

## It's Your Right to Engage in Union Activities During the Board Day

The Faculty Club includes all the MTA members at a particular site. All those who are members of MTA are members of the Faculty Club. No additional dues are assessed. The Faculty Club is responsible for carrying out Association related projects at the site.

The Contract guarantees your right to meet during the Board Day. Article XX. Rights and Responsibilities Section B states: "Authorized representatives of the Association shall be permitted to transact official Association business on school property at such times as students are not under the supervision of the Bargaining Unit member being contacted."

In other words, as long as you meet at a time that students are not assigned to you or you are involved in other professional meetings, you can meet. This includes before school, after school, and during breaks.

## The Early Retirement Option Is Back: Suspended Since 2008

Qualifying Bargaining Unit members may participate in the Early Retirement Option beginning with those who retire at the end of this school year.

Early Retirees are eligible for:

- \$5000 per year
- Provide medical and dental benefits at the active rate (may be waived by retiree)
- For no more than 5 years up to age 60
- And, are required to work 20 days for the District (probably as a substitute teacher).

Eligibility Requirements include:

- Retired from STRS
- Less than 60 years old
- Served at least 15 years in the District.
- Request participation in the program by May 1 and retire with an effective date prior to July 1.

## Leslie Hiatt's Class Turns an Idea into a Law

AB 146 (Garcia) is a law because students from Bell Garden's Elementary said so. Leslie Hiatt's fifth grade class submitted an entry into the Assembly District 58 *There Ought to Be a Law Contest*.



The new law requires the State Board of Education to include instruction on the unconstitutional deportation to Mexico during the Great Depression to the history-social science framework. Specifically, the curriculum must focus on President Herbert Hoover's Mexican Repatriation Act, under which Mexican American citizens were swept up in churches, restaurants, workplaces and loaded into trucks and trains and deported to Mexico.

### LCAP Lowdown...

#### Is Your Learning Environment Improving?

LCAP Goal 7: Provide an engaging learning environment that supports nutritional, reproductive, mental (social/emotional/personal), and physical health facilities. In 2015-16 specifically...

7.1: Ensure school facilities are safe, clean and maintained in good repair (as determined by the district's Facilities Inspection Tool (FIT), begin and implement the Maintenance Schedule, Repair, and Renovation Schedule. These renovations and expansions will be provided for an increase in instructional services (e.g. Project Based Learning, Computer Labs, Universal wireless accessibility, and modification of classroom to support unduplicated pupil sub-groups).

Budget Expenditures: **\$10.5 million**

1. \$6.2 million for classified salaries and benefits
2. \$2.3 million for materials
3. \$1 million for deferred maintenance
4. \$2 million for TK/K classrooms & furniture

Give the Revenue and Expense Committee the lowdown on the learning environments at your site. Email your thoughts to:

**MTA@montebelloteachers.org**

## CTA Instruction and Professional Development Department Launches New Website

CTA's Instruction & Professional Development (IPD) Department promotes student-centered public education by *building* the professional capacity of California educators, *establishing* and *facilitating* networks *to create* teacher-driven change, and *strengthening* the education profession. **In order to support the needs of our members and partners in the education community, CTA is launching a [new CTA IPD website](#) that provides resources, links, videos, and presentations on all topics related to the teaching profession.**

Some of the resources you will find on the new website are:

- [IEP Best Practices](#)
- Instructional [videos](#) that center around the California standards
- The English Language Arts and Literacy Technology [Spirals](#)
- Links to IPD [news and events](#), including our Instructional Leadership Corps

Please take a moment and check out our new site at [www.cta.org/ipd](http://www.cta.org/ipd). Don't forget to bookmark it so you can find us easily next time.

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