



PFT Staff <union@pft1603.org>

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1 message

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To: Jennifer Shanoski <jshanoski@peralta.edu>

Tue, May 14, 2019 at 11:55 AM

The Peralta Community College District Board of Trustees meets tonight at seven in the boardroom at 333 E. Eighth St., trustees' last regular get-together before summer.

The board will entertain sending another \$32K to KONE, Inc., this time to fix a buggy BCC elevator that drew student complaints at the last BoT meeting. After a series of change orders, Peralta is now into KONE for over a half a million dollars — a necessary expense, sure, but a costly symbol of the district's failure to perform basic maintenance at the colleges, and coming even as trustees look at adding \$104K to the \$220 they approved April 15 for emergency electrical work at Laney.

Also under consideration: a contract worth \$80K, to come out of grant funds, with a San Francisco-based ad agency to promote BCC's Career Education programs, and another grant-funded deal, worth \$25K, with a producer to make a welcome video for Laney students. Promoting CE programs and welcoming students are laudable projects, but why not put the recently hired district PIO and our own PCTV staff on the jobs?

In a notable action item, trustees will push the district to get right with the Americans with Disabilities Act, a response to a 2016 lawsuit brought against Peralta. The board will weigh a **resolution** and move to launch an "ADA Compliance Strike Team." Interestingly, the action would remove related expenditures from public bidding requirements.

Now for some uplift: the board will consider granting leave to Berkeley City College librarian Heather Dodge, winner of a prestigious Fulbright award, to conduct research in Norway during the upcoming academic year. PFT salutes Librarian Dodge and reminds her that the Norwegian word for sweater is *genser*.

And if this is board night, one thing's certain: the chancellor's evaluation appears on the agenda.

In other news:

*The PFT Executive Council election, concluded May 8, saw faculty return Jennifer Shanoski to the union presidency for two more years. Joining her among the officer corps are Tae-Soon Park (VP), Rick Greenspan (Treasurer), and Jeff Sanceri (Secretary). Kimberly King and Matthew Silverberg were reelected Diversity Chair and CTE Representative, respectively, and Francis Howard and John Holmes were named the two Part-time Reps. Rounding out the EC: Campus Reps Scott Hoshida and Adele Ray (BCC), Mary Shaughnessy and Andrew Park (CoA); Ann McMurdo and Monique Dascha Inciarte (Laney); and Sheila Metcalf-Tobin and Kim Murphy (Merritt). PFT thanks the California Federation of Teachers for monitoring the ballot-counting.

*Don't miss PFT's last General Membership Meeting of the academic year, Th., May 16, 12-1:30 p.m., in the Merritt College Art Gallery (S Building). Discussion will include reports on the Contract Action Teams, the May 22 Day of Action, negotiations updates, the 2019-20 PFT budget, and the successor agreement vote. RSVP to union@pft1603.org if you'd like lunch.

*Join PFT and education activists from around California at the May 22 Statewide Day of Action in Sacramento. Rally to support funding for public education, to promote racial and social justice, and to halt the privatization of K-14 schools. Email union@pft1603.org to get on a union bus or carpool with local brothers and sisters.

In solidarity,

Jennifer Shanoski, President

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