STEM community rallies against “boutique” school bill

AB 1217 would create a state-run, privatized school, taking resources and support from existing schools.

“Powered by Indian Wells,” riveter, the article next in the series, is an article about the history and impact of the Indian Wells water crisis. The riveter is a group of people who live in Indian Wells, California, and have been fighting for the right to use their water for over 50 years. The article highlights the challenges they face and the determination they have to fight for their rights.

The riveter has been involved in several legal battles over the years, and has won several cases. However, they continue to face resistance from the local government and the California Department of Water Resources. The article describes how the riveter has come together to fight for their rights and how they have made progress in their fight.

The riveter’s story is one of resilience and determination. Despite facing challenges and setbacks, they continue to fight for their rights and for the rights of others who face similar challenges. Their story is a powerful reminder of the importance of standing up for what you believe in and fighting for justice.

The riveter’s story is also a reminder of the importance of supporting local communities and fighting for their rights. The riveter’s struggle is not just about water; it’s about the right to live in a safe and healthy environment.

By Brian Green, 2023-04-02
Time to end “random” searches

The practice criminalizes students and doesn’t make schools safer.

Students speak: Random searches are not random

By Grace Hamilton, Student

Dozens of times a day, school doors and security walk into LAUSD classrooms and pick out five students to conduct a “random” search. They take us out of class and force the hallway where they go through our belongings. We are told we are searching us for weapons, but they frequently take our classroom supplies, like highlighters and other supplies. This is a random search, except they are not random. My name is Grace Hamilton, and I am against “random” searches.

In my school, I am a student and a senior at John Marshall Senior High. I stand against “random” searches in every classroom and every student. I speak for students from more than 15 schools involved in my organization, Students for Change, the student-led grassroots group leading the fight to end racial profiling. This year, I will present myself as a student and a senior at John Marshall Senior High.

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The adjudication of these searches is that they are done by students, teachers, and administrators by keeping weapons and violence out of schools. But less than 1% of schools in America conduct searches. Most districts have figured out that searches can prevent searches from being conducted. Instead of elementary and high school searches being done by mostly upper-middle class white Americans,

To remove this distinction that searches keep weapons and violence out of schools, but there is evidence of misconduct between students and teachers, search can prevent searches from being conducted. Instead of elementary and high school searches being done by mostly upper-middle class white Americans,

Students for Change is a grassroots coalition made up of LAUSD parents, teachers, and students. We have teamed up with groups such as Black Lives Matter, Youth Justice Coalition, and the American Civil Liberties Union to demand these searches. Since last year, we have had two major events, including Making Black Lives Matter at Our School at Dorsey High School. This search is conducted by the school board in May. We are asked to conduct searches.

HONORABLE MENTION (TIE)

Citrus College Adjunct Faculty Federation

“The Democrats Have a Trust Problem”

By Bill Zeman

Coast Federation of Classified Employees

“The Relevance of the Modern Union”

By Quintin Powell, Newsletter Editor, OCC Vice President at Large

Best Editorial

FIRST

United Teachers Los Angeles

“Time to End ‘Random’ Searches”

By Grace Hamilton, Student

Judges’ comments: Eye-opening student-written article about the real lives of students in their school environments in a horrifying and discriminating situation. Describes the racial profiling. One judge said, “UTLA is to be commended for giving voice to an important student concern.”

SECOND

United Educators of San Francisco

“Justice in Our Contract is Part of Broader Resistance”

By Lita Blanc, President

THIRD

United Professors of Marin

“Surveillance Cameras at COM”

By Arthur Lutz, Editor
Best Feature Story

FIRST
United Professors of Marin
“Vincent Van Gogh – Trade Unionist”
By Arthur Lutz, Editor

Judges’ comments: This article is sharp as a razor. Art history is not usually the topic of a feature piece in a union newsletter, but this article casts one of our great artistic geniuses in a new union light, and describes a long history of collective action. One judge said, “Who knew?... Starry, Starry Night will never look the same again.”

