



The VOICE

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Upcoming Events

March 15: End of third marking period
 March 18—22: Spring Break (10—11 month employees)
 March 25: Teacher Workday
 March 26: Students return
 April 3: Referendum Ballots are mailed to eligible voters
 April 23: Referendum ballots must be returned either by mail or in person

Testing Season is Upon Us

Each year in *The Voice* we publish an article concerning testing and what we believe are best practices to ensure that our members, both instructional and non-instructional, come through this season unscathed! Our hope for all of you is that as things begin to implode, you keep your wits about you, advocate for your students, and document, document, document! So here we go again...

Before Testing Begins:

- Only sign the security agreements acknowledging training received if you have received training. DO NOT back-date such agreements.
- Make sure you understand all the testing rules and procedures, and if you don't, ASK. Never Assume! Just because it was acceptable last year does not automatically make it OK for this year.
- Follow all sign-in and sign-out procedures for testing materials.
- If testing ESE students make sure you understand the accommodations for their testing. If you are unsure, ASK.

During Testing:

- Follow the script exactly, don't improvise. Only say what is provided in the script.
- Don't make motions during the test that could be construed as hinting.
- Be cautious – even encouraging students to review their work could be considered inappropriate hinting.
- If a student needs “comforting” or becomes ill during the test session, notify the school testing coordinator or administrator.
- During testing you should be monitoring the classroom: do not grade papers, look at your cell phone or computer or do anything that could be construed as taking notes during testing.

- Make sure you do not look at the test questions or your student's answers. If a child asks for help, remind the student that you are not allowed to see the questions on the test and cannot help if it has anything to do with the content of the test.
- Make sure that all adults sign the administration log as they enter and leave the testing room.
- Keep your head about you, think before you act and when in doubt contact your school's test coordinator, AP or Principal to make the decision for you.

After Testing:

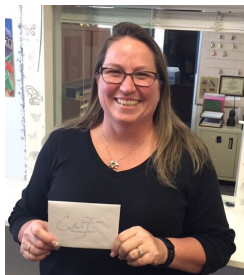
- Avoid any possibility of being alone with access to the school testing materials. Make sure an administrator and/or proctor are always present and materials are stored as prescribed by your school procedures.
 - Do not leave testing materials at a collection site without having the testing coordinator or designee verify that all materials have been returned.
 - Do not try to “clean up” stray marks on the test answer sheets.
 - **DO NOT** hold debriefing sessions after testing with students. Make sure any discussion at which you are present focuses on the testing experience and does not involve recalling items on the test. This means *do not discuss the actual test with students, colleagues or parents.*
 - Document anything out-of-the-ordinary. Don't rely on your memory to recall events.
- ⇒ If questioned about testing “irregularities”, **request a union worksite leader be present. Do not speak, write, or answer without one. CALL THE UNION OFFICE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

Read the *Voice* to Win!!!

Read, *answer the riddles* and SEND your answer to Barbara.Ziegler@floridaea.org by **March 19, 2019**

1. Who must approve a transfer if it is requested after the first day of work for 10-month employees?
2. How many members are registered to vote in St. Lucie County?

Winners of \$10 Gift Card



Celeste Lafountain
Transportation



Rob Ayres
Fort Pierce Westwood MOA

Answers to February Voice Riddles:

1. What should members do if they are not receiving emails from the CTA/CU office?
A: Contact the Union office immediately
2. What is the next "big thing" in terms of negotiations?
A: Negotiating over the revenue generated by the referendum

Focus On CU with CU VP Sandy Rohn

Hello everyone, I can't believe it's March and Spring break is coming up March 18th. I know I'm looking forward to it and am sure you are as well.

There is a lot of misunderstanding about the Referendum coming up in April.

Yes, the money is being raised to make our teacher's salaries competitive with the counties around us. We need to recruit and retain teachers, so our students can be taught by experienced and highly qualified teachers that will stay in the district.

This does not mean our support staff are being forgotten.

There is one pot of money to negotiate salaries for all employees in SLC. With a portion of the Referendum money being used to give teach-

ers raises, the **remaining pot of money will be larger** in order to give support staff a decent raise.

Will you see \$10,000? No, but not that many teachers will see that kind of money either.

Please trust that your Union Leadership are going to look out for you. The fault lies with the Legislature which has continuously failed to adequately fund schools.

Don't let *them* pit us against each other; we are all on the same team.

