



CONTACT

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Presenting the 2017 Blanche Chester Award Nominees



Andy Shinn



Randy Lopez



Elizabeth Cooley



Lu Cruz



Kimiko Uyeda



Aura Rodriguez



Christina Paz



Amy Anderson



Selection Will Be Based on Your Input!

This year, eight members of the Association have been nominated for the Blanche Chester Teacher Advocate Award. The winner will be determined based on the testimonials, anecdotes, and stories members provide regarding our very special nominees. You can submit testimonials for Blanche Chester Teacher Advocate Nominees on-line. **Simply go to MontebelloTeachers.org and complete the form for any or all of the nominees.** This honor is awarded to individuals who demonstrate strong Bargaining Unit member advocacy at their site and throughout the Association. Nominees and supporters of nominees are invited to submit testimonial thoughts on-line until **Monday, April 24**. A committee of past Blanche Chester winners will determine the winner. The announcement will be made at the May 16 Council meeting. **The winner receives a plaque and \$100 toward instructional supplies.**

Legislature to Consider MUSD Audit

The Joint Committee of Legislative Audit will convene Tuesday, March 28 and consider the request for an audit on the Montebello Unified School District. Legislators representing the voters with MUSD have involved MTA in the development of the audit questions.

Assembly Member Cristina Garcia (AD 58)

Assembly Member Ed Chau (AD 49)

Senator Tony Mendoza (SD 32)

President Lorraine Richards along with members of the Revenue and Expense Committee and CTA legislative experts will attend the hearing and give testimony.

MTA is requesting that the scope of the audit include hiring practices and the awarding of contracts.

Association Demands Salary Raise

With assistance from CTA Legal Department, the Association has sent a "demand" to Interim Superintendent Dr. Anthony Martinez to implement the raise required by Contract. President Lorraine Richard letter stated:

The repeated failures to apply the additional \$680,707.00 to the MTA salary schedules amounts to a repudiation of the collective bargaining agreement's Article XII (4). The District has provided MTA with platitudes and excuses, but has failed to take any steps toward applying the funds to the MTA salary schedules. More than ten (10) weeks have passed since the District was aware of the need to increase the MTA salary schedules by \$680,707.00. The District has not taken any steps to calculate the raise and send retro checks in a timely manner.

We, along with CTA Legal, will continue to demand proper implementation of the Contract.

Over, please...

California Legislature

February 27th, 2017

Lani Cupchoy, Ph.D.
Chair, Board of Education
Montebello Unified School District
123 S. Montebello Blvd.
Montebello, CA 90640

RE: STATE AUDIT REQUEST FOR MONTEBELLO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

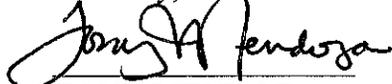
Dear Chair Cupchoy:

We would like to begin by acknowledging your and the Montebello Unified School District (MUSD) Board Members' continued efforts to provide the best services possible for our students. We all strive to achieve the same goal, which is ensuring that all 30,000 children and adult students in MUSD are afforded the opportunities to thrive. It is also important to recognize the many teachers, administrators, and staff who work tireless hours to deliver the highest quality of education.

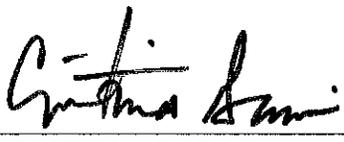
It was recently brought to our attention that the Los Angeles County Office of Education has determined MUSD faces a total deficit of around \$30 million over the next two years. It is imperative that we work together to ensure that the education of our students will not be jeopardized moving forward. With MUSD in a budget deficit, the Board has considered an independent audit, in which our constituents and community members express their support. An independent audit may present a solid foundation for MUSD to build upon and develop long-term budget reforms to improve its fiscal standing. In addition, an audit should not only be impartial, but the cost to MUSD to conduct such an audit is an important factor to consider. For these reasons, we will be submitting a state audit request through the Joint Legislative Audit Committee (JLAC). A state audit pursued through the JLAC process will enable MUSD to keep hundreds of thousands of dollars in our classrooms and provide vital education services. While an audit may not solve MUSD's current budget problems, it can provide insight on how to begin the process of balancing their budget, as well as how to avoid this situation again in the future.

It is our hope that this audit will provide the necessary recommendations to guide MUSD in upholding its high level of education, all while maintaining a balanced budget. Our offices will be in contact with you, your Board, and your staff to ensure that this audit best serves the students of MUSD. Please do not hesitate to contact our offices if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



TONY MENDOZA
Senator, 32nd District



CRISTINA GARCIA
Assemblymember, 58th District



ED CHAU
Assemblymember, 49th District

