



# CONTACT

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## Nominations Are Open for the *Blanche Chester Teacher Advocate Award*

Simply complete the form below and return it to the MTA office by **Friday, February 27**. This honor is awarded to individuals who demonstrate strong Bargaining Unit member advocacy at their site and throughout the Association. All nominees will be asked to complete an application and statement. In addition, the nominator will be asked to gather individual testimonials from colleagues on behalf of the nominee.

The Executive Committee will select three Blanche Chester finalists, who will be announced at the April 21 Council meeting. There will be one finalist each from the three levels: pre K-grade 4, grade 5-grade 8, and grade 9-adult. A committee of former Blanche Chester winners will determine the winner among the finalists. The announcement will be made at the May 19 Council meeting. *So take a moment and complete the form below and recognize an outstanding advocate.*

### Board President Gerri Guzman Talks to Members

Board President Gerri Guzman visited the Council meeting Tuesday, January 27 to talk to members regarding District and State budget crisis concerns. Gerri asked members to contact her directly with rumors about Board actions and motives.

Gerri commented, "the students and the District's employees are my highest priority. My goal is that all Board actions are completely transparent."

The Governor has proposed mid-year cuts to funding and cuts to education 2009-2010. More will be known about the District budget when the legislature takes action.



### Blanche Chester Award For Teacher Advocacy

- Paul McKernan.....1992
- Patricia Knapp .....1993
- Robin GrayBallard .....1994
- Karen van der Baan .....1995
- Linda Moran.....1996
- Maria Cortes.....1997
- David Lebow .....1998
- Frank van der Baan.....1999
- Mary Dupuis.....2000
- Juan Gastelum.....2001
- JoAnn Barro.....2001
- Lois Wankovsky.....2002
- Pat Tonelli.....2003
- Betty Kirschner.....2004
- Sharon Ramirez.....2005
- Marcia Ugalde.....2006
- Walt Lowery .....2007
- Horacio Perez.....2008

## Nominate An Outstanding Teacher Advocate for the Blanche Chester Award Return to the MTA office no later than Friday, February 27

I nominate \_\_\_\_\_ Site \_\_\_\_\_ for the Blanche Chester Award.  
*(Current Members of the 2008-2009 Executive Committee and previous winners are not eligible.)*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ Site \_\_\_\_\_ Extension \_\_\_\_\_

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