

AFT
2121

San Francisco
Community College
District Federation
of Teachers

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January 9, 2015 *Welcome back!*
**Contract Campaign
Kicking Off**

After years of cuts and increased workloads, morale at City College is low. For too long, accreditors and administrators have been wreaking havoc with arbitrary decisions that often have nothing to do with our educational quality. How can we get our CCSF back?

One answer is our contract. Our union contract is a tool to rebuild our faculty, students, and college.

The current AFT 2121 contract expires June 30, 2015. This means that we will start negotiations soon, after our Delegate Assembly has ratified our bargaining platform and our union and the District have “sunshined” their proposals to the public.

While the contract platform is not final, a few items come up again and again: more full-time jobs; immediate restoration of paycuts and pay increases that reflect the high cost of living in the Bay Area; lower minimum class sizes so that we can rebuild enrollment; equitable lab pay; adequate supplies and access to technology; and quality professional development.

In order to win these improvements, we need to be united and active. Being involved in our campaign for a fair contract – anything from wearing a sticker to attending a bargaining session to speaking at a rally – is essential if we want to win.

Faculty, working together with students and community, can win a contract that actually values our work, increases accessibility, and improves the already great quality of education at CCSF. This contract is our opportunity to get our college back – are you ready to join the fight?



Students, community, and labor leaders meet at Mission Campus.

Flex Day Meetings

AFT 2121 Meeting
2:30-4pm, Visual Arts 115

AFT Part-timers Meeting
4:10-5pm, Visual Arts 115

AFT 2121 Social Hour
4-7pm, Cafe D'Melanio, 1314 Ocean Ave.

Community and Student Outreach Expands

The participation of CCSF students and community allies has been crucial to the struggle to defend our City College. During the fight for our accreditation, AFT 2121 has been reaching out to engage students and community allies. We value this process! It has resulted in opportunities for our union to hear directly from allies about City College and to involve our community in the fight to save it.

In December we held two listening sessions as part of our upcoming contract campaign. Representatives from 19 community groups, our Student Trustee, our Associated Students leaders and activist students from the Save CCSF Coalition all participated. Since our contract is one of the tools in our toolbox to protect City College and regain what has been lost during the accreditation crisis, we asked our students and community partners to share and discuss their top priority issues.

These sessions were unique events that helped us to educate community partners and student leaders about our collective bargaining process, gather more input on the kind of CCSF they want to see in the future, and include them in the work that needs to be done to win our contract fight.

Students Wanted!

A speakers bureau of faculty and students have been making presentations about our struggle at CCSF all over the city and the state! Students are always the most powerful advocates for our college. If you know any students who would be good speakers, please email Athena Waid (awaid@aft2121.org).



Bulletin

Rocky Negotiations Over 2015/16 Calendar and 2016 HSS Rates

Reopener negotiations over 2016 health care rates got off to a rocky start when HSS published "final" rates for 2016 without noting that those rates were subject to current negotiations. The District acknowledged that it failed to clarify this to HSS. The problem is the new rates reflect reductions in City Plan (17-18%) and Kaiser (1-2%), but pass none of those savings on to employees. Blue Shield rates remain static for employees, while increasing very slightly for the employer.

After several negotiation sessions and discussions, we are closer to an agreement that would share the reductions in cost with faculty.

Owing to the late start in calendar negotiations, AFT had little opportunity to engage over the summer 2016 calendar, which was needed immediately, especially over the issue of a different configuration for noncredit summer session. Consequently, the District's proposal has been adopted and mirrors the summer calendar in 2015.

AFT is proposing a return to a longer winter break for the 2015/16 academic calendar. The District is proposing a calendar similar to the current year, albeit eliminating all non-State authorized holidays, including Lunar New Year. The District cites Community College Board of Governor regulations which, they argue, could be used to undermine weekly census funding in credit classes if non-State recognized holidays are included in our calendar.

The AFT Delegate Assembly had made syncing our calendar with SFUSD and retaining the Lunar New Year holiday priorities in negotiations. Stay tuned for more news.

AFT 2121 Spring 2014 Meetings

Delegate Assembly, January 20
Ocean, MUB, Room 251, 3-5 pm

Delegate Assembly, February 17
Mission, Room 154, 3-5 pm

General Membership Meeting, March 17
Ocean, MUB, Room TBA 3-5 pm

Delegate Assembly, April 21
Downtown, Room TBA, 3-5 pm

Delegate Assembly, May 19
Ocean, MUB, Room 251, 3-5 pm

ACCJC Meeting This Week

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) is meeting in Sacramento at its biannual meeting Jan. 7 - 9 to decide on the fate of CCSF, which applied under duress for "Restoration Status" last summer. If CCSF is denied "Restoration Status," only a court injunction issued by Judge Curtis Karnow a year ago will keep the college open, pending the outcome of the trial of the ACCJC in a suit filed by the San Francisco City Attorney Dennis Herrera. A ruling is expected sometime this month.

Meanwhile, our union's advocacy for a fair accreditation process moves forward at the state and federal levels. Congresswoman Jackie Speier is continuing to support our efforts for fair accreditation. At a hearing in December, the Congresswoman noted "whenever you have institutions that are self-regulated, you have the potential for arbitrariness, conflicts of interest, bad actors."

Court Decision Rapid Response!

Whatever Judge Karnow's preliminary decision in The People vs. the ACCJC, we'll gather and respond together!
Gather 5pm on the first workday after Karnow's preliminary announcement at Ocean Avenue in front of the CCSF Wellness Center.
Wear yellow and red for public ed!
Spread the word!