



Contact

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April Wave of Action in order to promote the idea that it is time for all of us to say, "enough is enough". All of our students deserve the tools and time to learn, but there is too much focus on standardized tests in schools today. We need more time to teach so our classrooms emphasize curiosity and one-on-one instruction, rather than testing, to inspire a lifelong love of learning.

President Lorraine Richards will ask the Board of Education to join the Association and pass a Time to Teach, Time to Learn Resolution.

Ballot Is Set for MTA Election

Nominations for positions on the MTA Executive Committee and CTA State Council were closed Tuesday, April 21.

The Sample Ballot will be sent by the Elections Committee to the personal email you have registered with the MTA office. Emails will be accepted through **Friday, May 9**.

The official ballot will be sent via email Monday, May 12 and must be **received no later than Tuesday, May 20 at 2 p.m.**

The paper ballot alternative is available at the MTA office.

Council Approves Calendars

Draft calendars are available at montebelloteachers.org. The Board of Education is expected to approve the calendars at the May 7 meeting.

Retirement Benefits Workshop May 12

The MTA Trust Fund and all retiree health benefits will be explained at the Retirement Benefits Workshop

Tuesday, May 12, 3:30 p.m.

MTA Conference Center: 920 W. Whittier Blvd. **No reservation is necessary.**

Council Passes *Time to Teach Time to Learn* Resolution

The Montebello Teachers Association believes in investing in learning for all students. Undue testing takes time from teaching and time from learning. Therefore be it resolved that the priority for the Montebello Unified School District be Time to Teach, Time to Learn.

The National Education Association (NEA) has begun the

QEIA Grant Program Will End in June

The Quality Education Investment Act (QEIA) was signed into statute in 2006 under Senate Bill 1133. The purpose of the legislation was to improve student academic success in California's lowest performing schools by creating substantially improved conditions for teaching and learning.

Five schools in the district were selected to participate in QEIA by the California Department of Education.

Winter Gardens Elementary
Bell Gardens Intermediate
La Merced Intermediate
Suva Intermediate
Bell Gardens High School

The funding for QEIA terminates this year. QEIA paid for additional staffing at each site. The class size was reduced in general education core classes. With the loss of the funding comes the loss of teaching positions at each site. The result is the displacement of Bargaining Unit members.

The District and the Association have visited each site to discuss the involuntary transfer process. Representatives from Human Resources will work individually with Bargaining Unit members when transfers are necessary.



WGE Building Reps Anita Martinez and David Navar review the consequences of the sun setting of QEIA.



Time for a New ESEA

Promote equity and opportunity for all students.

NEA AND CTA are tapping the power of millions of educators, kicking into high gear efforts to mobilize voters across the country to add their voices to their authorization process of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). You can make a difference by telling Congress to give our students more time to learn and educators more time to teach by cutting back on high-stakes testing.

Call Congress today at **(866)232-7471**

Text STUDENTS to **83224** to learn more. (Mobile carrier rates may apply.)

Visit www.getESEArigh.com to send an **email** to your representative.

Charter School Accountability

New bills call for openness, transparency and integrity.

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATORS recently partnered with CTA to introduce four new bills:

AB 787 would not allow charter schools to be run for profit.

AB 709 explicitly states that charter school board meetings are covered by California's open meeting law.

SB 322 would make it explicit that charter schools are to comply with a number of other laws covering public schools and universal student access.

SB 329 tweaks the language of existing law regarding accounting and financial transparency in public school districts to ensure charter school compliance.

CTA PRESIDENT DEAN VOGEL ON THE ISSUE:

"All students should have the opportunity to attend a quality public school and all schools, whether they are charter or traditional, should be held to the same high standards. Student success should not depend on what their ZIP code happens to be. There is a role for charter schools in California's education system and that role should be performed to the same high standards of integrity, transparency and openness required of traditional public schools."

CTA Well-Baby Program

Is now available to all active CTA members and their spouses/ domestic partners and surrogates.

Seeking early and regular prenatal care is one of the best things you can do for your baby. Whether you are expecting your first baby or are an experienced mother, each pregnancy is unique. To maximize your benefits under the program, we encourage you or your spouse/domestic partner or surrogate to enroll within the first trimester. *Enrollment is accepted through the 30th week of pregnancy.*

Learn more about this great program and how to enroll at:

www.CTAMemberBenefits.org/wellbaby.
