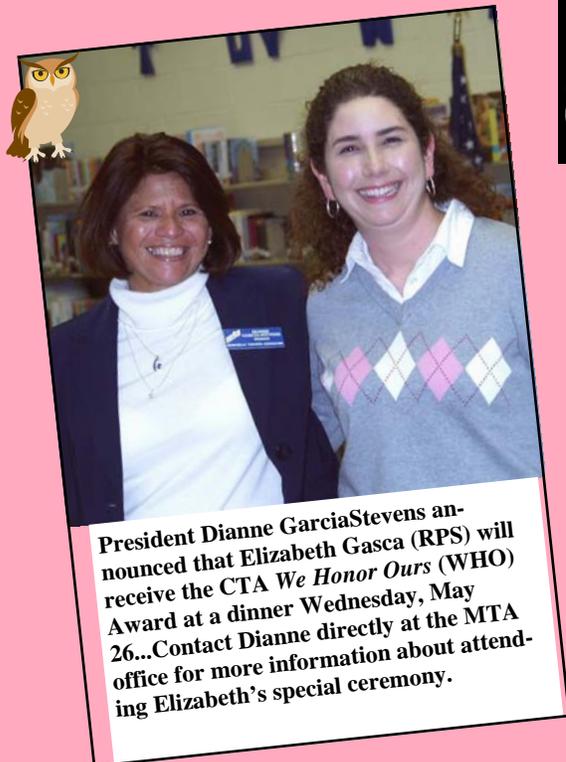




CONTACT

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



President Dianne GarciaStevens announced that Elizabeth Gasca (RPS) will receive the CTA *We Honor Ours* (WHO) Award at a dinner Wednesday, May 26...Contact Dianne directly at the MTA office for more information about attending Elizabeth's special ceremony.



Bargaining Update

Association Unites and Averts RIF Yet, there is still much work to do!

The Bargaining Team has worked collaboratively with the District in order to creatively and professionally eliminate the need to send out Reduction in Force (RIF) lay-off notices to more than 100 Bargaining Unit members this spring. The **Early Volunteer Transfer Incentive** was successful. The magic number of 99 multiple subject transfers into single subject or special education and multiple subject retirees was met.

Bargaining Team Chairperson Andy Shinn (BGI), and his team Julian De La Torre (EAI), Alma Orta (SUE), Dolores Rego (BGH), and Frank Zaragoza (SHS) visited sites last week to secure the numbers required for the program to be implemented.

Will there be more transfers this year?

Voluntary Transfers - The deadline for voluntary transfers is **Thursday, April 15**. Those wishing to volunteer to transfer from one site to another must submit an application to the Human Resources Department.

Assignments—Whenever possible, reassignments from one position to another at the same site are announced no later than **May 15**. Assignments at the elementary level will take into account the increase in class size at K-3. Along with anticipated declining enrollment, there will possibly be many fewer K-3 assignments.

Involuntary Transfers - The District retains the responsibility to determine program needs and to establish the necessary staffing to implement the educational program. Primary consideration for voluntary transfers includes: credentialing requirements, experience in teaching specific subject areas, and teacher in-District seniority. ***The number of involuntary transfers the District will mandate for the 2010-2011 school year will Depend on the final participation in the Early Transfer Incentive Program, voluntary transfers, and the PARS retirement incentive.***

Where are we on the Retirement Incentive?

Many, many Bargaining Unit members considered participating in the retirement incentive, but were unable to get STRS counseling appointments. The program was successful to the extent that individuals made good faith attempts to obtain the right information to make a sound decision, yet the resources were not available. Additionally, the District and the Association reviewed the accounting for the retirement incentive and agreed that the minimum threshold for activating the program is now **47** and has been extending through **Thursday, April 1** at 4 p.m.

What about Wages and other negotiations?

The Bargaining Team continues to negotiate the full contract. Each member of the Bargaining Team has read the bargaining surveys and visited sites. Negotiations continue through March.

Aquarium of the Pacific Offers Free Admission for Teachers in March

Bring your school ID to the ticket window to receive free admission to the Aquarium during March. Enjoy the galleries, touch a shark, visit the gift shop for a discount and watch one of our many shows. The Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach asks, please visit us during our free teacher month of March. Bring your co-workers and make a day of it. We can also offer \$3 off adult admission and \$1.50 off child admission for up to 4 additional tickets. For more information go to http://www.aquariumofpacific.org/groupsales/teachers_free_admission/.



Executive Committee Elections Are in May

Nominations for the Executive Committee and State Council will close at the Council meeting on **Tuesday, April 20**. The meeting will begin at 3:30 p.m. at La Merced Intermediate School. Eligible members may be nominated in one of three ways: (1) complete the petition (available through the MTA Office), (2) nomination on the floor of Council, or (3) via the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee can be contacted through the MTA office.

The members of the Nominating Committee are Ben Chavez (LMI), Gloria Cunningham (WIE), and Wendy Ibanez (BVE).

More information regarding the offices found in the Bylaws. The MTA bylaws can be found at montebelloteachers.com.

Nominations are open for:

Vice President

Secretary

Elementary Director

High School Director

Adult Education Director

CTA State Council Seat