If you have any questions or concerns, you can email me at Sandra.rohn@stlucieschools.org or the office can get you in touch with me. You can also talk to the Union office at (772) 464-6430.

Remember, we are stronger together. Sandy

Your Contract . . . Clarified! with CTA Vice-President Rebecca Petrie

CTA Contract

Article VIII, Section A

St. Lucie County School Board employees desiring a change in worksite between school years can transfer between school years if approved by the receiving administrator but no later than one month prior to the first day of work for 10 month instructional personnel. After that date, all transfers must have approval of both sending and receiving administrators.

So... what does that actually mean for members of the CTA bargaining unit?

At the end of the school year, if you want to move to a different school or worksite, you can do so without needing the approval of your current principal. Be mindful of the dates, though. If you wait too long, you will need both of the principals' approval – the principal you would be going to **and** the principal you would be leaving.

If this is something you are considering and want to talk to us first, please call before making your decision. We are happy to help.

CU Contract

Article VII, Section A

St. Lucie County School Board employees desiring a change in worksite between school years can transfer between school years if approved by the receiving administrator but no later than one month prior to the first day of work for 10 month instructional personnel. After that date, all transfers must have approval of both sending and receiving administrators.

So... what does that actually mean for members of the CU bargaining unit? *Cont'd on pg 3*

By the Numbers: Negotiations Corner

Number of members living in St. Lucie County:

2089

Number of members who are registered to vote in St. Lucie County:

1710

Number of members who need to register to vote:

289

Number of days remaining to register to vote:

21

How many members we need to vote:

2089

(The deadline to register to vote for the April 23rd Referendum is March 25th. You can register to vote online at: <https://www.slcelections.com/VOTER-REGISTRATION/Register-Online>)

The CTA/CU and the District have signed some Letters of Understanding (LOU) in the last month or so.

The first LOU continued the UniSig grants and named the included schools for this year

(UniSig grants are State School Improvement Grants that schools qualify for if they are a DA school.)

We also adjusted the language to cast as wide a net as possible for the bonuses attached to this grant.

The second LOU is to renew the Wellness program for 2019.

The Wellness program allows you to earn dollars for

your HSA account or premium credits towards your health insurance.

This LOU lays out the slight changes in the activities that are in the plan.

The big news is the referendum.

When it passes, we will be at the table to negotiate compensation based on the referendum.

This is going to have wide reaching implications not only directly from the referendum, but also because the referendum will likely free up additional money in the general budget that can go towards raises for all of our bargaining unit members.

Your Contract . . . Clarified! (continued)

That part of the contract is the same for both CTA and CU. However, the CU contract goes on further about experience:

Transfers with Commensurate Experience: **Full experience** will be granted to employees who transfer into a position **with commensurate job duties** as determined by the Human Resources department.

Transfers with Non-Commensurate Experience: Employees who transfer from one position within the district to

another position in the bargaining unit will receive partial to full credit on the salary schedule for time worked within the school district. For those who transfer into positions with non-commensurate job duties as determined by the Human Resources department, they will receive credit as follows:

Years of Experience	Salary Schedule Credit Awarded
4	2
5- 6	3
7-8	4
9-10	5
11 or more	Full credit

The biggest thing for our CU members to keep in mind is that the Human Resources department determines what experience is commensurate, or equal, from one position to another.

Do not assume that your experience – even within the district – will transfer with you.

Please do your homework before making a decision. Call us. Call HR. Ask questions. Get answers. Then make an informed choice.

**St. Lucie Classroom Teachers' Association
and Classified Unit**

371 E. Midway Road
Ft. Pierce, FL 34982
Office: 772-464-6430 Fax: 772-464-7446

CTA/CU Executive Board

David Freeland, President CTA/CU: CTA Office
Rebecca Petrie, Vice President CTA: CTA Office
Sandy Rohn, Vice-President CU: FPC
Laura Lovett, CTA/CU Treasurer: Records Dept.
Lashawn Floyd, CU Secretary: NK8
Tammy Davis, CTA Executive Board: FKS
Alan Mathison, CTA Executive Board: LPA
Pamela Jenkins, CU Executive Board: SLWC
Claudia Martin-Vegue, CTA Executive Board:
SLWK8
Christine Derry, CTA Executive Board: TCHS

Union Staff

Maureen Sinnott/ Member Support Specialist
Lucy Bravo/ Organizing and Communications
Specialist
Barbara Ziegler/ Office Manager

