

UPDATE

www.aala.us

Week of November 3, 2014

DON'T LET THE WEALTHY BUY THIS ELECTION!

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE
ELECT TOM TORLAKSON

Tom Torlakson, California's Superintendent of Public Instruction and AALA-supported candidate, needs your help to once again thwart the moneyed elite who unsuccessfully tried to defeat **Monica Ratliff**, **Steve Zimmer**, **Bennett Kayser** and **Dr. George McKenna** in LAUSD's recent Board of Education elections. Did you know that fewer than 25 ultrawealthy individuals/entities are donating millions of dollars to Torlakson's opponent to buy California's top public education post in the November 4, 2014, California election?

You are the education "expert" and people respect school leaders. They want to know your opinion regarding who they should cast their vote for in the race for State Superintendent of Public Instruction. They also want to know more about why you strongly support Tom Torlakson and not **Marshall Tuck**.

The stakes for public education this Election Day, November 4, 2014, are high. Here are some key points to share with your friends, colleagues, family members and casual acquaintances.

Facts about Marshall Tuck, Torlakson's opponent:

- Tuck claims firsthand experience of running "two school systems." He worked with one school for Green Dot that expanded to 10 schools, and then with 17 Partnership for LA Schools. Becoming Superintendent of Public Instruction in California means you oversee close to 10,000 schools.
- In his interview with the AALA PAC Steering Committee, Tuck hesitated in his support for employer-paid health benefits.
- Tuck promotes privatizing public schools with public funds. He served as Green Dot's Chief Operating Officer and CEO of former **Mayor Villaraigosa's** Partnership for LA Schools, both deemed failures by **Diane Ravitch**. He claims that during his tenure, the Mayor's Partnership for LA Schools had high student achievement which is contradicted by the data.
- Tuck is highly supportive of the Vergara Decision which dismantles seniority and tenure. He blames unions for the dismal conditions in schools, rather than placing the blame on inadequate funding. He told the AALA PAC Steering Committee that his first action, if elected, will be to pull out of the Vergara appeal.

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ELECT TORLAKSON (Cont.)

Facts about Tom Torlakson:

- Torlakson knows how government can work to help students and communities. His service at all levels of government from city council member, county supervisor, assemblyman, senator and now our State Superintendent of Public Instruction gives him the insight and experience to support all students in our public schools.
- He campaigned up and down California in support of **Proposition 30** to increase funding for public education. Without this funding we would still be in an economic recession and laying off thousands of employees.
- Torlakson is a teacher and coach and knows our urban schools well.
- Torlakson has provided \$3 billion to **reduce class size** and counselor ratios by authoring the Quality Education Investment Act that provides monies to the state's most challenged schools.
- Torlakson authored **Proposition 1A that generated \$9 billion for school construction** which will be matched by more money locally from voters to repair our schools and relieve overcrowded campuses.
- Torlakson championed money for **Kindergarten Readiness**.
- Torlakson gained state money **to supplement federal meals money** for poor students.
- Torlakson took action and set **standards for Physical Education** in schools.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Help get out the vote for Tom Torlakson.

1. Commit to 50 or 100 contacts you have on your phone, your email or in your neighborhood. Let it be known you support Tom Torlakson.
2. On Election Day call 10 people you know to make sure they have voted.
3. Write a letter to *the Los Angeles Times* or your local newspaper with three or four sentences telling why your life experience as a principal/teacher or educator drives you to support **Tom Torlakson**.
4. Go to a local campaign headquarters of your political party and make calls for the candidates and add your opinion for candidate Tom Torlakson.
5. **Vote for Tom Torlakson!**

HEALTH BENEFITS FAQ

TOPIC: NEED MORE INFORMATION FOR OPEN ENROLLMENT?

For 2015, all medical, vision and dental remain unchanged. This FAQ addresses additional information members may need to make informed plan choices.

I am planning to change my medical plan provider during Open Enrollment. Where can I see a more detailed list of my medical plan's benefits? The following are summaries of benefits from <http://achieve.lausd.net/Page/2141/>, the District's *Forms and Publications* webpage. These summaries, for **active employees and retirees under age 65**, offer slightly more information than the overview in your Open Enrollment guides.

