Dear Colleagues,

"Together We Rise" is a statement of truth, and I want to thank everyone for working so hard to show the District, and to reaffirm to ourselves, that we ARE one faculty body who collectively teach, mentor, and support our students across three campuses. We truly are the value producers of this District.

It's not a struggle to recognize that without faculty there are no students. We work with thousands of students every day and each in our own way. Our common bond is that we are passionately dedicated to serving our students, and we can only continue doing this great work if we can afford to make a living to support ourselves, our families, and prepare for our eventual retirement.

This is the most unified we've been in 20 years. We are not accepting the "status quo" framework any longer. As a collective body, we can no longer tolerate the agony of knowing that we could drive down the road in different directions and make \$7000 to \$10,000 more a year on schedule and have dependent health coverage. We can no longer accept lecture/lab inequality. We can no longer try to convince ourselves that it is respectful for the Trustees to ask us to work for salary that does not keep up with basic cost of living increases.

This is our time. The detached nature of the Trustees and the "status quo" attitude about our professional worth has brought us to this place, and we must speak up for ourselves.

Please see the message below sent to us from CTA Executive Director, Joe Boyd and CTA President, Toby Boyd.

I hope to see many of you tomorrow at the Board of Trustees meeting!

Christie

Christie Diep President, United Faculty

February 10, 2020

Greetings President Diep and United Faculty CTA members,

We send you our support and solidarity. We are proud to support you with resources, staff, and expertise. But mostly, and most powerfully, we support you with our solidarity. A solidarity born of the strength of 300,000 members who support each other in organizing fights like yours.

Your fight for better teaching conditions, fair wages, and quality health care is all of our fight. When you win, we all win. Your organizing lifts all of us.

Keep up the fight sisters and brothers!

Thank-you for all that you do for our schools and our communities.

Toby and Joe

E. Toby Boyd, CTA President Joe Boyd, CTA Executive Director

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