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UNION UPDATE



Members will make the difference

President Walker announces 2016 contract campaign focus: take action

Local 1000 has launched its 2016 contract campaign with these words from President Yvonne R. Walker: “Our contract will be about the strength and the power of our members to win something amazing.”

Speaking to members statewide on a conference call for Local 1000 stewards and hundreds more who heard the call at listening parties, Walker looked forward to the upcoming negotiations feeling confident about the preparation that’s gone before.

“This is the year where we are going to step out onto the field – where we are taking all of the leadership development we’ve done with our members, all the fights we’ve been through as state workers and all the heart we’ve all put in to building this union – and we’re going to put it to work.”

Our contract expires July 1, 2016. Local 1000’s bargaining team has been meeting since July to prepare their coworkers and the members they represent to fight shoulder-to-shoulder with them to win a

great contract. Negotiations will begin with the state sometime in March.

Building member power

Walker spoke about the impact members make on successful negotiations. “In order to maximize our power at the bargaining table, we need to be strategic and ready to show the state how serious we are about our work and this contract.”

“We need to grow our membership. It sends a message to the state that we stand together. It tells the state that thousands of members stand behind our bargaining proposals, that they are committed to the union, and they are ready to fight for this contract and for one another.”

This contract campaign is about utilizing our strength, our relationships with one another and our ability to stand together and call on something bigger than ourselves. That’s where our power comes from, and that’s how we get the best possible contract,” said Walker.



Our statewide officers gathered in San Diego to launch our contract campaign.



Members listened in Los Angeles and are fired up and ready to take action.



Central Valley members rallied for a great contract at the Fresno office.

Check out more of our photos on our facebook page:
[facebook.com/seiu1000](https://www.facebook.com/seiu1000)

Special note: Your Union Update newsletter will not be published on Dec 23 or Dec 30. Our next issue will be on Jan 6, 2016. **Happy Holidays!**

Collective power delivers results

Union clout fixes delays in SSSB claims

Local 1000 leveraged our collective power to get relief for members at the State Special Schools who were struggling with delays in State Special Schools Benefit (SSSB) funds. SSSB funds are a type of unemployment benefit for employees of the State Special Schools run by the California Department of Education (CDE).

Local 1000 members and staff met several times over the past eight months with department representatives. The union forced management to identify what was causing delays and to find ways to minimize those delays.

Responding to union demands for a better system, the state has significantly streamlined the process members use to claim benefits. As a result of our representational power, CDE and the Employment

Development Department (EDD) listened to our members and committed to a fix.

Waiting times have already improved and will continue to improve with each new school break in which SSSB claims are filed. CDE and EDD have also agreed to work collaboratively to ensure better communication with employees claiming SSSB.

“Together, as a union, we have the clout to solve issues for our members,” says Tamekia N. Robinson, Local 1000 vice president for organizing/representation. “Our collective power enables us to get problems addressed quickly.”

If you are a Special Schools employee who has been frustrated by the process in the past

and have stopped applying, we encourage you to try again now that many delays have been minimized and the new online and mobile friendly eapply4ui.edd.ca.gov site is available.



“Together, as a union, we have the clout to solve issues for our members.”

—Tamekia N. Robinson
Vice President for Organizing/
Representation

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1000 *for* Local 1000

Build Our Team...Build Our Future

Become a member of the Local 1000 Action Team today

Becoming an Action Team Leader is making a commitment to serve as a critical and integral part of building the strength and power of our union. Local 1000 Action Teams will be worksite-based and will focus on building success in 2016 in the areas of bargaining, politics and worksite issues.

Members of the Local 1000 Action Teams will:

- Build a team of activists and leaders in their worksites
- Increase communication among members in their worksite
- Grow power through increased membership, COPE and activism
- Mobilize their coworkers to take action and move our Local 1000 program

Join with us now for a stronger future!

Make a commitment today at www.seiu1000.org/1000for1000 or call the Member Resource Center at 866.471.SEIU (7348)