- [Anthem Blue Cross Active EPO California](#)
- [Anthem Blue Cross Active HMO](#)
- [Anthem Blue Cross Retiree EPO California](#)
- [Anthem Blue Cross Retiree EPO Non-California](#)
- [Anthem Blue Cross Early Retiree HMO](#)
- [Prescription Drugs for Anthem Blue Cross EPO](#)
- [Prescription Drugs for Anthem Blue Cross HMO](#)
- [Health Net Active HMO](#)
- [Health Net Retiree HMO](#)
- [Kaiser HMO Active](#)
- [Kaiser HMO Early Retiree](#)

I will turn 65 years of age in early 2015. Since I'm not eligible to select a Medicare plan yet, what do I need to do when I reach age 65?

1. Fax or mail a copy of your Medicare card showing Part A and Part B coverage to:
Benefits Administration at PO Box 513307
Los Angeles, CA 90051-1307 – Fax – 213.241.4247
2. Review and compare plan options in the [Retiree Health Benefits Guide](#) you received for Open Enrollment.
3. For Anthem Blue Cross EPO members, Medicare becomes your primary coverage and Anthem becomes secondary. You need to use an Anthem Blue Cross provider who is also a Medicare provider to receive benefits. Neither Anthem Blue Cross nor Medicare will pay for any services from a non-Medicare provider.
4. Kaiser or Health Net members who wish to remain in the plan must enroll in Kaiser Senior Advantage or Health Net Seniority Plus. Enrollment forms are available at <http://achieve.lausd.net/Page/2141> under *Medicare*.
5. If you wish to make a complete plan change at age 65, such as enrolling in UnitedHealthCare® Group Medicare Advantage HMO, you may do so since Medicare enrollment is a “life event.” To fill out the required documentation, contact Benefits Administration at 213.241.4262.

A Teacher's perspective on...

**IPADS, INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY AND
LIMITED RESOURCES**

ALA thanks Alan Warhaftig, member of AALA's MiSiS Committee, for these comments on the LAUSD Common Core Technology Program - the iPads initiative.

Use of Bond Funds for Technology - It never made any sense to purchase iPads or the software loaded onto them with bond funds. If all goes well, tablets/notebooks/desktops have a useful life of five years. Outside counsel, LAUSD's lawyers, the Bond Oversight Committee and the Board may, under pressure, have signed off on this use of bond funds, but using bond funds for that purpose makes even less sense than buying an automobile with a 30-year mortgage. How long after the end of its useful life should the public have to pay for an asset? In three to five years, would another \$500 million be taken from bond funds to replace the first generation devices? Before long, LAUSD would not be able to obtain authority to issue (or find buyers for) additional bonds/COPs for infrastructure repairs, buses and new construction.

Wi-Fi at Schools - Installing wi-fi at schools does seem to be an appropriate use of bond funds, but at this point it is a \$600-700 million bridge to nowhere, and the network didn't perform all that well in the limited Common Core testing in the spring.

Using Computers for Testing - Computer-based testing may have slight advantages over paper tests, but these advantages in no way justify the cost. There is no good reason why the Common Core tests must be given on a computer. Legislative relief is required.

Computer Hardware and the Common Core Technology Project - In my view, the only reason for schools to purchase computer hardware is if they have software they want to run on it. The Common Core Technology Project (CCTP) stood this principle on its head. A huge commitment to hardware and networking was made before there was any software to review.

The deep flaw of the CCTP procurement was that it wrapped hardware and software together in one Request for Proposals. The result was that the decision about instructional software was ceded to hardware vendors. LAUSD thereby gave up all substantive control. Is this incompetence or impropriety?

