



AFL-CIO

**STRONGER
TOGETHER**

Classified School Employees Week 2019!



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May 20th kicked off the beginning of Classified School Employee's Week 2019. Our CSEA Membership committee lead by Cheryl Brown and Sherie Higgins did an amazing job of expanding the offerings during the week and also expanded activities to our satellite campuses creating a more inclusive event for staff.

The CSEW events included professional development activities as well as social activities for classified staff and the larger campus community to connect. The new addition of the Donuts with Deans, Managers, and Directors sponsored by the administration was a great success and created a new tradition for next year.

Delicious burittos and ice cream were also served during the week as staff at all campuses attended the annual buritto breakfast sponsord by the President's office and the annual ice cream social sponsored by CSEA. We like to thank our classified staff for all that you do and everyone who contributed to making the week a success!

President Benjamin Recognizes Classified

President Helen Benjamin surprised the attendees at the Burrito breakfast by presenting all SBCC classified staff with the Board of Trustee's resolution recognizing California School Employees Week. She gave a brief speech highlighting the importance of classified employees and the work that they do on all the SBCC campuses. She went on to note that in most cases, classified staff are the first point of contact with students at SBCC emphasizing their importance and contributions to student success. She went on to express her appreciation for classified staff. Liz Auchincloss accepted the resolution on behalf of classified staff.

Later that morning, President Benjamin visited classified staff at the Wake and Schott campuses to greet and recognize the efforts and contributions of classified employees working at our satellite campuses. She also took time to take photos with the employees at both campuses.

We are grateful to President Benjamin for her efforts in recognizing all of our classified staff at SBCC. It was clear to us that she understands and values the contributions that classified staff bring to the organization and their role in student success. We thank her for her active participation in California School Employees Week and we appreciate her recognition of classified employees.





**Resolution
on behalf of the
Santa Barbara City College
Superintendent/President**

UPON THE OCCASION OF CLASSIFIED SCHOOL EMPLOYEE WEEK

WHEREAS, classified school employees provide valuable services to the District and students of the Santa Barbara Community College District; and

WHEREAS, classified school employees contribute to the establishment and promotion of a positive instructional environment; and

WHEREAS, classified employees play a vital role in providing for the welfare and safety of Santa Barbara Community College District's students; and

WHEREAS, classified school employee week is celebrated from May 20-24, 2019; and

WHEREAS, classified school employees employed by the Santa Barbara Community College District strive for excellence in all areas relative to the educational community.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Santa Barbara Community College District hereby recognizes and wishes to honor the contribution of the classified school employees to quality education in the State of California and in the Santa Barbara Community College District and declares the week of May 20-26, 2018, as Classified School Employee Week in the Santa Barbara Community College District.

Helen Benjamin, Ph.D.
Interim Superintendent/President

Join the CSEA Retiree Unit

As the end of the school year approaches, you may be looking forward to your retirement. CSEA congratulates you on reaching this milestone. We've valued you as a member and hope you will continue to be part of our family through the Retiree Unit.

As a member of the Retiree Unit you will stay connected to CSEA and can continue to receive the great benefits CSEA has to offer such as:

- **Support.** Retirees benefit from CSEA's quality representation, including expert assistance on questions about the Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) or Social Security. You will also continue to have access to CSEA's valuable Legal Referral Program.
- **Political clout.** CSEA is the leader in lobbying the California Legislature to maintain and improve your benefits.
- **Social activities.** Members of the Retiree Unit receive notices of all local meetings and have voting privileges in Retiree Unit officer elections. Annual district meetings and social events are held in central locations throughout the state, providing timely updates on CalPERS, along with the opportunity to greet old friends and meet new ones.
- **Valuable information.** Retiree Unit members receive CSEA publications including the Retiree newsletter, updates and news so you can continue being part of the labor movement.
- **Money-saving benefits.** CSEA's Member Benefits discount program helps you save money on activities, products and services.

Remember, there is strength in numbers. With you as part of the Retiree Unit, we can fight to protect retirement security and stand up for other issues that matter to former classified school employees.

The cost of continuing to be part of CSEA through the Retiree Unit is only \$3 per month and can be deducted from your CalPERS warrant or paid through a yearly \$36 check.

