

Montebello Teachers Association
Representative Council Meeting
February 28, 2012

Montebello Teacher Association – Conference Center

CALL TO ORDER

February's Rep Council meeting was called to order at 3:50pm.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

1. Julian was delayed at the district board room, he was at the special board meeting that was called for 3:00pm to announce the appointed board of education member that will replace the vacant seat. He shared with council that the board appointed Mr. Paul Montoya in the vacant Board of Education seat.
2. Julian shared that Montebello Teachers Association Conference Center (MTA-CC) will be discussing further details with MUSD regarding the lease. The conversation has included that the facility remains open for our Tuesday council meetings.
3. Julian reviewed the plans to defeat the Paycheck Deception Initiative that is on the November ballot. The initiative goes straight at a union's ability to give their members a voice in politics. It prohibits any contributions collected via payroll deduction to ballot measures or candidates.

REVENUE & EXPENSE OPEN HEARING

1. Lorraine gave an updated State Budget Status from the Schools Services Fiscal Report published February 27th which explained the decrease in tax revenue, a continued high rate of unemployment, the housing prices that continue to slip, and the increase in revenue for a few of technology companies. Topics from the Forum also included
 - a.) The decrease in ADA and a 3% reserve for economic uncertainties.
 - b.) State Budget Cuts - Governor's proposed budget for 2012-13.
 - c.) As the academic year continues MUSD expects to run out of money for June, July, and August and will need a TRAN low interest loan (.75% - 2% interest) from the County Office of Education for the end of the year. This was first time MUSD had to pull a TRAN, and a Board of Education resolution approved for TRANs not to exceed twenty-five million.
 - d.) Transitional Kindergarten - MUSD is planning but hesitant to spend money on transitional kindergarten, since the district is being told that we are not sure if the program will be paid.
 - e.) Tax Proposal - If voters reject the tax proposal the State is looking at an additional \$5 billion cut next year. There's no funded COLA and no additional money. If the taxes do not pass it would be \$16 million instead of \$6 million in cuts for the district next year.
 - f.) The SHS pool is about 85% completed, it is on time for completion in May. Schools are beginning to use reclaimed water; MGE are LME are completed.
 - g.) ATC is completed the lease-lease back is closed. There are some issues that are being solved as the facility is being occupied.

- h.) At a Revenue and Expense meeting a motion was made and carried, the committee recommends that the Board make a fiscally sound decision for LNS by March 1, 2012.
- i.) The savings in energy has caused MUSD not to feel the price increase for energy. Derrick reported that a Recycling Program is in place at all sites, the school sites will benefit from their recycling program, since they will be able to keep the money at the site for the recyclables collected. Last year MUSD saved 1.3 million dollars in energy, the summer shutdowns of site offices and DO operations saved a total of \$203,000. Edison has given the district 2,000 motion detectors power strips that will shut down electrical equipment not in use for 30 minutes. Equipment will first be installed in computer labs.
- j.) Enrollment projections for the upcoming years were discussed, MUSD is losing about 650 students every year, the MUSD financial loss is \$5,000 per student. MUSD may lose up to 2,000 students in the next couple of years if the projections continue in the same pattern.

BUDGET UPDATE

1. Treasurer Guillermo Sandoval reported to Council regarding the MTA budget. He pointed out there is a drop in revenue from dues with less teachers, therefore a drop in the total amount of union dues collected. He also noted that there are more retirees therefore an increase in retiree dues.

SEAT OF ALTERNATES

Ed Guzman (MOI) representing Erica Byrd; Giannina Duarte (CCE) representing Cecilia Diaz; Anne Marie Lopez (SUE) representing Violeta Hernandez; Joyce Ramirez (EAI) representing Kurt Richardson.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Agenda was adopted as presented.

As the meeting had gone past 5:15pm, it is noted that the Faculty Club and Issues Conference report will be postponed to next month's Council, March 2012.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes were read by Maria Balderas, SUE; Irma Navarro, MOA; and Veronica Fernandez, SUI. Motion made and carried to accept January 2012 minutes.