Student Feedback on iPads - My juniors and seniors in Honors English have asked about the iPads, and after explaining the issues, I asked whether they felt that an iPad would better prepare them for college. Of approximately 130 students, only two hands went up, and one thought it would be great because he wouldn't have to lug around heavy textbooks. When I informed him that digital textbooks, which would cost at least \$200 per year per student for four classes, were specifically excluded from the plan, he was distressed. "Then what's the point?" he responded.

Misstating a "Civil Right"? - Supt. Deasy's repeated use of the term "civil right," with reference to issuing one-to-one computing devices, was profoundly cynical. A great public education is a civil right; a tablet or notebook computer is not, and there's scant evidence that one-to-one computing is the path to a

IPADS AND LIMITED RESOURCES (Cont.)

a great education. It was reprehensible to invoke civil rights, which are in genuine jeopardy on many fronts, to jam through a procurement.

How Urgent is Instructional Technology? - If bond funds are off limits for short term assets, then instructional technology must compete for scarce resources with many other purposes: staffing levels (including class size), employee compensation, administrative technology, security, books, copiers, supplies and field trips, among others. In that universe of considerations, instructional technology doesn't seem terribly urgent.

Alan Warhaftig has published several articles on technology that are relevant to reconsideration of the Common Core Technology Program. Click [HERE](#) to read a series of three columns he published in 2005-2006 in *Teacher Magazine* from *Education Week*.

WE GET LETTERS...

*AALA thanks former superintendent **Dr. William J. Johnston** for this letter to AALA members.*

After much thought about the few in the business world who contribute large sums of money to Sacramento legislators to create laws allowing public schools to give public funds and students to charter schools, and realizing that these same few contribute millions of dollars to local public school board elections (i.e., LAUSD School Board Elections) favoring board candidates who advocate privatizing public education, and after reviewing a few research comparisons of public school versus charter school successes, I conclude the following:

Charter schools are divisive, disruptive and a distortion of public education. We need to restore, rebuild and unify public education for all students. Public schools are the most basic, fundamental institutions in our Democracy!

Revoke Charter schools—

Restore and Unify Public Schools—

JOIN THE LAUSD 5-K “MOVE IT!” CHALLENGE

When: Saturday, November 22, 2014, at 8:00 a.m.

Where: Dodger Stadium, 1000 Elysian Park Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Through October 31, 2014, the first 2,600 employees and retirees can register for free by taking a [health survey](#), getting the free registration coupon at the end of the survey and then registering [HERE](#).

BE ALERT TO SOCIAL MEDIA USAGE

As you are aware, LAUSD has a social media policy which governs use of electronic communication by District employees and associated persons (parents, parent-elected leaders of school committees, representatives and volunteers, consultants, contracted employees, walk-on coaches, child care/enrichment providers, vendors and afterschool providers). Bulletin No. 5658, dated February 1, 2012, *Social Media Policy for Employees and Associated Persons*, prohibits what can be shared, responded to or posted on District and all other equipment or resources. We encourage administrators and supervisory personnel to ensure that their staffs are aware of this policy and to routinely remind them of their roles and responsibilities as delineated in the bulletin. An overview of recent news articles shows school personnel throughout the country being reprimanded and even terminated for things that have been posted through social media. It is imperative that we all remember that nothing on the Internet or in email is private, irrespective of individual privacy settings.

REMINDER - FALL ALUMNI LUNCHEON

Guest Speaker: The Honorable **Rita Walters** – Opportunity Drawing – Great Gifts!
 Maggiano’s at The Grove – Thursday, Nov. 4, 2014, 11:30 Social Hour; 12:15 Lunch
 RSVP: **Gema Pivaral**, 213.484.2226