SECOND
San José/Evergreen Federation of Teachers
“Teaching in the Time of Trump”
By Marlise Ajanae Edwards, SJCC English Faculty

THIRD
Los Angeles College Faculty Guild
“Overcoming the Odds”
By Jacob Bourne, Senders Communication

HONORABLE MENTION
United Teachers Los Angeles
“Communities Rise Up Against Co-Location”
By Kim Turner, Communications Specialist
**Writing**

**FIRST**

**San José/Evergreen Federation of Teachers**

**AFT 6157 Mentorship Successes**

By David Yancey, Former President; Peggy Gorbach, EVC; Frank Espinoza, EVC; Cindy Bevan, EVC; Marilyn Crawford, SJCC; Hussein Rahim, SJCC.

**San José/Evergreen Federation of Teachers**

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**Sophia de la Fuente**

New case manager responds to student crisis.

Sophia de la Fuente is the new student case manager at San Mateo Community College. She will handle all of the college’s mental health needs by providing prevention and response to student crises, faculty education and support, case management and support, OCS, Behavioral Intervention.

**Welcome Tina Iniguez**

International Programs Counselor committed to making students successful.

**SECOND**

**San Mateo Community College Federation of Teachers**

**Negotiations Series**

By Katharine Harer, Co-Vice President

**Mentorship Program Successes**

By David Yancey, AFT President.

**Carlos Rojo – Biology Faculty**

My passion is to be the mentor for my department chair, Carlos Rojo. Carlos is like my own very experienced mentor, who has managed to take me under his wing and share his expertise. He is always there to guide me through the toughest situations at work, and his advice is invaluable.

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Visual

Best Original Art

FIRST (TIE)

Palomar Faculty Federation
Campus Equity Week 2017
By Jay Schultz, Art Professor, Palomar Community College

Judges’ comments: Dramatic local visual campaign for Campus Equity Week in a graphic style reminiscent of WPA posters. One judge said, “It unmasked the inequity.”

Los Rios College Federation of Teachers
The Oceans Are Rising…And So Are We
By Robyn Waxman, Graphic Arts Faculty

Judges’ comments: Powerful illustration demonstrates how unions are also involved in important social issues. One judge said, “Art, science, and the labor movement together at last.”

SECOND

San Mateo Community College Federation of Teachers
Real Lives of SMCCD Part-Time Faculty: A Fact Sheet for Students
By Michelle Kern, College of San Mateo Chapter Chair; Katharine Harer, Co-Vice President

THIRD (TIE)

Coast Federation of Classified Employees
Lemon Lime
By Quintin Powell, Newsletter Editor, OCC Vice President at Large

San José/Evergreen Federation of Teachers
Contract Ratified!
By Raymond Yuen, Photographer
Best Use of Graphics

FIRST
Los Rios College Federation of Teachers
Education, Not Deportation
By Robyn Waxman, Graphic Arts Faculty
Judges’ comments: The local takes a strong stand for our DACA students and all immigrants. This elegant and simple design successfully links social justice to the union. All of the judges asked, “Where can I buy a t-shirt?”

SECOND (TIE)
United Teachers Los Angeles
“Teachers spend an average…”
By Pablo Serrano, Communications Specialist

San Mateo Community College Federation of Teachers
Real Lives of SMCCD Part-Time Faculty: A Fact Sheet for Students
By Michelle Kern, Chapter Chair, College of San Mateo; Katharine Harer, Co-Vice President

THIRD
United Professors of Marin
“Happy Winter Solstice”
By Arthur Lutz, Editor

HONORABLE MENTION
San José/Evergreen Federation of Teachers
Faculty Voices Count
Photography by Barbara Hanfling, Executive Director, and Helen Han, ESL Faculty, Evergreen Valley College; Layout by Susan Yuen, Office Manager
**Best Flyer or Poster**

**FIRST**

**Palomar Faculty Federation**  
*Protect-Unify-Resolve*  
By Jay Schultz, Art Professor, Palomar Community College; Debbie Forward, Organizer

Judges’ comments: A powerful invitation that solicits worker input in a solid visual manner. Uses striking images to convey the strength of a unified effort. An engaging use of triptych. One judge said, “We have to hand it to the local.”

