

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

## State Law Guarantees Teachers Have the Final Word on 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 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.

#### **Teachers 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).

## Contract Language Covers Teachers Legal Notice Requirements

Section J in Article IV. Hours and Assignments speaks directly to the classroom teachers responsibility in failure notice.

6. 9-12 Settings - Through computer services, Bargaining Unit members will generate communications to parent(s)/guardian(s) regarding students who receive a grade of "D" or lower or who are in danger of failing at the nine (9) week and twenty-eight (28) week grading periods. These communications will request that a parent conference take place and provide parent(s)/guardian(s) with the ability to request the scheduling of a conference. All affirmative responses by parent(s)/guardian(s) will be honored.

# Congratulations! Blanche Chester Teacher Advocate Finalists



Elizabeth Gasca (RPS)



Ryan Rice (SHS)



Rosalie Robles (LME)

### MONTEBELO TEACHERS ASSOCIATION **MTA Officer & CTA State Council Representative Ballot** May 12-19, 2009 (Names are listed in order of the CTA Alphabet)

<b>Vote for ONE (1) each office</b>	
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TREASURER	
Ryan Rice	
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Sal Salas	
Alma Orta.	
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Joseph Edward Guzman	
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Denise Quan SUPPORT STAFF DIRECTOR	
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<b>Vote for ONE (1)</b>	
CTA STATE COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE	
Dianne GarciaStevens	
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