



A Report from our *President*

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With President Obama's Administration the education community was hoping and expecting for some definitive changes. Instead, we begin the new decade with Race to the Top, which most of us in leadership foresee as the new reauthorization of NCLB. Not many of us are interested in what happens nationally in education, but we should be.

Wanting not to miss an opportunity, California hastily passed new laws to become eligible for RTTT. Educational reforms enacted by the California Legislature and signed into law by the Governor will affect all California schools whether or not the state receives RTTT funds. Such reforms like the Open Enrollment and Parent Trigger will create disorder in school districts and take resources away from the classroom. If that is not enough there's more. Our Governor's proposed state budget includes changes to our seniority rights and March layoff notification process.

Enough is enough! It's time for everyone to **Unite, to become better informed.** We are the Montebello Teachers Association, comprised of many talented professionals. Do we face some difficult challenges? Yes we do. Am I asking you to get involved? Yes I am. Do I believe each of you will make a difference? Of course I do. Whether it is talking with family, friends, or neighbors we need to get the message to our Governor and state lawmakers that any further cuts to public education or other essential services will not be taken lightly. March 4th will be our day to send a message to Sacramento. This is the day CTA has crowned as **Start the Day for Students.** More information concerning this day will be coming very soon.

So you've read what's happening nationally and state wide, but what you really want to know is what's going on in MUSD.

- **The Association is continuing to have conversations with the District.**
- **We are visiting school sites to get your input concerning negotiations.**
- **The Association and District have language for another retirement incentive. Details concerning this incentive can be found on our web page and of course, we will share it at all site visits.**
- **Our goal continues to be an advocate for all members.**
- **In President Obama's State of the Union Address, President Obama asked the Senate to send him a Job's Bill to sign. What this means to us is, the possibility of saving or creating more educational jobs. The possibility of less RIF's.**
- **Visit our Web page for the latest information.**
- **Talk with your Reps at your site.**
- **Be informed by attending your Faculty Club meetings.**
- **If you haven't scheduled a site visit please call the MTA office and schedule one.**

Benjamin Franklin said, "We must all hang together, or assuredly we shall all hang separately."
Let's hang together United!