

**Montebello Teachers Association**  
Representative Council Meeting  
February 26, 2013  
Montebello Teacher Association Conference Center

**CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order 3:40pm

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Julian De La Torre**

1. On March 5th the Executive Committee will be voting on recommending the 2013-2014 calendar and if the calendars, then the calendars will be posted online for the members to review. He also reminded council that in May the Calendar committee will begin to discuss and take input about possible changes to the calendars for 2014-2015 and beyond.
2. March 12th grievance workshop; Evaluation & Procedure Hearing; Bargaining Opening Hearing. Julian explained that there is a COLA being discussed as part of the state budget, but nothing has been voted upon.
3. At the March 19th MTA Council meeting David Vela, he will address concerns and take questions from council.
4. Julian shared that at the April 23rd Rep Council meeting Dean Vogel, CTA President and Tyrone Cabel, Region L CTA Board of Director will be present at Rep Council. He will be speaking to leadership about the needs of CTA.
5. Julian expressed sympathy to the Otiz Family - Terry Salas Ortiz and Sal Salas their mother, Juanita G. Salas, passed away.
6. Teacher Gabriela P. Orozco-Gonzalez from MUSD was chosen as a writer for the Common Core State testing.

**SEATING OF ALTERNATE**

No alternates seated.

**REVENUE AND EXPENSE OPEN HEARING – Lorraine Richards**

The report appeared on the reverse on the MTA Contact.

1. The audit for the district went well. Site visits review student body funds and attendance, every third year a site is visited. In the prior year if something was noted then the auditor will follow up at that site to see if the change was made. Another aspect of the audit is to review the spending of federal and state funds, making sure the guidelines are met. The auditor was very clear to praise MUSD for the \$2.4 million positive funds in nutrition services. Those extra funds can only be used for the cafeteria improvements. New requirements for the nutrition services are expensive and there is no increase in the funding for nutrition services there for the surplus in funds is needed at this time. The district's 3% reserve will not be increased if the student population continues to decrease.
2. LACOE has given MUSD a positive certification for our budget, we are solvent but with no extra money. The district has continued to be solvent and future plans are also being considered. MUSD has used various ways to keep revenue in the district such as early retirement, future plans for leasing Laguna Nueva, and commercial signage at Rosewood Elementary.

3. MUSD is considering presenting voters with a parcel tax sometime in the future. Parcel taxes are paid along with property taxes if approved.
4. Cheryl Plotkin shared in December 2012 that there is still no COLA for the state, but this month she shared that Governor Jerry Brown's current budget proposal is suggesting a COLA of 1.65%. She did point out that if there is a COLA from the state then the MUSD contribution to our benefits will increase as per the contract, the contribution increase is reflective of COLA. Cheryl also explained to Revenue and Expense that a new formula for funding schools is being proposed as part of his budget, it would benefit our district but the Local Control idea will also have strings attached.
5. MUSD vans are not used for district business by teachers to transport students. Enforcement of the rules has changed due to liability. Alternate transportation are the small buses. A member at rep council wanted to know what is going to happen to the vans. Lorraine will ask the question at Revenue and Expense and report back to council.
6. WAE continues to progress with the two-story construction, a projected completion date is May 2014, which is funded by the Measure M bond with 2 million in matching funds. SUE C-Building roof went to bid it is expected to be a 40 day project. The garden at MAI will have a press release in March 2013 for its completion. MPE, WGE, and RAE will have their trim painted March 2013. SHS will update handicap access to the varsity baseball field.
7. Tools used for the projection they usually do a five year average, but the ways that they have been used traditionally cannot be used because of the inconsistency of the trend that was thought. Five year projection was provided showing 2012-13: 30,925; 2013-14: 30,467; 2014-15: 30,033; 2015-16 29,699; 2016-17: 29,244. The decrease appears to be small with 400, not like the last two years with a decrease of 600 students each year. The concern is when the current kinder class is less than the senior class.
8. Energy cost avoidance during Thanksgiving week was \$72,000 and for Winter Break it was \$98,500. The district reported that the shutdowns during the breaks are helping MUSD save money, with a total shutdown bringing the most cost avoidance. The district continues to seek ways to conserve energy, which causes saving. Don shared that the district is conducting an energy audit at five sites that are considered high usage sites. Recycling at sites continues to expand, 20 sites are participating. The district is waiting for the revenue amounts being generated by the recycling program to verify how much is being taken versus the amount being given to the site. Another conservation project is the air conditioning at SHS that will have an automated system with temperature controls and it will also include variable air volume systems where the motors, fans and belts can be adjusted. The district is researching how they can use more cost effective ways for heating and air conditioning at high volume sites.
9. MUSD also shared that there could be some revenue generated from a housing development of 50 condos on Greenwood Avenue property by the ATC owned by Mr. Kellogg.

