

MONTEBELLO TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
Representative Council Meeting
April 26, 2011

CALL TO ORDER

April's Rep Council meeting was called to order at 3:40 pm

PRESIDENT'S REPORT- Dianne GarciaStevens

1. Dianne welcomed everyone, hoped everyone had a good spring break. She wished the best in upcoming CSTs. She introduced guest Ernesto Flores from El Camino Federal Credit Union. They visited to council because they donated Day of the Teacher gift. Day of the Teacher is May 11th.
2. At last Superintendent meeting the topic of class size waiver was discussed. They asked Dianne to write a letter in support of the class size waiver. Dianne said she could not and will not support it. The district's request was approved. They said they would never violate contract, but we need to protect our members; the same School Board members and cabinet will not always be there.
3. Dianne thanked everyone who has participated in CTA workshops offered by Southeastern Service Center. Workshops information is on MTA website. Glad to see members taking advantage. There is one more workshop remaining this year entitled, "Are you retiring?"
4. There will be a meeting for non-returning employees on April 28th. If you have TCs at your site let them know about the meeting
5. There will be a May 10th district meeting for those who are retiring this year.

Camino Federal Credit Union "Day of the Teacher"

Ernesto Flores thanked members for having El Camino Federal present at council here for the "RED for ED" campaign. They are honored to be participating in campaign. Staff is wearing red every Tuesday. He shared the Credit Union is excited of what the future holds for us. The members of the association are the owners of the Credit Union. The Credit Union has been in Montebello since 1941. That is 70 year partnership and they appreciate your support.

SEATING OF ALTERNATES

Yolanda Flores (MPE) and Maria Del Valle (BAE) served as alternates at this council.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Agenda adopted as written.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes were approved by Elvia De La Cruz (MOA), Maria Balderas (SUE), and Kathy Reyes (BGI)

REPORTS, DISCUSSION OR ACTIONS

1. Tax Fairness Presentation – J. Schlotz

Jim Schlotz shared Tax Fairness presentation two simple things. At the bargaining table we need to test assumptions of “we are broke” agenda of our district. In the state of California we need to track where the money is being allocated. Jim reviewed educational spending. We are not receiving actual funds due to education based on proposition 98. Education spending has grown slower than other sectors. Decisions are being made to divert funding away from education. There is a huge change in distribution of wealth. Are we broke? Not really. Where is the money? The money is at the top. We need to be informed so when community asks we can inform them. Jim’s presentation is available on MTA website.

2. California State of Emergency- D. GarciaStevens

The membership at State Council decided that we needed to take action. Drastic cuts to our schools have been made. We lost 18 billion dollars. We have an opportunity to fight. We will begin implementing our action plan on the week of May 9th. Every local association will be planning activities. CTA members will have a sit-in lobbying in the lobby in Sacramento. Mainly the northern locals and presidents will participate. The acronym of our action plan is LEARN.

L- Julian shared that the focus is on contacting the legislature. He has spoken with the Senator Ron S. Calderon, Assembly member Charles Calderon and the Montebello School Board. Julian will go to Sacramento to lobby with other CTA members. Ed shared with council website where we can find information to contact our local legislators: Educationvotes.org. Our short term goal is to convince our legislature to pass budget with tax extensions.

E- Sal shared that we need to work closely with our parents. Our goal is to speak with at least ten parents. Flyers will contain information on our action plan. We can speak with parents before and after school.

A- Gil and Denise shared that on this day we will show appreciation for educators. We need to get PTA involved. In addition, members can collaborate with Hawaiian theme and wear leis that represent “Late Budget Hurts Students”.

R- Ryan shared that we need to share with legislature our loss of revenue to education. We need to let Sacramento know we are providing some common cents for them. We will collect cents at each site and donate it to local school organization.

N- Dianne shared that CTA will hold rally at Pershing Square in downtown Los Angeles. We will have stickers to wear. CTA will provide car decals. Please bring ten dollars to buy t-shirts. They will be first come first serve. Buses will be available to take you to rally. Members can make reservation online. Rally will begin at 5pm. Buses will leave at 3:30 pm and return at 7:00 pm.

3. Blanche Chester Finalists- E. Gasca

Elizabeth announced the two finalists Maria Balderas (SUE) and John Slevin (BGHS). The winner will be announced at next council.

4. Insurance- Metlife Preferred Provider- G. Gomez

Gil reported that we are now self insured in dental coverage. We will receive an 8% profit that will remain in our pool. Gil reminded members to make sure they choose an in-network dentist to save money. You can verify dentists on MTA website under insurance.

5. Election Results-E. De La Cruz-Lopez

Elvia reported that the NEA RA March 15 election ballots were collected and counted. Seven sites did not turn in their ballots and two sites had more ballots than signatures. Sites were notified by mail. This information will be posted on MTA website. Results of election have been available online.

6. Nominations - R. Alcaraz

Rebecca read the names for candidates for the following positions:

State Council - Ed Guzman, Margie Granado, and Guillermo Sandoval

Support Staff Director - Carmen Patlan and Sandra Morales

Intermediate - Linda Camacho and Ed Guzman

Elementary Director - Alma Orta

Treasurer - Guillermo Sandoval

Vice President - Gil Gomez

President - Julian De La Torre

Voting will take place in the week of May 9th.

7. State Council - State Council Delegates:

Ed - The main topic at state council was CTA elections. Eric Heins is new vice president and Mikki Cichocki is new secretary-treasurer.

Julian - Negotiation committee stated that we are not as business as usual. We need to take action. Julian shared that Eastmont Intermediate students visited Washington DC.

Elvia - She attended the Student Support Services committee and shared about AB161, in which an anti-union republican, Senator Robert Huff, wants to authorize non-nurses to administer medication. CTA has defeated similar bill, but now CTA members are urged to contact our legislature to vote against this bill. She also shared information about AB839, a school breakfast program.

Elvia can be contacted if members would like more information. She shared how LEARN was a collaborative effort by all 800 delegates.

Dianne - She attended the Retirement Committee. This committee had the most bills to review. Senator Mimi Walters is attacking collective bargaining rights, and pensions. CTA has come up with brochure entitled, "The Truth of Retirement" available on CTA website.

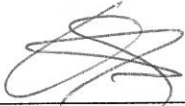
ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Scholars for Scholarships. Thursday, May 5th at Tamayo's Restaurant.
2. Montebello Council PTA honored Dianne GarciaStevens with Very Special Person Award.
3. Gift card drawing was won by Feliciano Rodriguez (BGE).

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:13 p.m.

Submitted by,



Guillermo Sandoval, Secretary

