law, which was to authorize charters upon agreement of the local educators, parents and community. The unregulated growth of corporate charters has led to numerous examples of waste, fraud and abuse that have negatively impacted students over the last two decades.

**AB 1507** (Smith) closes a loophole that allows a charter school to operate in a district where it has not been authorized. This practice undermines the ability of a local school board to determine the educational needs of its community.

**SB 756** (Durazo) establishes a charter school moratorium of five years on new charters which will provide time to make much-needed adjustments to ensure all students, regardless of zip code, receive the tools, resources and overall quality education they need and deserve.

Contact your lawmaker and tell them to support these important bills to protect our students and our public schools.

www.KidsNotProfits.com

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**DATES TO REMEMBER**

May 15 - Retiree Event 3:30 Pickwick Gardens  
May 15 - Negotiations - District office  
May 15 - LCAP Town Hall District office  
May 16 - BOE Meeting City Hall 7:00 p.m.  
May 18-19 Relay for Life Robert Gross Park  
9:00am - 9:00am  
May 24 - Last Day for Teachers  
May 27 - BTA office closed Memorial Day  
May 28 - EBoard Retreat 9am - 4pm  
May 31 - Jun 2 CADEM Convention

June 8 - Community Read-In 11am Mall Terrace  
July 3 - July 7 NEA RA Houston, TX  
Aug 2 - New Teacher Orientation  
Aug 8 - Back to School 2019-2020  
Aug 12 - Classes Begin

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**2019-2020 BTA Board of Directors**

**PRESIDENT:** Diana Abasta - BHS  
**VICE PRESIDENT:** Nicole Drabecki - Jefferson  
**SECRETARY:** Dahlia Dobbertin - Bret Harte  
**TREASURER:** Jerry Mullady - JBHS  
**HIGH SCHOOL DIRECTORS:**  
Tony Franco - BHS  
Jessica Mayes - JBHS  
**MIDDLE SCHOOL DIRECTOR:** Jessica Wertlieb - Muir MS  
**ELEMENTARY DIRECTORS:**  
Samantha Robman - Emerson  
Theresa Landin White - Washington  
**AT-LARGE DIRECTOR:** Michelle Dixon - JBHS  
**STATE COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES:**  
Alexis Weiner - JBHS  
Darlene Crain - Bret Harte  
**STATE COUNCIL ALTERNATE:**  
Bridget Highfill - Disney

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**Days of Remembrance**  
**By Diana Abasta**

I attended The Burbank Human Relations Council commemoration of the Holocaust during World War II titled “Who Will Speak for Us — A Story of Perseverance” at 7:15 p.m. on May 7 at the American Lutheran Church in Burbank.

This event was co-sponsored by 15 Burbank churches, synagogues, and mosques. Rev. Ryan Chaddick emceed the program that featured keynote speaker Joseph Alexander, who survived 12 concentration camps. He spoke about his experiences and how managed to survive Auschwitz, Dachau, the Warsaw Ghetto and escape the so-called “Doctor of Death,” Josef Mengele.

The attendees then lit candles as a call to action. Martin Niemoller’s cautionary poem was recited.

“First, they came for the socialists, and I did not speak out - Because I was not a socialist. Then they came for the trade unionists, and I did not speak out - Because I was not a trade unionist. Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out - Because I was not a Jew. Then they came for me and there was no one left to speak for me.”

Afterwards all gathered for refreshments and to simply enjoy each other’s company. It was nice to see unity in the community.
The school year is winding down, but BTA members wound up their bowling arms at Pickwick on Friday, April 26th, for a fun Friday evening Happy Hour event. Delicious appetizers, funky bowling shoes, and slick bowling lanes were paid for by BTA, and members participated with smiles on their faces. High fives and supportive cheers were heard as BTA members strutted their best bowling moves down the lanes hoping for those spares and strikes. No matter the score, it was a pleasant evening of camaraderie out of our classrooms. Thank you to the BTA Social Committee for planning and organizing a fun event, as well as supporting a local business! Looking down the lane to the last few days of school...