**SECOND**

**Los Rios College Federation of Teachers**  
*The Oceans Are Rising...And So Are We*  
By Robyn Waxman, Graphic Arts Faculty

**THIRD**

**Berkeley Federation of Teachers**  
*Berkeley Teachers Fighting for Public Education*  
By Julie Searle, Teacher, King Middle School

**HONORABLE MENTION (TIE)**

**Coast Federation of Classified Employees**  
*OCC Union Pride Week Flyer*  
By Lindsay McNutt, GWC Vice President at Large

**Peralta Federation of Teachers**  
*General Membership Meeting Flyer*  
By Kayla Lewis, Communications Specialist and Database Coordinator
WORKING PEOPLE STANDING TOGETHER
CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

Fall 2017
CCE/AFT Local 4522
News & Updates

You Assembled. We Listened.

Thank you for your survey responses, your E-Council has been able to identify some of the issues that you find important. We are working diligently on resolving these issues in the upcoming year.

You asked for better communications.

We have created a new website with user-friendly features to gain quick access and response time for questions, suggestions, updating your information, and grievances.

You said that support for you and your family’s education was important.

Your E-Council voted to revise our scholarship program and add $20,000 to the scholarship fund. The 2018-2019 Scholarship application will be available in Spring 2018.

You said that you would like to get more involved.

We are working with the Professional Development office to create more opportunities for our units to participate in committees, councils, and more!

Your union is working hard to protect your contract and your interests.

This semester alone, we have successfully resolved over 14 possible contractual grievances. We are working on ways to let you know what we have learned in the process so that information gets to you without compromising confidentiality. You can look forward to reading “Tips from your Grievance Officers” on our new website.

Save the Date:

We look forward to seeing you at our Fall Member’s Meeting; it will take place on October 30, 2017 in W3137.

What can labor do for itself? The answer is not difficult. Labor can organize, it can unionize, it can consolidate its forces. This done, it can demand and command.
—Eugene V. Debs

Best Two-Four-Page Newsletter  Locals with fewer than 500 members

FIRST
Palamo College Council of Classified Employees
Working People Standing Together
By Anel Gonzalez, President; Michelle Tucker, Membership and Communications; Yvette Maynard, Grievance Officer; Carmelino Cruz, Vice President
Judges comments: Has many points of interest yet is an easy read. Provides valuable information and makes the effort to be responsive to member needs: “You asked, we listened.”

SECOND
Citrus College Adjunct Faculty Federation
Local Update
By Mark Wessel, Editor

THIRD
Novato Federation of Teachers
Welcome Back!
By Aaron Fix, President
**Best Four-Page Newsletter**  
**Locals with more than 500 members**

**FIRST**  
**United Educators of San Francisco**  
*San Francisco Educator*  
By Matthew Hardy, Communications Director

Judges’ comments: The photo front page draws you in. Members are pictured throughout and continue to draw you in. Contains a balanced mix of union and professional issues. Digestible union info, well laid out.

**SECOND**  
**Peralta Federation of Teachers**  
*The Peralta Teacher*  
By Jennifer Shanoski, President; Kimberly King, Diversity Chair; Matthew Goldstein, Communications Director; Jeff Sanceri, COPE Chair; Grievance Officer; Hilary Altman, Membership Committee Chair; Brad Balukjian, Part-Time Rep; Peter Brown, CTE Chair; Rick Greenspan

**THIRD**  
**Los Angeles College Faculty Guild**  
*Read On*  
By Deborah Kaye, Editor; Michael Teitelbaum, Art Director; Michael Messina, Writer
**Best Six-Plus-Page Newsletter**  
*Locals with fewer than 500 members*

**FIRST**

Newport-Mesa Federation of Teachers-Retired

*NMFT Retired*

By Donna Ewing, Vice Chairperson, Communications

**Judges’ comments:** Newsletter conveys a strong sense of community, which is what a retiree chapter is supposed to create. Uses lots of graphics. It’s a smorgasbord of information for the retiree. One judge added “…recognizing that the way to a retiree’s heart is through the stomach.”
Best Six-Plus-Page Newsletter  
Locals with more than 500 members

FIRST

United Teachers Los Angeles

United Teacher

By Kim Turner, Communications Specialist

Judges’ comments: Its comprehensive. It’s ineluctably thorough. Chock full of information you need to be a unionist. Shows you that the union is out there fighting for your rights.