CALENDAR*

***The Superintendent has cancelled all organizational meetings until February.**

EVENT	DATE	CONTACT
Gifted/Talented Institute at the Pasadena Convention Center	November 1, 2014 8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Gifted/Talented Programs Office, 213.241.6500 or www.giftedchildrenla.org
AALA Executive Board Meeting	November 3, 2014 4:30 p.m.	Gema Pivaral , 213.484.2226 or gpivaral@aala.us
IELECTION DAY	November 4, 2014	
AAPA Bring Your Boss to Dinner at Golden Dragon Restaurant	November 5, 2014 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Cathy Tomyoy , 213.241.6990 or cathy.tomyoy@lausd.net
AALA Alumni Luncheon at Maggiano’s, The Grove	November 6, 2014 11:30 a.m.	Gema Pivaral , 213.484.2226 or gpivaral@aala.us
CalSTRS Pre-Retirement Workshop at Woodcrest ES, Auditorium	November 6, 2014 4:00 p.m.	
AEMP-AMAE Teacher Conference at 74th Street ES	November 8, 2014	Antonio Camacho , 310.251.6306 acamacho1950@sbcglobal.net
Veterans Day	November 11, 2014	
CalSTRS Pre-Retirement Workshop at Manhattan Place ES, Auditorium	November 13, 2014 4:00 p.m.	

JOIN CSUN'S NEW ONE SEMESTER, 6 UNIT TIER II PROGRAM



The Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, California State University, Northridge, is pleased to announce the next cohort of its program for the attainment of the Professional Administrative Services Credential (Tier II). This is a one semester, 6 unit Tier II program.

The cohort will run from January 2015 through May 2015 at a centralized location. Tuition for the entire program will be \$2,489.

Please note that this cohort is available to certificated employees of the Los Angeles Unified School District.

For registration information, please contact **Cynthia Perez**, at the CSUN ELPS Office at 818.677.2591 or cynthia.perez@csun.edu.

ADMINISTRATIVE CREDENTIAL & M.A. DEGREE AT CSUN

The CSUN program provided me with a strong foundation and the skills to work as a successful administrator. I was able to immediately use what I learned from the ELPS program as an assistant principal and especially now as a principal. The program was also an excellent launching point for the Doctoral program I completed. Overall the ELPS program was a great opportunity for my advancement in the field of Education.



~**Dr. Steve Martinez**, LAUSD Principal

Find someone with leadership potential to “tap on the shoulder!” New LAUSD Cohorts will be starting in January 2015 in the California State University Northridge (CSUN) Tier I Preliminary Administrative Credential and Master’s Degree Program in Educational Administration. Information meetings will be held in various locations—ESC East, ESC North, Thousand Oaks and Santa Monica—in November. For specific dates and locations, click [HERE](#).

Public, private and charter school educators are all welcome! Please visit our website at <http://www.csun.edu/education/elps>. For additional information, contact Dr. Jody Dunlap at jody.dunlap@csun.edu, or christine.hayashi@csun.edu, or call the Educational Leadership & Policy Studies Office at California State University, Northridge 818.677.2591.

OPPORTUNITY – TO ENROLL

Announcing the **Open Enrollment** for the AALA-Approved **Group Long Term Care Insurance Plan**.

You, as an active employee/member of LAUSD/AALA, have an opportunity to enroll in the AALA-Approved Group Long Term Care Insurance plan.

Current members of AALA, Retirees, Spouses and Family Members are eligible to enroll. All interested enrollees will need to complete a health application and are subject to Medical Underwriting.

The Open Enrollment period ends November 30, 2014.

Long Term Care is a subject that is becoming more important as each of us look towards financial planning for retirement. We hope you and your family consider taking advantage of this valuable benefit. To receive your free, no obligation enrollment packet with Rates, or if you have any questions, please call Specialists in Long Term Care Insurance Services, Inc. @ 1-800-764-6585, or you may also email info@siltc.com.

Important Note: If you call the 800 number, please identify yourself as a member of AALA. Please go to the following website www.siltc.com/aala if you are interested in reviewing the information on the Internet.

**Building Educational Justice within African American Communities –
Free Event at Loyola Marymount University**

Join us for a community dialogue on Building Educational Justice within African American Communities, *African American Youth Empowerment: Culturally Relevant/Responsive Teaching and Pedagogy*. Explore ways of teaching and learning that reject the cultural deficit model and instead encourage positive self-identity and empower African American students. **Wednesday, Nov. 5**, from 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. with networking reception to follow. For more information and to RSVP, visit <http://soe.lmu.edu/communitydialogue>. The event is hosted by the LMU School of Education, LMU Family of Schools, and the LMU Ed.D. in Educational Leadership for Social Justice.