#### **BUDGET UPDATE – Guillermo Sandoval**

He reported MTA dues are down due to fewer members. Members did not utilize all money for the RA 2012 showing an unbalanced revenue and expense, since budgeted expenses were not as high as expected. Less money spent to run council at the MTA Conference Center. Office operations are less, with less personnel. Leasing the building has generated revenue, but we are also incurring expenditures with the property.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes were read by: Margie Sullivan, MPE; Elvia De La Cruz, MOA; Ed Guzman, MOI.  
Motion made and carried.

## **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

No additions were made to the agenda.

## **REPORTS, DISCUSSION, OR ACTIONS**

### **A. Bargaining and Evaluation Committee Update – G. Gomez**

As the role of Bargaining Chairperson, Gil Gomez (MHS) has been working with the Evaluation Procedures Committee. The task of the Committee is to make recommendations regarding revisions for Article XVIII. Evaluation Procedures. Gil reviewed with the Council the progress of the committee. An open hearing on Evaluation Procedures is available to all members Tuesday, March 12th. Also, the current contract expires June 30 of this year. Negotiations will begin this spring. A bargaining survey is available on [montebelloteachers.org](http://montebelloteachers.org). In addition the bargaining team will be available to take input at the open hearing Tuesday, March 12th, the agenda is as follows: 3:30 - Grievance Workshop; 4:00 - Evaluation Procedures Open Hearing; 4:30 Bargaining Open Hearing. Teachers were encouraged to participate on March 12th to provide input towards bargaining and evaluation procedures. Two hours of salary credits will be offered. Gil did share that the evaluation does not include test scores, and they are not part of the evaluation. The evaluation is based on the California Teaching Professional Standards, teachers will have the ability to choose the standards and objectives to be evaluated. The last meeting was productive the district.

### **B. Bylaws Election Timeline – L. Richards**

The Executive Committee will be prepared to make recommendations on Bylaw revisions at March Rep Council. Lorraine outlined the proposed calendar for the revisions to go to a membership wide election. The purpose of the revisions is to comply with the CTA governance documents review criteria for chartering. The Montebello Teachers Association Bylaws are not currently in compliance with the California Teachers Association (CTA) standards. The content and purpose of the majority of the changes remains the same as the existing Bylaws; however the wording and formatting is changed. The proposed revisions conform to the CTA recommended Bylaws and have been approved by the CTA Governance Documents Review Committee. The following timeline was shared: February 4th - Introduce Bylaw revisions and timeline to Executive Committee; February 26th - Introduce timeline to Council; March 4th - Executive Committee recommends revisions to Council; March 19th - Introduce revisions to Council; April 23rd - Council recommends revisions to ballot; April 30th Open Hearing for membership; May 14th-21st - Bylaws Election included with Executive Committee ballot.

### **C. Political Action Committee – E. Guzman**

Members of the MTA Political action Committee: Ed Guzman, Gilbert Gomez, Linda Camacho, and Dan Hellman, CTA. Ed Guzman explained that MUSD Board of Education will have 4 of the 5 seats up for election this November 2013 with a possibility for the 5th seat to be open as well. Current MUSD Board of Education Member Mr. David Vela is a candidate for the primary nominating election on March 5, 2013 Los Angeles Community College District - Member of the Board of Trustees, Seat No. 6, if he wins the primary Mr. Vela will be on the May 7th ballot

for the seat. Ed shared the Political Action Committees timeline for MTA candidate endorsements - May 6th: Recruitment and candidate interviews; May 13th: Candidate forum; May 21st: MTA endorsement for board of education. The Political Action Committee will select a recommendation and present to MTA Executive Board. Ed asked for members to submit names to the MTA office of potential good candidates for the Montebello Unified School District Board of Education upcoming election. He explained that the election is expected to have a low voter turnout because it is an odd year, no major state or national elections are being held.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- a. Blanche Chester Teacher Advocate Nominations are due today.
- b. MTA NEA RA Declarations of Candidacy are due today.
- c. REMINDER: Grievance Workshop with Bargaining and Evaluation Open Hearing – March 12th at the MTA CC; Grievance Workshop begins at 3:30 p.m.; Evaluation Procedure Open Hearing begins at 4 p.m.; Bargaining Open Hearing begins at 4:30 p.m.
- d. NEA Representative Assembly election will take place at the beginning of March and ballots will be due on March 12, 2013 at the MTA office.


#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned 4:35pm

Submitted by



Lorraine Richards, Treasurer



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