



Building Rep Memo

Montebello Teachers Association 918 W Whittier Blvd. • Montebello, CA 90640 • (323) 722-5005 • (323) 722-0543 fax • montebelloteachers.org

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Margie Granado
Immediate Past President

Kathy Kohn
Executive Director

March 11, 2008

TO: Building Reps

FR: Dianne GarciaStevens, president
and Kathy Kohn, executive director

RE: COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY, MARCH 18 AT 3:30 P.M.
LA MERCED INTERMEDIATE LIBRARY



1. **Bargaining** continues to be the first priority of this Association. The two teams have met since June. They have met at least once a week every week since mid February. The two teams met again Friday, March 7 and reported some progress. Wages continues to be the major challenge in a settlement.
2. In the meantime, the District has made **substantial cuts** in order to balance the 2008-2009 budget in the wake of declining enrollment and the State fiscal crisis. Approximately 40 percent of the administrative positions have been cut from the 2008-2009 budget. Temporary Contract teachers were officially notified that they may not be rehired next year due to enrollment and staffing. The District's current year budget reports have been approved by the Los Angeles County of Education and the District is considered fiscally solvent. President Dianne GarciaStevens and NEA Director Margie Granado (BAE) have lobbied State legislators to fully fund education in 2008-2009. Similarly, Superintendent Ed Velasquez has traveled to Sacramento to lobby.
3. President Dianne GarciaStevens will report on the Association's organizing activities. She reviews the **"stories" submitted on montebelloteachers.org** and incorporates them in her remarks to the Board of Education. Please continue to report to Dianne *our remarkable stories*.
4. The Board of Education has yet to approve the four **calendars** (traditional, traditional modified, single track, and Adult Education). Therefore, it is difficult, if not impossible, to write memorandum of understanding (MOUs) to change staff development days. Many schools have requested a change of calendar and the District is seeking all schools be on a traditional calendar in 2008-2009. It appears that the calendar issues are delayed by negotiations.
5. Sites considering **banking of minutes MOUs** may wish to begin discussions now. MOUs are due the end of April for banking of minutes and hopefully for calendar, as well.

