

Top Three from the PFT Rep Council March 2026

1. PFT Educational Leadership Feedback (ELF) Survey

- The ELF survey launched on Thursday, March 26. Spring Break is the week of April 6. The survey will close on Thursday, April 16. It will be sent to your personal email address.
- Please note, that school sites with new or interim leaders or those working with SDCOE will not receive a PFT survey this year. If your school is in this situation, you will not receive a survey link.

2. PFT Presidential Election for 2026-27 and 2027-28 term and Standing Committee Appointments

PFT Presidential Election:

- Kelly Powell submitted a petition with 100 signatures from current PFT Members in good standing by the deadline: Monday March 23, 2024, at 4:00pm.
- No other petitions were submitted.
- The Rep Council approved Kelly Powell as PFT President for the above term by acclamation at the March Rep Council meeting, since an election with only one candidate is unnecessary.

Standing Committee Appointments:

Per the PFT By-Laws, 2.1, The President, subject to ratification by the Representative Council, shall appoint the Chairs and Membership of standing committees.

- The PFT Rep Council ratified the following appointments for next school year. (No other members requested consideration for appointment).

Nominations and Elections Committee

Susan Joyner, Chair: Internal Operations and Elections and Nominations and Elections Committee

Patrick Keough, Nominations and Elections Committee Member

Crystal Ochoa, Nominations and Elections Committee Member

PFT COPE Committee

Patrick Keough, COPE Chair

Michelle Derksen, COPE Treasurer

Jay Steiger, COPE Secretary

Negotiating Committee

Kelly Powell, Chair

Greg Strachan, Member

Michelle Derksen, Member
Patrick Keough, Member
Crystal Ochoa, Member
Nancy Beretz, Member

3. Negotiations/Interest Based Problem Solving (IBPS) and Special Education Improvements

- We are continuing to work to negotiate a 3-year Successor Agreement (2026-27, 2027-2028, 2028-29) and to pursue the priorities from our recent bargaining survey!
- IBPS dates
 - The parties met on Feb 4 & 11, March 4, 24, & 27
 - Upcoming sessions: April 17 & May 20
- PFT Bargaining Survey data identified the following as a high priority for Members: Support students with IEPs to meet their needs in the least restrictive environment, even if this means bringing back specialized classes or services for part of the day as appropriate. Keep the focus on student needs rather than focusing on a specific initiative.
 - Priority 2/10 for Special Ed teachers
 - Priority 3/10 for Elementary teachers
 - Priority 3/10 for Middle School teachers
 - Priority 4/10 for ALL teachers
 - Priority 4/10 for Preschool teachers
- To better meet the needs of students and teachers as expressed in our bargaining survey, and to further improve our continuum of services for students, PUSD & PFT have reached agreement on two changes for the 2026-2027 school year.
- Elementary Structured Supports (SS) Program
 - Elementary SS classes will serve students in two grade levels rather than three. The grade bands will be K/1, 2/3, and 4/5. TK students will be served in a TK-only Structured Supports classroom.
 - Class sizes will also be reduced, with class size targets changing from 12-15 students to 10-12 students.
 - These changes will likely result in a greater number of classes, teachers, and IAs for this program. This will allow more opportunities to support students when they are learning in the SS classroom, as well as more opportunities to support students when they mainstream into gen ed classes as appropriate.
- Elementary Behavioral Academic Social Emotional Support (BASES) Program
 - Currently, there is one Behavioral Academic Social Emotional Support (BASES) class at the elementary level district-wide. It supports

students in grades 3-5. This upper grade classroom will remain, and a primary grade class (K-2) will be added for the 2026-27 school year.

o This will provide a program for qualifying *primary grade* students.

- NOTE: For all grades K-12, the Behavioral Academic Social Emotional Support (BASES) program will be called Social Emotional and Academic Success (SEAS) program starting in the 2026-27 school year.

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Thank you,
Julie B. Garcia
PFT Secretary

