



# Contact

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## Montebello Teachers Association Votes "No Confidence" in Contreras Smith

In results tallied Tuesday, May 31 members of the Montebello Teachers Association have NO CONFIDENCE in SUPERINTENDENT SUSANNA CONTRERAS SMITH. Council voted Tuesday, May 17 to send out a ballot to members of the bargaining unit to determine employees' perspectives of the District's leader. The results

**619 - Yes "No Confidence"**

**73 - No "No Confidence"**

The Council will review the results at a meeting Tuesday, June 7 beginning at 3:30 p.m. in the MTA CC. All members of the bargaining unit are invited to attend and participate in deciding next steps.

The next meeting of the Board of Education is **Thursday, June 23** at 6 p.m. in District Office.



### *Planning for Next Year...*

## **Review the Committees that Are *Required by Contract***

### **Staff Inservice Committee**

Each site must have a staff elected Inservice Committee. Staff Inservice Committee shall advise and be consulted prior to all site inservice/staff development activities and the selection of all staff development days which are not specified in the Contract.

### **Site Safety Committee**

The Principal of each site must convene the Site Safety Committee by **September 30**. Each Site Safety Committee shall include the principal or designee, Faculty Club Chairperson or designee, parent, and classified employee. Each Site Safety Committee shall submit its report annually to the District Comprehensive School Safety Committee **by November 1**. The District Committee shall review the report no later than February 1. The site can request an inspection which will be completed no later than March 30.

## **Law Gives Teachers the Final Word on Students' 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 Are 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).

Over, please...

# ESSA 2016–17 School Year Transition Plan

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) 2016–17 School Year Transition Plan outlines how California will facilitate an orderly transition to the new law in the 16–17 school year. The chart below outlines Title II Professional Development.

View the entire Transition Plan at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/es/essa1617transplan.asp>

	Current Under the NCLB Act	Transitional Year 2016–17 Under ESSA
<b>Subject Matter Competence</b>	<p>Section 1119 of the NCLB Act requires all teachers of core academic subjects in the state to be “highly qualified.” This means that every teacher of a core academic subject must meet the following three requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hold a bachelor's or higher degree;</li> <li>• Hold an appropriate State authorization for the assignment; and</li> <li>• Demonstrate subject matter competence for each core academic subject assigned to teach.</li> </ul> <p>For the 2016–17 school year, States are not required to implement Section 1119.</p> <p>There are various ways under the NCLB Act that a teacher could demonstrate subject matter competence. One option was to complete a minimum of 32 semester units (48 quarter units) of non-remedial coursework.</p>	<p>Since the latest guidance no longer requires Section 1119, the minimum unit requirement for verifying subject matter competence for the 2016–17 school year will be consistent with California state licensure which requires a minimum of 20 semester units of non-remedial coursework.</p> <p>This will assist with the teacher shortage by allowing individuals to demonstrate subject matter competence with only 20 semester units (equivalent to a supplementary authorization) rather than the 32 (equivalent to a subject matter authorization) required by the NCLB Act, increasing hiring flexibility for employers.</p>
<b>Verification Process for Special Settings</b>	<p>The Verification Process for Special Settings (VPSS) is an advanced certification process that was developed as an alternative method for teachers assigned to special settings to demonstrate subject matter competence per the NCLB Act. Special settings include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Home Teacher</li> <li>• Classes Organized Primarily for Adults</li> <li>• Hospital Classes</li> <li>• Necessary Small High Schools</li> <li>• Continuation Schools</li> <li>• Alternative Schools</li> <li>• Opportunity Schools</li> <li>• Juvenile Court Schools</li> <li>• County Community Schools</li> <li>• District Community Day Schools</li> <li>• Independent Study</li> <li>• Secondary Special Education</li> </ul>	<p>Since the latest guidance no longer requires Section 1119, the VPSS will no longer be necessary for teachers of special settings as these teachers will have demonstrated subject matter competence via state certification. An LEA or teacher may continue to use the VPSS certification process but it is not required during this transitional year.</p>