

State Auditors Begin Work in the District

California State Auditor Elaine M. Howe has sent a team into the Montebello Unified School District. The tentative release date of the audit is August 2017.

The audit by the California State Auditor will provide independently developed and verified information related to the financial practices, performance, and related issues in the District for fiscal years 2013 - 14 through 2015 - 16. The audit scope is printed on the reverse side of this *Contact*. The State Auditor's updates are available on MontebelloTeachers.org.

MTA Revenue and Expense Committee participate in Sacramento Hearing March 29. From left to right: President Lorraine Richards, Assemblymember Cristina Garcia, Chairperson Ryan Rice (ATC), David Navar (WGE), Alma Orta (SUE), and Richard Franco (MAI).



It's Time for Us to Think about 2017-2018 Staff Development

Bargaining Unit members have rights regarding staff development identified in Article IV. Hours and Assignments, Section D-E in the MUSD-MTA contract. Section D.6. refers to Staff Development Days.

- a. *Staff development for each of these days will focus on instructional methods, including teaching strategies, classroom management and other training designed to improve pupil performance and academic content in the core curriculum.*
- b. *The Staff Inservice Committee will be encouraged to use staff development days within the contractual year. These days shall include, but not be limited to: (1) Planning and preparing the instructional program. (2) Keeping records. (3) Researching curriculum needs. (4) Confering with administrators, support personnel and/or colleagues. (5) Meeting in Committees. (6) Any and all other activities that would help in improving the instructional program.*

Section E. refers to the Staff Inservice Committee which must be consulted prior to all staff development at the site.

In order to assure effective use of time ... each site's Bargaining Unit members shall establish a Staff Inservice Committee which shall include staff-elected Bargaining Unit members. The Staff Inservice Committee shall advise and be consulted prior to all site inservice/staff development activities and the selection of all staff development days which are not specified in this Agreement.



Board of Education President Lani Cupchoy presents "Day of the Teacher Resolution" to President Lorraine Richards.

2017-104 AUDIT SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES

Montebello Unified School District— Financial Practices and Performance

The audit by the California State Auditor will provide independently developed and verified information related to the financial practices, performance, and related issues of the Montebello Unified School District (Montebello Unified) for fiscal years 2013–14 through 2015–16, and will include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Review and evaluate the laws, rules, and regulations significant to the audit objectives.
2. For a selection of service contracts, determine whether the policies and practices for soliciting, awarding, and monitoring the contracts comply with laws and regulations related to conflicts of interest and the competitive bidding process for both formal and informal bids. Additionally, evaluate whether Montebello Unified’s contracting process meets required levels of transparency throughout the process.
3. Review and evaluate Montebello Unified’s hiring process. At a minimum, determine the extent to which the following conditions exist:
 - a. The hiring policies and practices for executive positions include the appropriate level of screening and evaluation to ensure individuals hired meet the minimum job requirements and qualifications for the positions.
 - b. The current executives meet the minimum job requirements and qualifications for the positions they hold.
 - c. The hiring policies and practices include protections against nepotism and conflicts of interest.
4. Compare the compensation for executive and administrative positions at Montebello Unified to compensation at other school districts.
5. Identify Montebello Unified’s major categories of spending.
6. For a selection of expenditures, determine whether designated funds, such as maintenance and building funds, as well as nondesignated funds, are spent for allowable and reasonable purposes.
7. Determine how the district has responded to declining enrollment, especially as it relates to programs, hiring, staffing, expenditures, and any other areas that may have been impacted.
8. Assess the adequacy and effectiveness of Montebello Unified’s practices for obtaining and monitoring bond proceeds including the following:
 - a. The oversight structure of bond proceeds.
 - b. The monitoring of the use of bond proceeds to ensure expenditures are allowable and reasonable.
 - c. The safeguards in place to avoid abuse and conflicts of interest.
9. Review and assess any other issues that are significant to the audit.