



Foothill – De Anza Association of Classified Employees (ACE)  
650.949.7789 | D140 Annex Bldg.  
www.acefhda.org

---

Date: December 13, 2017  
To: ACE Executive Board  
From: Chris White, President  
RE: Recommendation: Political Action Committee (PAC) loan forgiveness

---

The current Political Action Committee (PAC) Fund was established in 2010 as a loan to the FHDA Board of Trustees Parcel Tax initiative. ACE loaned \$10,500 to the initiative and would reimburse itself through voluntarily member contributions. To date \$7,881 has been reimbursed.

In August 2016, the ACE Board reviewed the PAC fund and decided it was an activity the organization wanted to continue and grow. It was agreed we would work on developing a clear policy on how the funds would be used and increasing contributions through member outreach and. A policy was board approved in October. 2016. A formal appeal for contributions was made to the membership at the Sept. 22 general membership meeting. It was followed up with a PAC fund article published in the Oct. 2016 ACE newsletter. A call to action for members to contribute has been included in every newsletter since the article was published. The ACE president also followed up with a personal appeal to all ACE executive board members. As a result, monthly contributions increased from \$36 to \$134 a month, primarily through ACE board member contributions. Retirements have reduced the contributions to \$97 per month.

Soliciting support to pay back a loan when 56% of our membership weren't employed with FHDA when it was taken out is challenging at best. The fact that the loan funded a failed initiative where no one reaps any benefit compounds the problem. If the fund is going to grow, a stronger, more consistent appeal to the current membership is necessary. PAC activity relating to support for FHDA Board of Trustee races, statewide initiatives affecting community college funding, and other political action directly relating to FHDA would be far more compelling a reason to support the ACE PAC than repaying an old loan.

**Recommendation:**

Forgive the remainder of the PACE loan, \$2,619, so contributions moving forward may go towards advocacy on issues that directly affect ACE members today and in the future.