

# mta CONTACT

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

## We're Here...MTA Office Hours

The MTA office is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday -Thursday and from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday.

Voice mail will take your call if no one is available to answer the phone.

The MTA office will be closed **Friday, July 3** and **Monday July 27** through **Friday, August 7**. Emergency contact information will be available on the telephone answering machine.

## Summer Informational Meeting

Bargaining Unit members are encouraged to attend the August Informational Meeting which is scheduled for **Tuesday, August 25**, 3:30 p.m. at Suva Intermediate.

Association representatives will discuss the Governor's budget, Insurance costs and the NEA convention. Members are encouraged to attend and bring site and personal concerns.

## Board of Education Candidate Forum Scheduled

Three seats on the Montebello Unified School District Board of Education will be on the November 3 ballot. Incumbents Hector Chacon, Edwin Chau, and Gerri Guzman will be up for re-election.

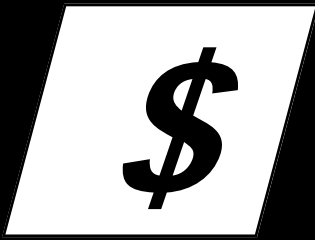
All candidates must file for the election no later than August 7. The MTA Political Action Committee will set up interviews for each candidate.

An Open Forum for those wishing to hear the candidates will be held **Wednesday, September 16**, 3:30 p.m. at La Merced Intermediate. Council will decide on endorsements **Tuesday, September 22**.

## Governor Attacks Education Budget



- **The billions of dollars of new cuts to public education proposed by the governor in his May Revision will bankrupt the academic futures of California's 9.8 million students in our schools, colleges and universities. This is the fourth round of cuts in just twelve months.** Critical programs that help students succeed are being dismantled and thousands of educators have been laid off. These cuts will cause lasting damage to the ability of our children and the state to compete and succeed in the future.
- **Our public schools and students have endured too much already. Public education has taken more than 60 percent of the state budget cuts.** The governor is proposing additional education cuts of \$1.6 billion this school year, and another \$4.6 billion in the state fiscal year starting July 1. This is in addition to the crippling \$11.6 billion in cuts made to schools and colleges in February's budget deal. **The total cuts to education would add up to nearly \$3,000 per student.**
- California can't climb out of this financial hole if we continue to rob our children of a well-rounded education. **The future we want for our students and our state can only be achieved by investing in our children today. The education of our children must be the state's top priority if we are going to reach a better future.**
- Our students are the ones who are suffering. We ask them to meet some of the highest academic standards in the nation, and then fund their education at an embarrassing level, currently 47th in the nation. **We can't expect our students to continue to make improvements and meet our standards when the state refuses to provide the resources necessary to help students succeed. Maybe it's time for the state to temporarily suspend the state's testing and accountability system until it can provide adequate funding.**
- In these tough economic times, there are tough decisions to be made. **Increased revenues must be part of the solution. This includes majority-vote fee increases and rescinding corporate tax breaks approved in the February budget agreement.** Rather than giving tax breaks to big businesses, lawmakers need to invest in our future – our children. CTA will continue to fight to make sure that all students get the quality education they deserve and that schools get the resources they need to help students succeed.



June 8, 2009

**Revenue & Expense**

**mta Report**

The Revenue & Expense Committee was created in February 1995 to cooperatively examine the District's finances. The Committee is comprised of members each from MTA, CSEA, and MUSD.

MTA

- Lorraine Richards (MHS)
- Ryan Rice (SHS)
- Dorothy Chu (CCE)
- Julian De La Torre, alt. (EAI)

Kathy Schlotz (ex-officio)

**REVENUE AND EXPENSE QUARTERLY REPORT**

**Revenues**

The month of March 2009.....	\$10,452,025.00
The month of March 2008.....	\$13,108,844.00
Year to date this year .....	\$136,177,090.00
Year to date last year.....	\$153,916,141.00

**Expenses**

The month of March 2009.....	\$17,025,733.00
The month of March 2008.....	\$14,683,296.00
Year to date this year .....	\$114,714,984.00
Year to date last year.....	\$115,337,117.00

**TOPICS OF INTEREST THIS QUARTER**

**Facilities Update:** Don Yamagata, Director of Facilities Development reported that the state continues to freeze the release of construction funds because of the state budget crisis. MUSD was fortunate enough to obtain \$11 million of state funds just days before the freeze. With the \$11 million plus the \$35 million of general obligation bonds sold in August, there is no immediate cash shortage for current construction projects. All future projects are on hold right now until the state budget situation is resolved. He also reported that the Governor proposed lowering the 3% general fund contribution requirement for deferred maintenance (on-going facilities maintenance) to 1% in 2009-2010, placing current facilities in jeopardy. The Applied Technology Center plans have been approved by the Department of State Architect (DSA), the estimated September 2010 completion is going to be very challenging. All the empty portables have been lock-down to save energy. Others portables that will no longer be occupied have been removed from sites and taken to Mines and Maple to be sold.

**Use of Facilities & Costs:** Robert Henke, Assistant Superintendent, Pupil & Community Services reported the District has consistently charged approximately twenty outside groups for using the school's facilities. Robert Henke distributed the District's Board Policy, BP 1330 USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES, for reference. He also reported the District will terminate any group's permit if they are not doing what they had signed on for.

**1<sup>st</sup> Interim Report:** The 1<sup>st</sup> Interim report projects the financial conditions of the current and subsequent two fiscal years. With the information available at the time in conjunction with the approximately \$4 million Board authorized budget reductions, the district will remain financially solvent in the current and subsequent two fiscal years. However, with the latest information pertaining to the 2008-09 and the 2009-10 budget, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Interim projections will most likely suggest insolvency for the following two fiscal years without substantial budget reductions.

**Budget Status:** Since the defeat of the May 19 budget propositions, the 2008-2009 revenues are again in jeopardy. The Governor has proposed additional midyear cuts. The revenue owed to the District in July may not be paid until October. The District will apply to LACOE for a TRAN loan to maintain positive cash flow in the wake of State deferrals.

**Social Security:** The concern began when the issue arose about signing a time report that required a social security number, which was determined that ONLY the last four digits are required for payroll reasons. The Committee has requested that the District identify in what situations a full social security number is absolutely needed and how that number will be kept secured.

**Energy Conservation:** Reminder to turn off all appliances of electronics that will not be in use over the summer.