E-mail:

Info@stluciateachers.com OR
David.Freeland@floridaea.org
Rebecca.Petrie@floridaea.org
Lucy.Bravo@floridaea.org
Barbara.Ziegler@floridaea.org
Maureen.Sinnott@floridaea.org

Remember to use the following
hashtags on social media when posting
about the Referendum:

#FundOurFutureFL

#FundOurFutureSL

#Im4It

Referendum Dates to Remember

March 25: Deadline to Register to Vote

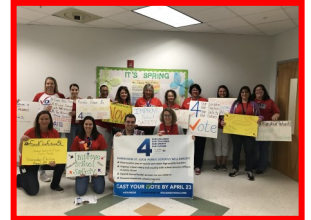
April 3: Ballots mailed out by Supervisor of
Elections to St. Lucie County registered voters

April 23: Ballots to be Counted

SLC CTA/CU President David Freeland was interviewed by
several media stations regarding the upcoming referendum



Day of Action

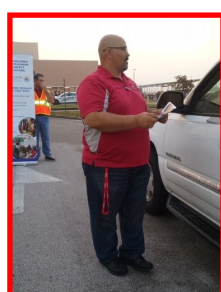
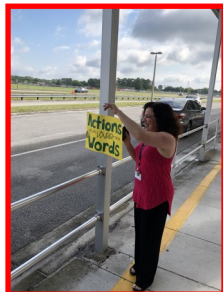
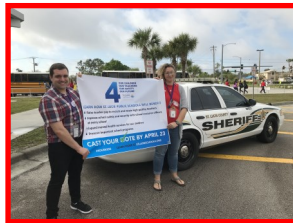


#FundOurFutureSL
#FundOurFutureFL
#Im4It
#Red4Ed



The VOICE St. Lucie Classroom Teachers' Association and Classified Unit
Extra!

Mar. 5, 2019
Extra!





Register toVoteFlorida.gov

Who Can Register to Vote?

To register to vote in Florida, you must:

1. Be a Citizen of the United States of America (A lawful permanent resident, commonly referred to as a "green card holder," does not have the right to register or vote in Florida);
2. Be a Florida resident;
3. Be at least 18 years old (You may pre-register to vote if you are 16 years old);
4. Not have been adjudicated mentally incapacitated with respect to voting in Florida or any other state without having the right to vote restored;
5. Not have been convicted of a felony without your voting rights having been restored.

How Can I Register to Vote?

You can apply to register to vote in any of the following ways:

- Online at RegisterToVoteFlorida.gov
- Apply through any of these agencies while accessing their services:
 - Florida driver's license office. You also have the option to submit voter registration information online when you renew your driver's license online through the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles' online renewal system. For more information, visit GoRenew.com.
 - Tax collector's office that issues driver's licenses or Florida identification cards
 - Voter registration agency. For more information about who these agencies are, visit our [NVRA webpage](#).
- By mail or in person. The statewide voter registration application form is available for download ([English PDF](#)/ [Español PDF](#)), or available at any [county Supervisor of Elections](#), local library, or any entity authorized by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to issue fishing, hunting, or trapping permits. The form contains detailed information as to how to submit the form to your county Supervisor of Elections. If you are a military or overseas U.S. citizen, you may register to vote and request a vote-by-mail ballot at the same time by using the [Federal Post Card Application \(FPCA\)](#). Go to the web page on [Military and Overseas Voting](#) for further details.

It is a 3rd degree felony to submit false information. Maximum penalties are \$5,000 and/or 5 years in prison.

How Do I Update My Voter Registration Record?

If you are already registered to vote in Florida but you need to update any information on your voter registration record, you can submit a change using any of the options available under "How Can I Register to Vote?". You can also call or email an address change to your [county supervisor of elections](#). For any other questions, call or email your [county Supervisor of Elections](#).

Voter Information Cards

When you register to vote or update your voter registration record (e.g., change to your address, name or political party), your Supervisor of Elections' office will mail you a new or updated voter information card. Review the card to make sure all information is correct. Keep the card with you as the card lists important information about your registration record and where to vote. The card includes your party affiliation, assigned precinct and polling place, and your assigned district offices (local, state, and federal).

To replace a lost card, call or email your [County Supervisor of Elections](#).

Note: The card cannot be used as a form of identification at the polls.

Voter Registration Deadline -The deadline to register to vote for the upcoming **SLPS Special Referendum is March 25, 2019.**