

Montebello Teachers Association/California Teachers Association • 918 W. Whittier Blvd. Montebello CA • (323) 722-5005

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The Bargaining Team met with the District Thursday, November 4. The MTA team includes (clockwise) Chairperson Paul Chavez (SHS), Gabriela Orozco Gonzalez (MGE), Lisa Quemada (SHS), Jennifer Gonzalez (CDS), and Myra Pasquier (SUI). President David Navar consults with the team. Executive Director Kathy Schlotz advises the team.

The Management team is led by Assistant Superintendent Human Resources Zepure Hacopian. Assistant Superintendent Student Services Allison Garland, and Assistant Superintendent Education Services Kaivan Yuen are also on the team.

The Association made the initial Wage proposal. The District responded to the Safety, Security and General Working Conditions proposal presented by the Association September 30. The next bargaining dates are December 2, January 20, and January 27.

First Semester Stipends Approved and Ready for Payment

The first semester stipends are completed.

- TK-grade 5 general education combination classes
- Special education tri-level classes,
- 1-3 student class size overages

The stipends have been vetted by Human Resources and the Association. Payments is tentatively expected to be received on January 5, 2022. If you question whether you qualified for one or more stipends, ask your site principal to review the shared HR-site spreadsheet .

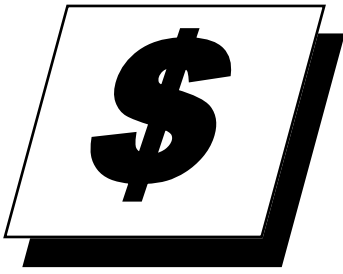
The \$350 instructional stipends are also tentatively expected to be received by Bargaining Unit members January 5, 2022.

Progress on Paying Unpaid Assignments

The Association has been collecting input on member unpaid assignments since August. The list has continually grown. Payroll reports 1218 additional assignments were paid November 5 and November 10. The Association will match the payments to the inquiries received and continue to pursue remaining unpaid assignments. Payroll continually updates the "Unable to Pay" list, which indicates essential backup material is missing. Human Resources is then alerted to the problem and can ensure the job is inputted in the HRS System.

Bargaining Update





November 15, 2021



Revenue & Expense

Report

The Revenue & Expense Committee was created in February 1995 to cooperatively examine the District's finances. The Committee is comprised of members each from MTA, CSEA, and MUSD.

MTA

- Alma Orta (SUE),
- Paul Chavez (SHS)
- Richard Franco (MAI)
- David Navar (MTA) alternate

Kathy Schlotz (ex-officio)

Topics of Interest this Quarter

The Local Accountability Plan (LCAP) and the Trial Balance by Fund

The estimated revenue for Supplemental and Concentrations Grants is \$67.9 million (this is the adopted budget) with a carryover of \$22.5 million and a Concentration Fund addition of \$9.5 million. With the balance of S & C and the carryover there will be approximately \$100 million to spend from the S & C for 2021-2022. Supplemental and Concentration grant money is earmarked for improved academic performance of low-income students, foster youth, and English Learners.

A question was raised regarding psychologists and their full time and part time status. Although the committee was given the guidelines that are used to determine whether a psychologist is at a school site part time or full time, wouldn't it be best that school sites have full-time psychologists to assist with the students' social and emotional well-being, and especially if more time is needed if there is a backlog of cases/IEP's during these trying times?

Technology

Now that the students are back to in person instruction there is still much concern with the lack of internet bandwidth at the school sites. This affects, for example, computer use, taking attendance on PowerSchool and telephone systems. How are we to thrive in the 21st century, if we have a weak internet system? The MUSD District will meet with the E-Rate Consultant to discuss upgrading district bandwidth to 100 Gigabytes.

Facilities

A list of projects is presented to the committee on a monthly basis. There is HVAC and roofing work being done at the sites. Other projects that have been completed or are underway are: GWE unit construction, the 3 story units at BGHS is pending, LMI and SUI's balancing of thermostats, BGE construction, and a new system for the SHS administration building.

Unpaid Assignments

There is still concern with extra assignments not being paid in a reasonable amount of time. This issue was brought up to the Board last school year and it was brought up again when presenting the Revenue and Expense Board Report two weeks ago. There are still about 500-600 assignments that have not been paid to the employees. We also know from previous discussions that the software used for payroll is outdated and an upgrade is long overdue. We will continue to keep the discussion going until action is taken on this item.

Enrollment Report and Attendance Recovery

Total student enrollment is 21,793 and total student attendance rate is 89.23% as of 10/7/2021. Traditional Independent Study teachers continue to do attendance logs for participation purposes not necessarily for attendance. Due to COVID/quarantine and students being sent home, there is a short-term independent study program and accounting where teachers are logging in their work and participation.

As of September 8, the district received 338 outgoing permits, and 265 applications were district approved based on the district's criteria (sibling, senior option, and specialized academic program.) An amount of 73 permit applications were denied and 57 were appealed. Of those 57 appealed, 8 cases were referred to LACOE, and the district lost all 8 cases. An ongoing concern is the low student enrollment in our schools. We decided as a committee we would work on brainstorming viable ways to capture student attendance and enrollment in the years to come.