Talk to a chapter leader, call (866) 487-2732 or visit www.csearetiree.com for more information or for an application.



CSEA Career Grant

Apply for a CSEA Member Career Grant. CSEA can help offset the cost of furthering your education. Career Grants are awarded to qualifying members who attend school on a part time or full-time basis. \$1,000 grants are awarded to recipients based on financial need, goals and objectives, citizenship, and CSEA activities.

Applications will be available starting June 14th. Go to www.csea.com/education for more information.

CSEW: Buritto Breakfast



CSEW: Ice Cream Social

**BUILDING CONNECTIONS
INSPIRING LIVES**



CSEW: Ice Cream Social



CSEW: Ice Cream Social

**BUILDING CONNECTIONS
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Staff Spotlight



Photo Credit: Jim Zhan

Chelsea Lancaster Student Program Advisor, EOPS

Chelsea Lancaster's work at Santa Barbara City College is driven by her passion for co-creating dignified support systems and educational opportunities for single parent families and marginalized youth in our community. Once a teen mother and high school drop-out herself, Chelsea is a proud product of the programs she coordinates under the EOPS umbrella and believes deeply in the power of education and intentional mentorship to empower and break cycles of generational poverty. With her own daughter excelling at Mills College in Oakland

and driven by a desire to teach, Chelsea broke her ten-year hiatus from academia to join the 1% of teen mothers who hold a masters degree just this year. Chelsea says that her lived experiences coupled with being a daily witness to the determination, strength, and resilience of our students serve as both the foundation and motivation for her work.

In her spare time Chelsea loves being in community as an active organizer, primarily out of El Centro SB, a volunteer-run community space of upliftment and self-determination located on the lower west side which she founded in 2015. Among the many activities happening at El Centro, Chelsea is most proud of and inspired by La Escuelita, a spring and summer break program which provides free (and fun!) culturally relevant education where children and youth are empowered to learn and teach others about topics such as local Chumash stories, food justice, medicinal and native plants, and art in its many forms.

Chelsea also serves on the Board of Directors for The FUND for Santa Barbara which supports organizations working for social, economic, environmental and political change in Santa Barbara County. She also acts as an Advisory Board member for Storyteller Children's Center, which provides quality tuition-free early childhood education for homeless and at-risk children and their families, where she and her daughter were once program participants. Chelsea was also one of the driving forces behind the reconstitution of the Santa Barbara ACLU chapter, helped to build the local Ethnic Studies Now! movement, and was instrumental in fighting the proposed Santa Barbara gang injunction.

More recently, Chelsea joined a growing number of grassroots activists being elected to serve as Delegates for The California Democratic Party to support the co-creation of a party platform

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The SBCC Beat Wins Two Communication Awards

We want to extend our congratulations to two of our CSEA members who were recently recognized for their work in our bi-monthly newsletter, The SBCC Beat.

Sally Gill from the Office of Communications received the Award of Distinction for Best Column/Editorial for her column "Why I'm In!" that was featured in the January/February 2019 issue. You can view that issue by clicking [here](#).

Regina Reese from the Learning Resources Center received the Award of Distinction for "Best News Article/Story" for her article entitled "Self Care Is More Important Than Ever" that was featured in the May/June 2018 issue. You

can view that issue by clicking [here](#).

Past issues of The SBCC Beat can be found on our local chapter website by following this link <https://www.sbcc.edu/csea/news.php>.

The SBCC Beat is always looking for contributors! Are you interested in being featured in the next Staff Spotlight or "Why I'm In" column? Are you interested in writing a union focused story? If so, contact Regina Reese our CSEA Communications Officer to get involved.

Staff Spotlight: Chelsea Lancaster Continued

that works to advocate for and uplift those who have been historically left out of political discourse and decision-making processes. In the future Chelsea hopes to carve out more time for international travel, concerts, road trips, and naps.



Chapter Meeting Minutes

Our chapter meeting minutes are now available online at our SBCC CSEA website by [click here](#).

Executive Board Officers

President – Liz Auchincloss

Vice President - Cindy Salazar

Treasurer – Carlos Macias

Secretary – Sherie Higgins

Communications Officer – Regina Reese

Chief Union Steward – Jason Thornell

Site Rep Coordinator – Beth Taylor- Schott