



# NEWSLETTER

Hi UESF Retirees! Happy New Year! Make sure to RSVP for the first and upcoming membership meeting of 2026. It will be on **Thursday, January 22nd**, at the **Scottish Rite Masonic Center**. The meeting will run from **10:30 am till 1:00 pm** and lunch will be provided. Street parking is available with limited parking under the building.

**RSVP HERE.**



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2026



## LISA'S LETTER

Dear Retirees,

I sure hope you had a great holiday season and are looking forward to a good 2026.

First, **thank you so much to the 20+ retirees who came out for the UESF Strike Vote Meeting** in December or who helped in the days before with phone banking, etc. The Active Division voted an impressive **99.34%** in favor of giving the president authorization to call for a strike vote, and that second vote will be happening during the week of 1/21. More info to follow. Let's get ready to help again.

Secondly, **the UESF-Retired Division has finally started our interviews of union activists "back in the day" to the present**. I participated in the first interview of one of our own who told me all about what it was like to be a teacher and young union activist back in the 70s during the strikes. Please consider joining us in our UESF Oral History Project! We need help in interviewing colleagues who were key union activists during the years leading up to what was to become UESF. We need you to get to more people as soon as possible. If you are interested in helping us, please leave word at the office. They will get a hold of me and/or Ken Tray, our vice-chair, and we will in turn contact you.

Next, **elections for all officer and at-large positions on the Executive Board will be held at our May meeting**. We are a volunteer organization and work as a collective. We will formally open up the positions at our 1/22 meeting.

Lastly, **please sign up to attend our New Year's Luncheon on January 13th**. Attached is all the information that you need. We are limited to 50 people due to size and budget. Your dues will cover the costs of all UESF-Retired members, but guests will pay \$50.00 to attend. It will be a lot of fun!

How'd I do? This is only a smidgen shorter than last time, but there is so much to tell you!



Happy New Year,

**Lisa**

Lisa Gutierrez Guzman  
Chair, UESF Retired



# NEW YEAR'S LUNCHEON



This holiday season, UESF-R is throwing a New Year's Luncheon to welcome 2026! Join us for friendship, union camaraderie, good food, and fun!

Please fill out the form linked below if you plan to attend this event:

- Date & Time: Tuesday, January 13, 2025 (12:30-3 pm)
- Location: Dominic's SF (formerly El Patio Español) (Address: 2850 Alemany, S.F., CA 94112)
  - Free on-site parking lot, street parking and public transportation are available.

**IMPORTANT:** Due to room size, our party will be limited to 50 people—so RSVP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE! Guests are invited **if accompanied by a UESF-R member**, but they must pay \$50.00 for lunch. (A check must be written to "UESF-Retired." We can accept exact change.) The event will be held on the main floor, where the restaurant used to be located. No problems with elevators!

**RSVP HERE.**



# KEN'S CORNER

from Ken Tray, UESF-R Vice Chair



This New Year, let's join together and stand up to the Trump Administration's ongoing assault on our democratic institutions and public schools.

The good news is that **Prop 55 - The Millionaires Tax** is ready to go to the ballot in November, 2026!

Here's what it does:

- Renews the original Millionaire Tax (2012) that is scheduled to expire in 2030
- Taxes only the very wealthy
- Raises over \$37,000,000 for SFUSD
- Prevents massive education cuts when it expires
- Covers kids health programs and includes funds for preschool programs
- 98% goes to public schools

Meanwhile, on the local front we have critically important elections coming up in the June Primary and the General Election in November:

- Seats are up for Board of Education, Board of Supervisors along with a number of local initiatives and
- Voters will decide who will replace Speaker Emeritus Nancy Pelosi

Stay tuned and get ready to join UESF Retired Division campaign activities as we join CFT, CTA and San Francisco Labor Council in the upcoming campaigns.

***Remember: Education Activists Never Retire!***



# PARAEDUCATORS, JOIN THE RETIRED DIVISION!

from Janet Eberhardt, UESF-R EBoard Member

UESF Paraeducator Retirees: Where are You? Come Join the UESF Retired Division.

Happy New Year!

I am Janet Eberhardt, a recent retiree and I am asking you to join me as a member of the UESF Retired Division. I worked as an active UESF/SFUSD paraeducator for almost 40 years. During my career I also served on the UESF Bargaining team for over 25 years making sure that Paraeducator issues were front and center. Now, I am so excited to be a part of the UESF Retired Division Executive Board.

One of our Major Goals for 2026 is to **Increase Paraeducator Membership and Activity in the UESF Retired Division.** We are looking for you! We know you are out there! Paraeducators, we value your experience and need your involvement.

This is a great time to join and become a member. Come see and hear all about the UESF Retired Division. Take this opportunity to connect with fellow paraeducators and stay active. We will keep you informed on what's going on with UESF and SFUSD.

Your voice and experience are important! Our next meeting is scheduled for 10-1 pm Thursday, January 22nd. Mark your calendar and come join the fun.

Whether you retired in 2025 or years ago, it's never too late to join the UESF Retired Division. Current membership for all paraeducators is \$48. Yes, **\$48 for the entire year!** So let's build up Paraeducator participation and union strength.

***Building our membership is key!***



# CARA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

**from Hene Kelly, UESF-R EBoard Member**

All UESF Retired members are also members of CARA.

CARA is a statewide network of hundreds of organizations that educates and informs its membership, the public, and elected officials about issues affecting the well-being of California's working-class senior and disability community, with a priority on protecting programs such as Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid.

Additionally, CARA engages in legislative advocacy to promote and secure fair and equitable living conditions for older adults and people with disabilities at the state and national levels.

CARA TAKES POSITIONS on several California State and Federal Bills. These Bills are important to seniors and people with disabilities and are important to education, unions, Medicare, Social Security, affordable housing, and conservation.

I serve as the Chair of the CARA legislative Committee. If you are interested in legislation, email or call me, Hene Kelly at [henekelly@aol.com](mailto:henekelly@aol.com) or 415-533-5244. You can be a member of the CARA Legislative Committee.



## UESF-R @ STRIKE VOTE

On December 3, 2025, UESF Retired Division members participated as volunteers in the Active Division's Strike Authorization Vote at Balboa High School. They were assigned to different areas from membership registration to ballot distribution. Prior to the event, they also helped with phone banking.