SECOND

San Mateo Community College Federation of Teachers

The Advocate

By Eric Brenner, Editor

THIRD

San José/Evergreen Federation of Teachers

Faculty Matters

By Editor/Leader Writer: Barbara Hanfling, Executive Director; Assistant Editor: Farideh Dada, SJCC Journalism Faculty; Copy Edit/Layout: Susan Yuen, Office Manager

HONORABLE MENTION

Adjunct Faculty United

AdFacts

By Judi McDuff, Executive Director
Best Online Newsletter

**FIRST**
Cabrillo College Federation of Teachers
*Faculty Voice*
By David Lau, Newsletter Editor and Communications Director

Judges’ comments: Very easy to find the news. All stories are accessible in one view. Easy to navigate without scrolling. Good use of hosting on local website and driving traffic to the website.

**SECOND**
Coast Federation of Classified Employees
*U-N-I-T-E! Union News, Information, and Tips for Employees!*
By Quintin Powell, Editor/Author; Connie Marten, Editor/Contributor; Contributors Michael Carrizo, Pratik Solanki, Jamie Crowder, Betty Pierce

**THIRD**
ABC Federation of Teachers
*ABCTeacherNews*
By Ray Gaer, President
First

United Teachers Los Angeles

News to Use

By Carolina Barreiro, Tammy Lyn Gann, and Kim Turner, Communications Specialists

Judges’ comments: Lots of interesting entry points. Good integration of graphics and text. Lots of pictures used well. Excellent use of links. Good sidebar information and still effective on a mobile device.

Second

Berkeley Federation of Teachers

BFT Action

By Matt Meyer, Vice President

Third

San Francisco Community College District Federation of Teachers

AFT 2121 E-News

By Athena Waid, Organizer; Executive Board members Tim Kellikelly, Jessica Buchsbaum, Malaika Finkelstein, Jenny Worley, Chris Hanzo

Honorable Mention

San Mateo Community College Federation of Teachers

AFT 1493: The Advocate Newsletter

By Eric Brenner, Editor
Best Website  Locals with fewer than 500 members

FIRST
United Professors of Marin
www.upm.website
By Derek Wilson, Webmaster
Judges’ comments: Clean open layout and easy to navigate. Useful information, particularly in the Member Resources section. Nice ongoing feature profiles interesting faculty.

SECOND
Palomar Council of Classified Employees
www.palomarceaf.org
By Anel Gonzalez, President, and Kelly Helming, Member

THIRD
Novato Federation of Teachers
www.novatonft.org
By Beverly Winsor, Executive Director
Best Website  
Locals with fewer than 500 members

**FIRST**  
United Teachers Los Angeles  
www.utla.net  
By Tammy Lyn Gann, Communications Specialist - Website  
Judges’ comments: Information is well organized and easily navigable, especially for such a content-rich site. Images are used appropriately throughout. Contemporary, clean look and mobile friendly. One judge said, “I can’t think of anything a member would need — the contract, forms, relevant news, career support or retirement planning, that couldn’t easily be found here.”

**SECOND (TIE)**  
San Mateo Community College Federation of Teachers  
www.aft1493.org  
By Eric Brenner, Webmaster

**THIRD**  
San José/Evergreen Federation of Teachers  
www.aft6157.org  
Layout and Maintenance by Susan Yuen, Office Manager; Content by Barbara Hanfling, Executive Director; Faculty contributors

**HONORABLE MENTION**  
San Francisco Community College District Federation of Teachers  
www.aft2121.org  
By Athena Waid, Organizer
**Best Use of Social Media**  *Locals with fewer than 500 members*

**FIRST**

**Novato Federation of Teachers**

*Facebook page*

By Beverly Winsor, Executive Director

**Judges’ comments:** Short provocative posts about bargaining. Relevant posts about important programs and application deadlines, including wildfire assistance and scholarships.
**Best Use of Social Media**  
*Locals with more than 500 members*

**FIRST**

**United Educators of San Francisco**

Facebook page  
By Nguyen Weeks, Communications Director

*Judges’ comments:* Regular, timely posts include union news and event announcements as well as relevant news from outside sources. Good use of photos and videos of members at rallies, meetings and in the workplace. High rates of views and shares show members visit and react. One judge said, “Scrolling through, I get a strong sense that UESF members are out there fighting for public education and educators.”

