

mta CONTACT

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

Cartoonist Lalo Alcaraz Wins CTA State Gold Award

The California Teachers Association (CTA) recognizes individuals who make a statewide impact on public education. Our Association nominated Lalo Alcaraz, well known for his *La Cucaracha* comic strip. The strip was the first nationally syndicated, politically themed Latino daily comic strip.

Many of Lalo's cartoons are specifically supportive of our public school system. You may take a look at his cartoons at laloalcaraz.com Most notably, Lalo's wife is Fremont Elementary teacher Victoria Landeros-Lopez.



Law Gives Teachers the Final Word on Students' Grades

The California Education Code protects teachers' rights to grade students. When grades are given for any course of instruction taught in a school district, the grade given to each pupil shall be the grade determined by the teacher of the course and the determination of the pupil's grade by the teacher, in the absence of clerical or mechanical mistake, fraud, bad faith, or incompetence, shall be final.

§ 49066: if a parent, student, or administrator challenges a grade the teacher has the right to defend the grade. An Association representative should always be present at such a challenge.

Teachers are Responsible for Failure Notices

Classroom teachers are directly responsible for notifying parents of possible failing grades. Whenever it becomes evident to a teacher that a student is in danger of failing a course (D or F grade), the teacher must arrange a conference with the student's parent/guardian or send the parent/guardian a written report (failure notice). In all cases the notification must come prior to the assignment of the grade.

The teacher's responsibility for failure notices is stated in California Education Code 49067 and Montebello Unified School District Administrative Regulation 5121 (a).

Find Out About Your Site Budget

The Business Division sends an updated copy of the site budget each month. It is also appropriate to ask that the budget be posted in the lounge.

The school site council is responsible for advising on the Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA). Thus the School Site Council directs most of the discretionary money at the site and advises the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) for each site.

At both the secondary and elementary level, the school site council includes teachers selected by teachers at the school. To find out more about the role of the school site councils go to montebelloteachers.org.

Your Thoughts on 2015-16 Calendars?

The Calendar Committee has begun serious consideration of the 2015-2016 calendars. The first step is to offer each bargaining unit member an opportunity to complete a survey and contribute input on calendar preferences.

The Calendar Survey is available at montebelloteachers.org. Only one survey will be accepted per member. Surveys are due **Friday, May 16**.



Some Enchanted Evening

MTA Retirement Banquet 2014

Friday, June 6, 2014

Social 6:00 pm Dinner 7:00 pm

The Reef Restaurant
Long Beach, CA

\$45 per person before May 9

\$60 per person after May 9

RSVP online at
montebelloteachers.org

or to the MTA Office

Phone: 323-722-5005, Fax: 323-722-0543

mta

