



Bargaining Team Continues to Work on Class Size Issues

The Bargaining Team continues to negotiate Class Size through the New Year. Next on the agenda is Article XII. Wages.

The District and Association teams last met Wednesday, December 9. Bargaining Chairperson David Navar reports incremental progress. The next meeting is scheduled for January 14 and 15, 2016.



The NEA Foundation Awards for Teaching Excellence Call for Nominations

Here's your chance to nominate an excellent educator for The *NEA Foundation Awards for Teaching Excellence*. We're looking for educators with outstanding professional practice who advocate for the association, engage the community, exhibit professional development leadership, and pay attention to diversity.

Sabbatical Applications Due in January

Sabbatical Leave Applications are due to Human Resources Friday, January 15 for the 2016-17 school year.

Bargaining Unit members must have 7 years experience in the District to be eligible.

Sabbatical information is available in the Contract: Article XVI. Leaves Section G. The Contract is available at montebelloteachers.org. Call Human Resources for more information.

All affiliate awardees receive expenses-paid travel to the NEA Foundation's *Salute to Excellence Gala in Washington, D. C.* Five awardees are selected for *The Horace Mann Awards for Teaching Excellence* and receive \$10,000 each plus expenses-paid travel for themselves and a guest. *The NEA Members Benefits Award for Teaching Excellence* recipient receives \$25,000 in cash and a personalized commemorative gift.

Visit neafoundation.org to view the guidelines and application information

CTA President Commends Educators for Comforting & Caring for Area Students During Lockdown Period Following Mass Shootings

San Bernardino is home to tens of thousands of educators and students whose lives were gravely impacted after Wednesday's massacre. CTA President Eric Heins issued the following statement in support of the grieving community and in appreciation for educators who protected and comforted students during the uncertainty and extended lockdown periods:

"We are deeply saddened after yet another tragic shooting, this time in one of our California communities. Our hearts are with the victims and their families, especially one of our own teachers who lost her husband. We're saddened that these mass shootings continue to traumatize our communities. As Americans, we are strong and must continue to stand together, look after each other and advocate for laws that will ensure future generations can grow and thrive. We thank our fellow educators who comforted and cared for the students in schools on lockdown near the various active crime scenes. Many questions were asked, tears were shed, and families were torn apart as a result of these heinous acts of violence, yet we are comforted knowing that a teacher, counselor, office worker, nurse, librarian, bus driver, janitor and other school professionals made every effort to ensure our students felt safe. We honor and thank them for their calming professionalism during these frightening hours."



EXTRA! EXTRA!

THE PRE-RETIREMENT WORKSHOP IS COMING!

Thinking of Retiring?

This is the workshop for you! STRS will be hosting this informative workshop and answering any questions you may have. This event only comes around once a year, so get your name in early!

DATE: SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 2016

TIME: 9:00 A.M.—12:00 NOON
(BREAKFAST SERVED AT 8:00 A.M.)

LOCATION: HOLIDAY INN LA MIRADA
14299 FIRESTONE BOULEVARD
LA MIRADA, CALIFORNIA 90638

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- ⇒ The cost of attendance is \$15 per person. This fee includes continental breakfast and conference materials
- ⇒ **To RSVP, send a check made payable to MTA in the amount of \$15 per person along with the name(s) of the person(s) you are registering.**
- ⇒ **You can also log on to montebelloteachers.org to register and pay with your debit or credit card (via PayPal).**
- ⇒ ***WALK-INS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED***

Please send RSVP's **NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 2015**

Questions? Email: mta@montebelloteachers.org or call (323) 722-5005.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR ATTENDANCE!