

## Lorraine Richards AD 58 Woman of the Year



Past President Lorraine Richards (MHS) was named Montebello Woman of the Year by Assembly Member Cristina Garcia.

As a teacher, student advocate and Montebello resident, Lorraine has taken on promoting students to register to vote with a club on campus called My School Votes. Lorraine has strong ties to the Montebello-Commerce YMCA, which has a delegation to provide services for teens in the area to promote civic engagement.

Lorraine is MHS Faculty Club Chairperson, CTA Southeastern Service Center council (SESCC) Chairperson, and a CTA liaison to the State Board of Education.

Lorraine will be honored Wednesday evening as the SESCO State We Honor Ours (WHO) award recipient.

## Law Gives Teachers the Final Word on Students' Grades

The California Education Code protects teachers' rights to grade students. When grades are given for any course of instruction taught in a school district, the grade given to each pupil shall be the grade determined by the teacher of the course and the determination of the pupil's grade by the teacher, in the absence of clerical or mechanical mistake, fraud, bad faith, or incompetence, shall be final.

§ 49066: if a parent, student, or administrator challenges a grade the teacher has the right to defend the grade. An Association representative should always be present at such a challenge.

## Teachers are Responsible for *Failure Notices*

Classroom teachers are directly responsible for notifying parents of possible failing grades. Whenever it becomes evident to a teacher that a student is in danger of failing a course (D or F grade), the teacher must arrange a conference with the student's parent/guardian or send the parent/guardian a written report (failure notice). In all cases the notification must come prior to the assignment of the grade.

The teacher's responsibility for failure notices is stated in California Education Code 49067 and Montebello Unified School District Administrative Regulation 5121 (a).

## You Can Sell Back Sick Days

Members who were first employed by the District subsequent to July 1, 1980 may sell back current sick leave plus 10 additional accrued sick days upon resignation from the District. Payment will be made at the current rate of substitute pay (\$160/day). Requests are due to Payroll no later than **July 15 at 4 p.m.** A form is available on the district website and [MontebelloTeachers.org](http://MontebelloTeachers.org).