



PFT Staff <union@pft1603.org>

PFT e-Communique Vol. IX.i

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To: PFT Staff <union@pft1603.org>

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From: Jennifer Shanoski <jshanoski@peralta.edu>
Subject: PFT e-Communique Vol. IX.i
Date: September 12, 2017 at 4:00:49 PM PDT
To: Jennifer Shanoski <jshanoski@peralta.edu>

Welcome to 2017-18's first e-Communique, the twice-monthly email roundup of news and events from the Peralta Federation Teachers, the union that represents the district's 1000-plus teachers, counselors, librarians, and nurses, full- and part-time alike. Look for the e-Communique in your inbox on days that the Peralta Community College District Board of Trustees holds its regular meetings; a follow-up publication, the PCCD Board Watch, comes out a couple days later—keep your eyes peeled! PFT launched the academic year with a high-energy flex-day strategy session. More than 50 members turned out to set goals and discuss ways to increase union power in the days ahead. With major challenges coming down the pike—runaway administrative spending and too many interim administrative appointments at the district office, a Supreme Court case that poses an existential threat to unions, and a national political climate hostile to the rights of working people—PFT is in the midst of an action-packed fall.

And the action continues tonight at seven, as the Peralta Board of Trustees meets in the boardroom for the first time this school year. One controversial agenda item got scratched after Laney historian Blake Johnson sent an FAS email questioning a [district consultant's military ties](#), but there are other issues of interest to PFT specifically and faculty generally.

News and notes:

*PFT continues to mourn the passing of former president Ed Jaramillo, whose brave years-long battle with multiple myeloma ended last week. Ed had worked in the district since 1989, and his kindness, generosity, and fighting spirit will be dearly missed. Details for a memorial are being worked out by family, and PFT will keep members posted. Meanwhile, Ed's family has requested that donations be made in his honor to the Alameda County Community Food Bank and Habitat for Humanity.

*Laney faculty are urged to attend the first campus chapter meeting, Mon., Sept. 18, 12-2 p.m., in the Forum. Agenda items include discussion of the Oakland A's interest in developing a stadium near campus, an update on the Laney facilities crisis, and an overview of district spending. The meeting offers a good chance for Laney faculty to meet their union reps, Ann McMurdo (mmcmurdo@peralta.edu) and David Jones (djones@peralta.edu). RSVP to union@pft1603.org if you'd like lunch.

*All faculty should plan to attend the first General Membership Meeting (GMM) of the school year, Tu., Sept. 19, 12:15-1:15 p.m. in TLC-341 at Berkeley City College. (GMMs will be held at each of the four campuses over the course of the year.) On the agenda: recent votes of the PFT Executive Council, an update on Janus vs. AFSCME, PFT subcommittee opportunities, and continued goal-setting. RSVP for lunch atunion@pft1603.org.

*Members are welcome to attend the next meeting of the PFT Executive Council, Th., Sept. 21, 3-5 p.m., at the PFT offices, [500 E. Eighth St., Ste. B, Oakland](#) (cattycorner from district A&R). Jim Mahler, president of CFT's Community College Council, will be on hand to talk about issues facing faculty across the state. RSVP to union@pft1603.org. PFT's Committee on Political Education (COPE) meets an hour

before the Sept. 21 EC meeting at PFT HQ—COPE members should come meet new committee chair Jeff Sanceri (jsanceri@peralta.edu) and talk politics.

*Keep your eyes open for announcements re PFT Executive Council subcommittee meetings, including the Diversity Subcommittee's, this Th., Sept. 12 from 4:30-6 p.m. (contact Diversity Rep. Kimberly King atprofkimberly@yahoo.com for more information).

In solidarity,

Jennifer Shanoski, Ph.D.

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