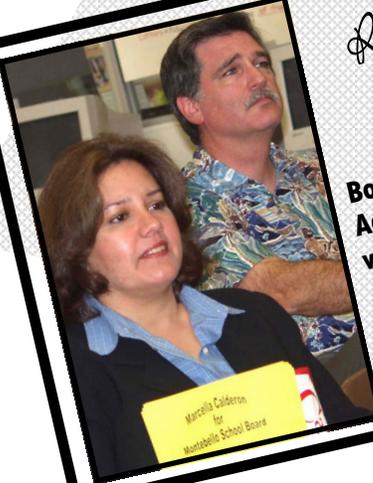


# Contact

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

*Re-elect*



**Richard Adams & Marcella Calderon**  
Board Members Richard Adams and Marcella Calderon visit Council meeting Tuesday.

Phone banks open at the MTA office Wednesday, October 8 through Tuesday, November 4.

*Marcella Calderon for Montebello School Board*

**State Council Election Runoff Results**

\*Dianne Garcia-Stevens..... 457

Susan Jauregui ..... 288

\* Indicates elected

## Hearing On the Social Security Offset Scheduled! Write Your Testimony Now

Two little known amendments to the Social Security Act are dramatically and unfairly slashing the retirement benefits of hundreds of thousands of American teachers. The Government Pension Offset and Windfall Elimination Provision affect at least one-third of America's education workforce, concentrated in 14 non-Social Security states.

The Social Security law prevents "dual entitlement" or receipt of full Social Security and spousal benefits at the same time. The effect of this in California is dollar for dollar reduction in Social Security survivor benefits for those earning STRS.

### Act now! The Hearing Is Wednesday

Senator Susan Collins of Maine is going to bring S-49, and the issue of the Social Security Fairness Act of 2003, before a full committee hearing of the Committee on Governmental Affairs on **Wednesday, September 24**. Senator Collins needs testimony. Send testimony regarding how the law effects you personally to [www.collins.senate.gov](http://www.collins.senate.gov).

You are also encouraged to write letters to Representative E. Clay Shaw, Jr. You may fax your testimony to 202.225-8398 or email via [www.house.gov/shaw](mailto:www.house.gov/shaw). All statements for printing should be in Word Perfect or MS Word format and not exceed 10 pages. Include your email, name, address, telephone, and fax numbers.

## California Remains Below the National Average in Spending Per Student

Fueled by a healthy economy and concerns about school performance, California's investment in K-12 education began to grow in the mid-1990s. Over the next six years, the state's investment-as measured by expenditures per student (based on average daily attendance)-increased 49% per student in 1995-1996. The figures grew to \$7,924 per student in 2001-2002, while the U.S. average rose for \$6,133 to \$8,087 during the same period.

California is ranked ninth in the ten most populous states. Only Florida is ranked lower in spending. While **California spent \$7924** per student in 2001-2002, **New York spent \$11,472**.

In 2001-2002 California spent **\$763 less than the U.S. average of \$8,087**, or about 91% of the national average. With more than 6 million students, California **would have had to spend about \$4.6 billion more on K-12 education** to reach the average national expenditure in 2001-2002 and many more billions to catch up with New York.

## California Has the Third Highest Number of Students Per Teacher

In 2001-2002 California moved from several years of being second highest to third highest in the ration of students enrolled per student: **20.8 compared to the U.S. average of 15.9**. California was at the top of the list until 1996-97 when the state's Class Size Reduction program began.

Both Utah, with a ratio of 21.1 students per teacher, and Arizona with 21.0 are now higher. Vermont is the lowest at 11.5. Among the 10 most populous states, California continues to have the most students per teacher.

### To Learn More...

- *Rankings and Estimates 2002-2003* at [www.nea.org](http://www.nea.org)
- *Teacher Pay in California* at [www.edsource.org](http://www.edsource.org)
- School Finance Section at [www.edsource.org](http://www.edsource.org)

over, please...