

# Contact

Montebello Teachers Association/California Teachers Association/National Education Association • 918 W Whittier Blvd Montebello 90640 • (323) 722-5005 • montebelloteachers.org

## Up, Up, and Away

### Will There Be A New Retirement Incentive?



The Bargaining Team met Monday, March 8 to discuss retirement incentives. Bargaining Chairperson Terry SalasOrtiz reported to the Executive Committee that it was not fiscally prudent at this time for the District to implement a retirement incentive.

The Bargaining Team also made dates for May and June to begin negotiating the full

contract. *Bargaining surveys are due*

**Tuesday, March 23.**

### Early Retirement Open Deadline Is April 15

If you are planning on early retirement at the conclusion of the current school year, you must complete and return the option form to the certificated personnel office no later than **Thursday, April 15**. You must be between 55 and 60 years of age and have 15 years of experience with the District to qualify for the option. You are not obligated to include a letter of resignation at the time of completing the option form. Call Jean at extension 2329 for more information.

### Retirement Benefits Workshop March 25

The District and the Association will jointly present a workshop on retirement health benefits **Thursday, March 25**, 3:30 p.m. at the District Office Board Room. All those considering retiring any time in the next fifteen years are encouraged to attend.

### STRS Interest Rate Will Increase

In specific situations STRS allows members to purchase additional service credit. Beginning July 1, 2004 there will be a substantial increase in the cost of permissive service credit. Any purchases initiated on or after July 1, 2004 will reflect the higher contribution rate. For more information go to CALSTRS.com.

### MTA Retirement Banquet Is June 11

The Association will honor the 2003-2004 retirees at a Banquet **Friday, June 11**. The celebration will be held at the Reef Restaurant in Long Beach. *If you or someone you*

### Capitol Step Tickets Available

The Association has *Capitol Steps* tickets available for purchase.

Saturday, May 1

8 p.m.

\$26 each

Contact President Margie Granado

### HOUSE Meetings Scheduled

Many Bargaining Unit members have been notified of eligibility for HOUSSSE to receive NCLB Highly Qualified Status. A third date has been added for those interested in getting more information on how to complete HOUSSSE paperwork. The meetings are at 3:30 p.m. at LMI.

Monday, March 29

Wednesday, March 31

Thursday, April 29

If requested, more meetings can be scheduled through June 2006.

### Adult Education Is In the Spotlight

Staff from *the California Educator* have been in MUSD recently, to prepare for their first ever story on Adult Education. It's expected to be published in the May/June issue. They interviewed Phyllis Butland as the Chair of the newly formed CTA Adult Ed Caucus. They also interviewed four other adult education teachers of various subjects: High School History, ESL, Citizenship and Conversation. In addition, photos were

