

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

Grants Available for High School Athletics

The California Casualty Thomas R. Brown Athletics Grant program that supports public high school athletics is gearing up for a third year. Applications for grants will be accepted beginning September 15 and continuing through January 15, 2013. A total of \$75,000 will be distributed across the nation in grants ranging between \$1,000 and \$3,000. In the first two years of the program, grants totaling \$100,000 were made to 69 schools in 26 states.

California Casualty established the grant program because education budget cuts have drastically reduced support for school athletics, in some cases forcing programs to shut down altogether. Chairman Thomas R. Brown experienced the positive impact of playing sports as a youth. "Athletes learn teamwork, discipline and that hard work pays off," he said. "They're a valuable complement to what's learned in the classroom."

Applications should be completed and submitted by an employee of the school that seeks grant support, by no later than January 15, 2013. California Casualty will notify selected schools and present them with checks by May 15, 2013. For more information and to access an application, please visit www.CalCasAthleticsGrant.com.

Teams meet with members and talk about budget realities. If California pulls the budget triggers this November, the District will lose almost \$14 million in 2012-2013.

Marie Stefanovich (JGE) listens to a budget presentation. President Julian De La Torre speaks at Washington Elementary.



Phone Banks Are Now Open at MTA

Phone banks are open at the MTA Office as well as all over California. Thousands of volunteers are talking to voters about the importance of this election.

> Proposition 30 Yes Proposition 32 No.

You are invited to Phone at the MTA office now through the election!

Call or ask your Building Rep for details.

HOW ARE DUES CALCULATED? WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

Members of our Association pay a minimum of four types of dues for a total of \$226.70 per month, ten months per year. The breakdown is as follows for fulltime category 1 members:

NEA 18.00/month MTA 19.00/month

Members also donate various amounts on a voluntary basis for political action MTA-ABC (Association for Better Citizenship - our local political action fund) and NEA-PAC. Members also make voluntary contributions to FACT which is a disaster relief fund. NEA and CTA set their dues apart from MTA. The MTA Retiree Supplemental Health Plan (MTA -RSHP) is also separated from MTA dues. MTA-RSHP is commonly known as the Trust Fund. These funds are used to provide health coverage beyond the age at which the District stops paying for coverage (age 67). Since 1986 all eligible retired members have had lifetime health coverage. Members who resign may receive a rebate from the Association for up to \$1500. Over, please...

Do You Understand Your Pay Stub?

The codes and abbreviations can be overwhelming when studying your pay stub. Items marked *Deductions* are coming out of your pay after taxes (CTA Income Protection Insurance, Dues) while *Contributions* are paid by the employer (dental, vision, life insurance) *Reductions* come out of your pay before taxes (TSAs, STRS, Section 125 Plans, out-of-paycheck contributions, CalPERS medical plans.)

You may also be interested to note:

- ♦ Bargaining Unit members are paid on the first working day of the calendar month. Supplementary checks may be paid on the 10th of each month.
- Bargaining Unit members are paid the first business day of October through the first business day of July with the following exceptions:
- ♦ Bargaining Unit members on a 12 month pay warrant cycle since June 30, 2010 and continuously employed by the District continue on the 12 month cycle.
- ♦ Support staff Bargaining Unit members whose regular work year includes July and August are paid on a 12 month cycle August through June. If the Bargaining Unit member has begun the 12 pay check assignment after June 30, 2010 and the assignment changes no longer including July and August, the Bargaining Unit member will have a full year to transition to a 10 month cycle.
- ♦ Bargaining Unit members may opt for the V-12 (or voluntary 12 month cycle) through the Payroll. The District works with a third party administrator to deduct post tax funds from the October through July warrants. The Bargaining Unit member receives a direct deposited check August 1 and September 1.
- ♦ Bargaining Unit members on a 10 month cycle will receive 11 pay warrants any year in which work begins during the month of August.
- Pay checks are drafted and delivered by Los Angeles County. The District transmits the information to the County and the County transfers the funds for direct deposit officially on the 1st working day of the month. Individual credit unions and banks post the funds according to their guidelines as long as it is posted by midnight of the date of the warrant.
- Contact Payroll to initiate direct deposit. If you change banks or credit unions contact Payroll and change your direct deposit instructions prior to the 15th of the month, otherwise your funds may be transferred to your former institution or held in limbo if the account no longer exists.
- If you participate in direct deposit, your pay stub will be distributed by your site secretary. Your pay stubs are valuable to you when making loans and conducting other personal financial business. *Remember to collect your pay stub!*

Always check your pay stub for accuracy. State law requires the District to correct any errors in pay. That means that even if it is the District's fault you could be legally bound to return money if you are overpaid and the error is discovered within a 3-year period. Similarly, if the District underpaid and discovered the error more than 3-years later, you will not receive the retroactive pay.

- Warrants are legal for 6 months. If not deposited, the bank may not honor the warrant. If you lose your check contact payroll as soon as possible to sign an affidavit and receive a new check.
- All the monies that are contained in one check are taxed at the same rate. Bargaining Unit members may change their deductions at any time. Changes must be made by the 15th of the month to be reflected on the 1st.

Questions?

Contact *Alonso Ibanez at the MTA office* for issues concerning dues. (323) 722-5005

Contact *Payroll at extension 2311* for issues concerning salary, withholding tax status, reductions, and taxes.

Contact *Gail Contreras at extension 2302* for issues concerning health insurance deductions.

Contact *Eden Longoria at extension 2328* for issues concerning voluntary disability insurance deductions.

Contact *Paula Tomaszewski at extension 2314* for issues concerning TSAs.

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