**SECOND**

**United Teachers Los Angeles**

Facebook page  
By Kim Turner, Communications Specialist; Pablo Serrano, Communications Specialist

**THIRD**

**Coast Federation of Classified Employees**

Facebook page  
By Jamie Crowder, Union Assistant

**HONORABLE MENTION (TIE)**

**Los Angeles College Faculty Guild**

Facebook page  
By Senders Communications

**ABC Federation of Teachers**

@abcteachernews on Twitter  
By Ray Gaer, President
Novato Federation of Teachers

FIRST

Novato Federation of Teachers

Does This Seem Right To You?
By Aaron Fix, President

Judges’ comments: This piece drives home the inequity of money distribution in the district. It’s simple, straightforward, and delivers the message… in two languages. It points out the major problem of having no money for teacher raises, but increases for administrators. One judge said, “It’s sort of like the Trump tax plan.”

Best Single Effort  Locals with fewer than 500 members
Best Single Effort  Locals with more than 500 members

FIRST
Los Rios College Federation of Teachers
Part-Timers Almanac
By Paul Baltimore and Linda Sneed
Judges’ comments: A comprehensive guide to surviving as a part-timer in the district. Everything a part-timer needs to know. Uses a clever almanac concept and a cover design that is probably 120 years old. The judges said, “This almanac is a monster effort built on the seeds planted by other local unions. It helps to grow a stronger union. And it forecasts better conditions for part-timers”

SECOND
Palomar Faculty Federation
Focus Group 2017: Protect-Unify-Resolve
By Debbie Forward, Organizer; Jay Schultz, Art Professor, Palomar Community College

THIRD
San Mateo Community College Federation of Teachers
AFT 1493 History/Oral History Project
By Rich Yurman and Bill Rundberg, Retirees

HONORABLE MENTION
UC-AFT Los Angeles
Pamphlet to use in recruitment
By Linzi Juliano, Lecturer, UCLA Writing Programs
**Best Bulletin Series**

**FIRST**  
Los Angeles College Faculty Guild  
*Loud & Clear*  
By Lou Siegel and Deborah Kaye  

*Judges’ comments:* It is “loud and clear.”  
Well named, attractive, a fast read, and easy to understand. Focused on a single topic — contract negotiations — with ongoing updates. The series recognizes that members are the ultimate power in contract negotiations.

**SECOND**  
Peralta Federation of Teachers  
PFT e-Communique/PCCD Boardwatch  
By Jennifer Shanoski, President; Matthew Goldstein, Communications Director

**THIRD**  
San Francisco Community College District Federation of Teachers  
*Engagement Bulletin*  
By Li Miao Lovett, Communications; Athena Waid, Organizer; Tim Killikelly, President; Faculty contributors
FIRST

Part-Time Faculty Association of Allan Hancock College

Regular columns in local newspaper devoted to progressive issues

By Mark James Miller, President

Judges’ comments: Prolific and consistent. This regular column in the Santa Maria Times shows how the union is interested in a wide range of important topics. It keeps the union in the community eye — and the community in the union.

SECOND

ABC Federation of Teachers-Retired

Fundraising for annual scholarship

By Silvia Rodriguez, President; Dennis Cox, Former President; Becky Kilby, Former Vice President; Roni Love, Secretary; Julien Minard, Editor & Historian; Richard Hathaway, Treasurer; Betty Harris, Former Treasurer
Best Public Relations  Locals with more than 500 members

FIRST
United Teachers Los Angeles
We Are Public Schools paid media campaign
By Anna Bakalis, Communications Director

Judges’ comments: A far-reaching public campaign in support of public education — visually compelling and comprehensive, multilingual, and appearing on multiple platforms from L.A. billboards to Instagram. Builds an effective bridge to the public they are trying to reach at a time when the attack on our public schools is intensifying. One judge said, “It’s a great message for those stalled in L.A. traffic.”

SECOND
United Educators of San Francisco
Outreach to parents at back-to-school nights
By Amanda Hart, Organizing Director

THIRD
Los Rios College Federation of Teachers
Banner in opposition to Trump wall
By Robyn Waxman, Graphic Arts Faculty

HONORABLE MENTION
UC-AFT Los Angeles
“Growing reliance on lecturers shortchanges, overburden them”
By Karl Lisovsky, Lecturer, UCLA Writing Programs