



Montebello Teachers Association/California Teachers Association • 918 W. Whittier Blvd. Montebello CA • (323) 722-5005 • montbelloteachers.org

Members Explain “No Confidence” in Superintendent to BOE

Vice President Paul Chavez (SHS) made the MTA report at last night’s Board of Education meeting. President Lorraine Richards was attending a conference out of the area. Paul commented:



MTA is frustrated with the Board of Education’s lack of action in addressing Superintendent Contreras-Smith’s divisive, demoralizing, and disrespectful letter to the Montebello Community. Her role is to foster a collegial working environment and to provide over all educational leadership for the District’s diverse learning communities. Instead of bringing us all together, Susanna Contreras-Smith created division throughout the District and attempted to create division between the community and the teachers.

*When we have asked for an explanation she deflects her answer by saying, “I need to speak with the Board.” At this time, we have only heard from Mr. Cisneros who has said, “I do not condone the message it represents.” **The Association is asking Ms. Flores, Ms. Cupchoy, Mr. Cardenas, and Mr. Chacon if your continued silence reflects agreement with the contents of the letter?***

*Contreras-Smith’s non-response has escalated the dispute between the Association and the Superintendent. You, as the elected officials, need to address this concern MTA has had over the past several months. **What you do not address will NOT go away.***

Approximately thirty members took time off from summer break to attend the meeting. Six members addressed the Board of Education during public comment: High School Director Elizabeth Kocharian (BGH), Elementary Director Doug Patzkowski, Terry SalasOrtiz (CCE), Aura Rodriguez (WIE), Susan Levin (BGI), and Jeff Pulice (SHS).

Cardenas and Chacon Report They Are Considering Association’s Concerns

Each member of the BOE made a report. Edgar Cisneros once again apologized for the letter. Hector Chacon said that upon listening to the remarks he felt he had much to think about prior to making a response. President Ben Cardenas echoed Mr. Chacon’s sentiments saying he would spend some time “marinating” his thoughts. Both Joanna Flores and Lani Cupchoy addressed concerns regarding Advanced Placement classes at the high schools.

2015-2016 Bonus Due By Wednesday, August 10

- Funds will be **transmitted via Direct Deposit** if Bargaining Unit member has Direct Deposit
- If you do **not** have Direct Deposit, your check will be U.S. mailed to your home address.
- If you do **not** have Direct Deposit and want to pick up your check at the switchboard at District Office email payroll no later than **Monday, August 8.**

Wu_Lucia@Montebello.K12.CA.US or Navarro_Irma@Montebello.K12.CA.US

Vote Yes on **Proposition 55** this November The Children’s Education and Healthcare Protection Act

If Proposition 55 is not approved by California voters November, Montebello Unified School District will be directly impacted. The operating budget will be reduced by nearly 15 percent in 2017-2018 affecting programs, instruction, and salaries.

Can we count on you to vote “YES” on Proposition 55? The Association will send out a survey via email Thursday, August 4. Once you complete the survey, MTA will not contact you again concerning your vote.

MTA, along with CTA, will begin phone banking voters in the community in October. Everyone is invited to volunteer in the campaign. More information will be available in the fall.

California students, schools, and colleges can’t afford to go back to the days of massive budget cuts, educator layoffs, larger class sizes, and tuition hikes. Proposition 55 does not raise taxes on anyone; it simply maintains the current income tax rates on the wealthiest Californians. Proposition 55 contains strict accountability requirements to ensure funds designated for education go to the classrooms, not to bureaucracy or administrative costs.

MTA Office is closed

July 25-August 5.

In case of an emergency email

MTA@Montbelloteachers.org

Or call 323.722.5005 & leave a message.

Open Enrollment for Health Insurance Is September 12-October 7

Take Time To Ask Questions and Find Your Best Option

Employees can learn about the 2017 insurance options **Wednesday, August 17 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Montebello High School** in the courtyard.

Employee contributions are collected once per pay warrant in January, February, March, April, May, June, July, October, November, and December. The 2017 employee contributions will begin on the January 3 pay warrant.

Special rates apply for Bargaining Unit members who share 2-party or family coverage with either certificated or classified MUSD employees. Visit montebelloteachers.org for details.

If you want the same health insurance and have the same dependents, you need not do anything. Changes in health insurance options and dependents can be made through the Benefits Office in District Office during open enrollment.

BLUE SHEILD NetValue will no longer be offered. If you are currently on NetValue, **and do not make another selection for 2017, you will automatically be moved by CalPERS to BLUE SHIELD Access+.**

Employee contributions for some plans were increased and for others decreased. To compare to 2016 contributions [click here](#). To compare health plans [click here](#).

To remind yourself what insurance plan you currently have, check your insurance card.

All health insurance plans require an employee contribution. In addition to health insurance Full time Bargaining Unit members and part time Bargaining Unit members who work 50 percent or more are entitled to insurance for:

Dental

Vision

Life

Long Term Care

Information regarding additional voluntary insurance will be available at the health fair **Wednesday, August 17 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

The Benefits Department at DO is the best resource for benefits information.

2017 PLANS	SINGLE	2-PARTY	FAMILY
BLUE SHIELD ACCESS+	\$25	\$95	\$150
KAISER CA	\$5	\$40	\$80
Anthem HMO Traditional	\$25	\$140	\$240
Anthem HMO Select	\$8	\$32	\$63
Health Net Salud y Más	\$8	\$32	\$63
Health Net SmartCare	\$25	\$136	\$237
United Healthcare	\$25	\$109	\$186
PERS Choice	\$25	\$95	\$150
PERS Select	\$25	\$95	\$150
PERSCare	\$50	\$200	\$322