REPORTS, DISCUSSIONS, OR ACTION

1. Elections Committee - Elvia De La Cruz and Sandra Day
Sandra expressed that they want to be sure that all schools have a right to have their vote count. It was recommended that each site establish an election committee that can monitor the ballot box.
2. Bylaws – L. Richards
Lorraine shared that the Executive Committee is exploring the idea of electronic balloting rather than paper ballots. Based on input from members for the past few years, the Association is in conversations with CTA with the expectation of being allowed to begin electronic voting. The Internal Concerns Committee has

recommended for altering the Bylaws and adding Elections Standing Rules to meet CTA's criteria for electronic voting. The entire membership must approve any Bylaw changes, the Council can approve Elections Standing Rules. The proposed rules are available for review on www.montebelloteachers.org. Since the link for the Election Standing Rules was not available it was recommended to postpone the Council's approval of the Election Standing Rules to next month's meeting, March 2012.

3. Bargaining Team Update – A. Shinn

Andy reported he is ready to submit the names to the MTA President and he has spoken to the members. The Executive Board will approve the Negotiation Team Members at the March 6, 2012 meeting and return with the recommendation to Council.

3. Calendar Committee – L. Richards & A. Orta

The Calendar Committee shared the results of the survey with the Executive Committee. Based on the input, the Executive Committee is recommending Traditional Modified 2 and Traditional 2 to the Council. Alma explained the results from the survey to Council, she shared that the 2/3 of the members that were surveyed wanted the Modified Traditional 2 and Traditional 2 combined; both calendars being the same but with different names. There was a concern about the calendar from Council. Motion made to separate the calendar voting K-8 and 9-12 and carried. High School 9- 12, Traditional 2 calendar discussion began. Motion for Traditional Calendar 2 for 9-12 was carried with 10 abstentions. Motion to accept the Modified Calendar I for K-8 was carried, 29 accepted and 22 oppose with 4 abstentions.

4. Trust Fund Update – G. Gomez

Active members currently contribute \$100 per month to the Trust Fund. The Executive Committee recommends increasing the amount to \$125 per month, 10 months per year for a total of \$1250 per year beginning in the 2012-2013 school year. Gil presented a power point that explained the coverage of the retiree phase and reimbursement of insurance coverage. He also briefly shared the events on how the Trust Fund was established. Gil continued to share that there are 750 retirees and 300 are under the age of 67 with district paid benefits; there are 442 retirees that are 67+ that the Trust pays \$190,000 per month in premium reimbursements. Currently active members pay \$100 per month, for 10 months. Retirees pay \$100 per month for 10 months per year until they receive benefits. He continued with the contribution rate history and if we continue with the same contribution rate the Trust will not remain solvent. Motion made and carried to increase the Trust contribution to \$125 a month beginning in the 2012-2013 school year, 4 abstentions.

5. State Council - State Council Delegates

Elvia De La Cruz - shared the experience of controversial debate on the floor at State Council General Session with the vote to support the governor's tax plan, which the CTA State Council members voted to support the proposition.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

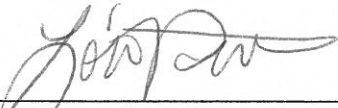
- a. At the beginning of the meeting Retiree Jackie Fisher from The American Association of University Women (AAUW) gave a brief presentation regarding their organization that offers scholarships to our students. Three female students

spoke about their experience at a Science Camp that the AAUW had sent them to over the summer. The organization was also asking for individual contributions from the council.

- b. Irma explained that LAUSD Superintendent has shared that the district is thinking about cutting Adult School Education in their district. She explained that LAUSD has a petition they are compiling regarding the LAUSD Adult School Cuts. There has been a request from LAUSD to also have our fellow teachers sign the petition too.

ADJOURNMENT - meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Submitted by



Lorraine Richards, Secretary

