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e-Communique Vol. IX.vii

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Tue, Mar 27, 2018 at 12:34 PM

The Peralta Community College District Board of Trustees mounts the dais at [333 E. Eighth St.](#) this evening at 7 for its final regular meeting before spring break. After tonight's palaver, the BoT meets just three more times this school year.

Among the odder items is the evaluation of Chancellor Jewel C. Laguerre. What makes this one a head-scratcher: it's appeared on each of the last *six* agendas, dating back to last year. And while the streak means there's been no dearth of chances to get faculty input, none's been sought.

Also up again is the *PCCD Board of Trustees Handbook*, tonight for final perusal. Maddeningly, concerns PFT raised in its last e-Communique re the manual's antidemocratic prescriptions remain unaddressed. The union again advises all freethinking trustees to exercise editorial discretion.

And trustees will mull a \$50K contract with the Lew Edwards Group, political consultants the chancellor wants to lead a district effort to place a parcel tax/bond measure on either the June or November ballot. With the Citizens Oversight Committee questioning Peralta's handling of Measure B money, and no apparent support from faculty, staff, or students, the time's hardly ripe for a new appeal to East Bay taxpayers.

Other moves under consideration include a \$150K increase in the contract with Curls Bartling, P.C., the district's outsourced general counsel; \$52K from the "Special Revenue Fund" for bespoke EBMUD courses at Laney; and more than half a million dollars for consultants "to provide operational support for the PCCD Enterprise Services team."

Then there's this unsettling proviso, deep in inscrutable Item 11.4: "When funding is available, the administration will undertake Phase II Construction of the Code Blue Emergency Phones at Berkeley City College and College of Alameda" PFT reminds folks at BCC and CoA keep their cellphones charged.

In other news:

*The seniority provision of the Part-time Faculty Rehire Preference Pool is in effect for classes scheduled for fall 2018. Department chairs and college administrators are urged to familiarize themselves with Article 30.H.3 of the [current PFT contract](#).

*PFT's spring membership drive is at Merritt this week, as the union continues its push to sign up new folks and check in with vets. Meet with union reps, make sure your card's up to date, and grab an orange-and-blue sticker.

*PFT's Diversity Committee presents *Dancing Backwards in High Heels*, a dialog and reception in support of women faculty facing professional challenges, Wed., March 28, 4:30-6:30 p.m., in the Laney Faculty Lounge (T 450). The event is free and open to the public.

*Ballots in Laney's special election for a college PFT representative went out last week. Completed ballots must be received at the union offices by Tu., April 10.

*Join PFT for its first *Mayday for May Day* Conference, set for Fri., April 27, at Berkeley City College. Speakers will include elected public officials, union leaders, and community organizers,

coming together to discuss labor's response to *Janus*, the antiunion case the Supreme Court will decide in June.

In solidarity,

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