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The Peralta Community College District Board of Trustees meets tonight at seven in the boardroom at 333 E. Eighth St. PFT will sunshine a pair of contract articles for the just-begun round of negotiations—Article 21, to address part-time faculty overloads, and Article 11, to take up evaluation improvements—and the district will hold a public hearing on its intent to lay off a classified project manager at CoA.

Also on the agenda is an authorization request for the district to buy a $100K Kenworth truck, a quarter-million-dollar PeopleSoft update, and an additional $35K for Renne Sloan Holtzman Sakai LLP "for special, neutral fact finding reports and investigations for the Office of Human Resources." All the money would come from the general fund.

Elsewhere:

*PFT congratulates CoA counselor Mary Shaugnessy on her election to the union's Executive Council. Mary will join Maurice Jones in representing the island campus on PFT's chief decision-making body. PFT thanks all CoA faculty who cast their votes in the special election.

*PFT holds its first General Membership Meeting of the academic year Mon., Oct. 26, 12-1:30 p.m., in Room S 434 at Merritt College. Agenda items include a negotiations update, reports on the fall membership drive, and an open Q&A with members. Expect snacks, beverages, and engaging conversation.

*PFT is pleased to support 2015 Campus Equity Week (CEW), Oct. 26-30, five days of nationwide education and activism on behalf of part-time faculty. The crisis of contingent faculty at community colleges, four-year colleges, and universities affects all faculty and students in higher education. Look for updates from PFT next week.

*On Sat., Nov. 7, from 9 a.m.–2:30 p.m., the Faculty Association of California Community Colleges (FACCC) will hold its 2015 Part-time Faculty Symposium at Laney College. The event is a good opportunity for part-timers to meet other contingent faculty and strategize for the year ahead. PFT and Laney are co-sponsoring the event. For registration info, visit the FACCC website.

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