

PFT 1603 <union@pft1603.org>

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1 message

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The Peralta Community College District Board of Trustees meets webinar-style again this evening at six. Public participation remains restricted to YouTube and email comments--send yours to bmartinez@peralta.edu by 12 p.m. today.

Trustees will likely name Merritt's interim president, onetime BCC history prof David Johnson, to the permanent job at the Oakland hills college. Also up for administrative appointments: Lisa Webb, Dean of Counseling at Merritt, and Ronnie Lewis, Director of Financial Aid at Laney.

The board will hear a presentation on accreditation efforts and consider a resolution to restructure the district's Other Post Employment Benefit (OPEB) bonds, Peralta's multilayered investment package put in place in 2005 to manage retiree healthcare obligations. CFO Carla Walter will brief the board on district finances in light of reductions laid out in the governor's May budget revision; the report holds that \$1.9M, half of Peralta's CARES money, will go toward "expenses for transitioning to online instruction" (see item No. 1, below).

In other news:

*PFT negotiators put forward a proposal that would have the district grant full-time faculty members release time in the fall to adjust to their newly virtual jobs and pay part-timers for training; the district has flatly rejected the idea. The district pulled back its own proposal to make funds available to faculty to help cover increased internet and phone costs caused by the shift to online work, a renege PFT will cite in a formal complaint to the state.

*The DO continues to get full-time faculty their COLAs and retro pay, a process begun in April; part-time COLAs should be arriving now, with the district still working out PT retro pay. These dollars were part of the union's successful 2019-20 contract campaign.

*Remember this union resolution as scheduling for upcoming terms continues: "To help limit the loss of part-time jobs, the PFT Executive Council urges full-time faculty not to request extra-service assignments, including during the summer and intersession. Keeping faculty employed, particularly in tough economic times, is a fundamental concern of our union."

*The California Federation of Teachers, PFT's state-level parent, has put together a list of excellent COVID-19 resources--continue to keep them handy.

In solidarity,

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