



BAKERSFIELD ELEMENTARY TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

837 "H" Street, Bakersfield, CA 93304 Phone (661) 327-4567 Fax (661) 327-5194

November 15, 2017

A Message from the Bakersfield Elementary Teachers Association

Hello everyone! There are several important issues covered within this email, so please read the entire thing.

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#### Student Risk Screening Scale

There continues to be a lot of talk about the District's use of a "screener" requiring teachers to label students. BETA called, participated in phone conferences, and sat down face to face in an attempt to understand the District's position and express teacher concerns. The concerns are plentiful and genuine: labeling students, subjective nature of the survey, personal liability if the press or others obtain copies of the student labels, the District using your labeling of students to screen the teachers themselves. Initially CTA and BETA felt the District was honestly attempting to work with us to find common ground and a workable solution. BETA was assured a communication with the teachers AND parents would be forthcoming from the District; instead the Board was informed about the District's new tool and that teachers would deliver the desired data in time for a Board report next month.

It is now BETA's opinion, with CTA's support, that teachers should not expose themselves to unneeded and unwanted liability by completing the Student Risk Screening Scale. The District has made it clear this is a VOLUNTARY survey. **DO NOT COMPLETE IT.** If you have already completed it, it is not too late to change all ratings to 0's. BETA believe's it is important to help the whole

child. If you every believe you have a student at risk, report it to your Principal or appropriate agency. Never hesitate to complete a CPS report if you have any concerns about the welfare of a student...err on the side of caution...REPORT. The survey the District has introduced may open teachers up to personal liability; you are being asked to rate something outside our field of expertise. Principal's may insist you complete the survey. Cut and past the following into an email:

The Student Risk Screening Scale is a voluntary survey . At this time I have significant concerns about the SRSS and do not feel comfortable completing the labels for my students. BETA has informed me I am within my rights to decline completing the survey. It is not my intent to be insubordinate, I am merely exercising my right to decline a voluntary request. I understand your concern, but thank you for your understanding.

Sincerely,

(Insert your name)

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## **Academic Conference Day on November 3, 2017**

**LAST CALL FOR THE SURVEY...PLEASE FILL IT OUT (3-4 minutes)**

On November 3 the District held the second of extra three days added to our school year via bargaining last year. November 3 was an Academic Conference Day where teachers were to receive:

- 2 1/2 hours of personal planning and preparation time
- 2 hours with you grade level to collaborate and PLC
- 2 hours admin led and training

Please follow the provided link to complete a BETA survey on Survey Monkey. Be honest and truthful as we want these days to be as successful as possible.

**Link---->**[BETA Academic Conference Day Survey](#)**<----Link**

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**Data Breach**

Just to be clear, it was not a breach. No hacking or intrusion into District computers took place. The file was mistakenly uploaded by a BCSD employee. If you received the email from the District at approximately 6:30 PM on Monday, November 13 your name **WAS** on the list that was uploaded to BCSD Board Docs on Thursday, November 9 from approximately 4:25 PM - 7:30 PM (just over 3 hours) Victims of the release should also be receiving additional information from BCSD about the 1 year of credit/fraud monitoring being offered.

I have received large numbers of complaints and concerns over the speed in which this has (and continues to be) handled. As well as concerns regarding only a single year of monitoring. Your concerns are valid and need to be heard. Please email me at [President@bakersfieldteachers.org](mailto:President@bakersfieldteachers.org) and I encourage you to share those same concerns with Mr. Ervin ([ervind@bcsd.com](mailto:ervind@bcsd.com)) and Dr. Cox ([coxd@bcsd.com](mailto:coxd@bcsd.com)). The BETA office has stayed in close contact with BCSD regarding their posting of employee information and the steps they are taking. We are encouraging BCSD to make things right, but they need to hear from you!

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