

Members Explain “No Confidence” in Superintendent to BOE

Vice President Paul Chavez (SHS) made the MTA report at last night’s Board of Education meeting. President Lorraine Richards was attending a conference out of the area. Paul commented:



MTA is frustrated with the Board of Education’s lack of action in addressing Superintendent Contreras-Smith’s divisive, demoralizing, and disrespectful letter to the Montebello Community. Her role is to foster a collegial working environment and to provide over all educational leadership for the District’s diverse learning communities. Instead of bringing us all together, Susanna Contreras-Smith created division throughout the District and attempted to create division between the community and the teachers.

*When we have asked for an explanation she deflects her answer by saying, “I need to speak with the Board.” At this time, we have only heard from Mr. Cisneros who has said, “I do not condone the message it represents.” **The Association is asking Ms. Flores, Ms. Cupchoy, Mr. Cardenas, and Mr. Chacon if your continued silence reflects agreement with the contents of the letter?***

*Contreras-Smith’s non-response has escalated the dispute between the Association and the Superintendent. You, as the elected officials, need to address this concern MTA has had over the past several months. **What you do not address will NOT go away.***

Approximately thirty members took time off from summer break to attend the meeting. Six members addressed the Board of Education during public comment: High School Director Elizabeth Kocharian (BGH), Elementary Director Doug Patzkowski, Terry SalasOrtiz (CCE), Aura Rodriguez (WIE), Susan Levin (BGI), and Jeff Pulice (SHS).

Cardenas and Chacon Report They Are Considering Association’s Concerns

Each member of the BOE made a report. Edgar Cisneros once again apologized on behalf the District for the letter. Hector Chacon said that upon listening to the remarks he felt he had much to think about prior to making a response. President Edgar Cisneros echoed Mr. Chacon’s sentiments saying he would spend some time “marinating” his thoughts. Both Joanna Flores and Lani Cupchoy addressed concerns regarding Advanced Placement classes at the high schools.

2015-2016 Bonus Due By Wednesday, August 10

- Funds will be **transmitted via Direct Deposit** if Bargaining Unit member has Direct Deposit
- If you do **not** have Direct Deposit, your check will be U.S. mailed to your home address.
- If you do **not** have Direct Deposit and want to pick up your check at the switchboard at District Office email payroll no later than **Monday, August 8.**

Wu_Lucia@Montebello.K12.CA.US or Navarro_Irma@Montebello.K12.CA.US

Vote Yes on Proposition 55 this November The Children’s Education and Healthcare Protection Act

If Proposition 55 is not approved by California voters November, Montebello Unified School District will be directly impacted. The operating budget will be reduced by nearly 15 percent in 2017-2018 affecting programs, instruction, and salaries.

Can we count on you to vote “YES” on Proposition 55? The Association will send out a survey via email Thursday, August 5. Once you complete the survey, MTA will not contact you again concerning your vote.

MTA, along with CTA, will begin phone banking voters in the community in October. Everyone is invited to volunteer in the campaign. More information will be available in the fall.

California students, schools, and colleges can’t afford to go back to the days of massive budget cuts, educator layoffs, larger class sizes, and tuition hikes. Proposition 55 does not raise taxes on anyone; it simply maintains the current income tax rates on the wealthiest Californians. Proposition 55 contains strict accountability requirements to ensure funds designated for education go to the classrooms, not to bureaucracy or administrative costs.

MTA Office is closed

July 25-August 5.

In case of an emergency email

MTA@Montbelloteachers.org

Or call 323.722.5005 & leave a message.