**PROGRAM DIRECTOR FOR THE LOS ANGELES
URBAN TEACHER RESIDENCY PROGRAM**

The Center for Collaborative Education (CCE) seeks a Program Director for LAUTR. The Program Director position is a full-time position housed at the Center for Collaborative Education (CCE), Los Angeles Offices.

To learn more about the Program Director position and application procedures, please click [HERE](#), or contact **Whitney Willis**, Office Manager, at 213.351.2000. Application deadline is Friday, November 7, 2014.



POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Note to Applicants: Please be advised that you are responsible for making sure all the District requirements have been met. Do not contact AALA for information regarding positions; for detailed requirements for positions and employment updates use the contact phone number provided in the announcement or visit the District website at <http://www.lausdjobs.org> (classified) or http://teachinla.com/admin_vacancies/ (certificated). Employees who change basis during the school year may not earn a full year of service credit and annualized employees who change their basis during the year may sustain an annualized settlement.

CERTIFICATED, SCHOOL-BASED

INSTRUCTIONAL SPECIALIST

66th Street Elementary School and Hillcrest Elementary School, ISIC, MST 38G, E Basis. For information and application procedures, please contact **Karen G. Long**, Instructional Director, at karen.long@lausd.net. Application deadline is 5:00 p.m., Monday, November 10, 2014.

Reseda High School, ESC North, MST 41G, Temporary Adviser, B Basis. For information and application procedures, please contact **Dr. Margaret Kim**, Instructional Director, at 818.654.3600. Application deadline is 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, November 12, 2014.

CERTIFICATED, NON-SCHOOL-BASED

SPECIALIST, TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION, STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Office of Curriculum, Instruction, and School Support (OCISS), Common Core Technology Project (CCTP), MST 38G, Temporary Adviser, A Basis. For information and application procedures, please contact **Danny Palma** at danny.palma@lausd.net. Application deadline is 5:00 p.m., Monday, November 10, 2014.

COORDINATOR, TITLE I

Federal and State Education Programs (FSEP), MST 41G, Temporary Adviser, E Basis. For information and application procedures, please contact **Albert Gallegos**, at 213.241.6990. Application deadline is 5:00 p.m., Monday, November 10, 2014.

COORDINATOR, OPERATIONS SUPPORT SERVICES

Educational Service Center – West, MST 43G, Temporary Adviser, E Basis. For information and application procedures, please contact **Jan Davis**, at 310.914.2100. Application deadline is 3:00 p.m., Thursday, November 13, 2014.

COORDINATOR, SPECIAL EDUCATION SCHOOL AND FAMILY SERVICES

LAUSD SELPA/Division of Special Education, MST 40G, Temporary Adviser, A Basis. For information and application procedures, please contact **Aaron Jeffery**, at 213.241.6701, or aaron.jeffery@lausd.net. Application deadline is 5:00 p.m., Friday, November 14, 2014.

PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED POSITIONS

CERTIFICATED POSITIONS	LOCATION	CONTACT	DEADLINE
<i>INSTRUCTIONAL SPECIALIST</i> MST 38G, B Basis	52 nd Street ES, ISIC	Lee Lee Chou , Instructional Director, at leelee.chou@lausd.net	Friday 5:00 p.m. October 31, 2014
<i>COORDINATOR, RESPONSE TO INSTRUCTION AND INTERVENTION (RtI²)</i> MST 41G, E Basis	Office of Curriculum, Instruction, and School Support (OCISS)	Christine Vega , at christine.vega@lausd.net	Friday 5:00 p.m. October 31, 2014
<i>SPECIALIST, TALENT ACQUISITION</i> (2 Positions) MST 37G, A Basis	Certificated Workforce Management and Qualifications	Derek Ramage , Director, 213.241.4669	Monday 5:00 p.m. November 3, 2014
<i>INSTRUCTIONAL SPECIALIST</i> MST 40G, B Basis	Porter Ranch Community Span School, ESC North	Blanca A. Castillo-Alves , Instructional Director, at blanca.alves@lausd.net	Monday 5:00 p.m. November 3, 2014
<i>SITE OPERATIONS COORDINATOR</i> MST 38G, E Basis	24 th Street ES, ISIC	Lee Lee Chou , Instructional Director, at leelee.chou@lausd.net	Monday 5:00 p.m. November 3, 2014
<i>COORDINATOR, STANDARD ENGLISH LEARNER (SEL) PROGRAM</i> MST 41G, E Basis, 5 positions	OCISS (1 position in each ESC)	http://teachinla.com/admin_vacancies/	EXTENDED Thursday 5:00 p.m. November 13, 2014
<i>INSTRUCTIONAL SPECIALIST</i> MST 40G, B Basis	King Middle School Film & Media Magnet, ESC East	David Downing , Instructional Director, 323.224.3100	Tuesday 5:00 p.m. November 4, 2014
<i>SPECIALIST, MODERATE TO SEVERE DISABILITIES</i> MST 38G, E Basis	LAUSD/SELPA Division of Special Education	Lisa Kendrick , Director, 213.241.6701	Tuesday 5:00 p.m. November 4, 2014
<i>SPECIALIST, NEW TEACHER INDUCTION</i> (2 Positions) MST 38G, E Basis	Teacher Training Academy	Margaret Ureta , at margaret.ureta@lausd.net	Wednesday 5:00 p.m. November 5, 2014
<i>SPECIALIST, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & COMMUNICATIONS</i> MST 39G, E Basis	Division of Special Education	Sharyn Howell , Executive Director, 213.241.6701, or sharyn.howell@lausd.net	Wednesday 5:00 p.m. November 5, 2014

Associated Administrators of Los Angeles

CERTIFICATED POSITIONS	LOCATION	CONTACT	DEADLINE
<i>INSTRUCTIONAL SPECIALIST</i> MST 40G, B Basis	Sotomayor Learning Academies, ISIC	Dr. Derrick Chau , Instructional Director, at derrick.c.chau@lausd.net	Wednesday 5:00 p.m. November 5, 2014
<i>TEACHING AND LEARNING COORDINATOR, CENTRAL OFFICE</i> MST 41G, A Basis	Talent Management Division	Cuong Luu , at cnl5473@lausd.net	Wednesday 5:00 p.m. November 5, 2014
<i>INSTRUCTIONAL SPECIALIST, INVESTMENT SCHOOL</i> MST 40G, A Basis	Drew MS, ISIC	Edith Arabit , Senior Secretary, at mercedita.arabit@lausd.net	Thursday 5:00 p.m. November 6, 2014
<i>DIRECTOR, TEACHER DEVELOPMENT</i> MST 45G, A Basis	Talent Management Division	Cynthia Moore , at 213.241.3444 or, cynthia.moore@lausd.net	Thursday 5:00 p.m. November 6, 2014
<i>INSTRUCTIONAL SPECIALIST</i> MST 41G, B Basis	San Pedro HS, ESC South	Linda Kay , Instructional Director, 310.354.3400	Friday 5:00 p.m. November 7, 2014
<i>ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL</i> MST 41G, E Basis	Purche ES, ESC South	Tina Choyce , Instructional Director, 310.354.3400	Friday 5:00 p.m. November 7, 2014
<i>SPECIALIST, LEAST RESTRICTIVE ENVIRONMENT</i> MST 38G, E Basis, multiple positions	Division of Special Education	Lisa Kendrick , Director, 213.241.6701 or lisa.kendrick@lausd.net	<u>EXTENDED</u> 5:00 p.m. Monday November 10, 2014
CLASSIFIED POSITIONS	LOCATION	CONTACT	DEADLINE
<i>PRINCIPAL AUDITOR (ACCOUNTING)</i> \$38.09 - \$47.46 hourly	Office of the Inspector General	Click HERE	Wednesday November 5, 2014