

Montebello Teachers Association/California Teachers Association/National Education Association • 918 W Whittier Blvd Montebello 90640 • (323) 722-5005 • montebelloteachers.org

## **Insurance Committee Approves No Benefits Changes for 2004-2005**

The Insurance Committee met Wednesday, August 18 and agreed to no changes in benefits for the 2004-2005 year. The Insurance Year runs from October 1 through September 30. One reason the Committee was able to make this recommendation was that Blue Cross agreed to a 0% raise in costs.

# **Open Enrollment Is the Month of September**

The time to switch providers is during open enrollment which begin September 1. The Risk Management Department sends out packets to all employees concerning health insurance options. Employees may select from Blue Cross, California Care, and Kaiser. If you do not receive a packet, contact the Risk Management Department at extension 2302.

## **Insurance Costs Are A Subject of Negotiations**

The Insurance Fund is still spending more than it takes in each year. If the District contributions are not raised the fund will be completely depleted. Therefore, the Bargaining Team will negotiated Health and Welfare Benefits beginning Contember 16

Welfare Benefits beginning September 16.

# **Vote November 2**

You can register to vote online at cta.org! Remember to update your name and address if your circumstances have changed since the last election.

#### CTA Recommends

<u>Proposition 72 - Yes!</u> This law ensures that large and medium size companies provide affordable health care for employees.

<u>Proposition 63 - Yes!</u> This law expands mental health programs for thousands of children, adults, and seniors.

# California State Law Guarantees Teacher: Have the Final Word on Grades

The California Education Code protects teachers' 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 pupils 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.

