



In Between...



Moreno Valley Education Association



Phone (951) 485-0545 / FAX (951) 485-0353

www.MVEAInfo.com

Editors: Janet MacMillan & Ann Adler
Volume 10, Issue 5, April 11, 2011

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?!

Even Before You Left

The March 22 MVUSD Board of Education Meeting

MVEA members packed the meeting which was anything but business as usual. Over 200 people crowded into the Board room to talk about District budget reductions especially as they relate to the MVEA members. There were a plethora of speakers including teachers, a counselor, and students.

MVUSD to continue paychecks! A tax and revenue anticipation note (TRAN) for up to \$29 million was approved by the Board. A TRAN is a short term loan that allows an entity to make payments while awaiting anticipated funds. The state is deferring more than \$50 million owed to Moreno Valley Unified until the 2011-12 school year. This creates a potential serious cash flow problem. Eleven of the twenty three Riverside districts are also using TRANs to pay the bills. The District will incur a \$300,000 interest payment. This money will come from the General Fund and does not increase costs to taxpayers. **Without the TRANs, the District could not guarantee paying its bills including your paychecks.** Thankfully, it was a YES vote as follows. AYE- Holguin, Johnson, Sayre, Vackar; NO-Rios.

School Board Member Blames MVEA... Board member Rios thanked the educators for coming, but then proceeded to verbally assault the union. He apparently does not understand that those who spoke are the union, that we all are the collective MVEA. He cited an example of a 2nd year teacher being rif'd while a 6th year teacher who might not be as good with the students is allowed to stay, and he blamed the MVUSD/MVEA Contract for that. Accurately speaking, the Contract uses seniority in one place- in the transfer article and then, only if everything else is equal (satisfactory evaluation, correct credential authorization, etc.) The RIF process is dictated by Ed Code-law. Seniority is used to prevent a subjective process of keeping personal favorites. Rios did not stop there. He publically declared he was not afraid of the union, as if someone or something was after him.

Preparation for RIF Hearing By MVEA

On March 22, MVEA held a meeting for our RIF'd teachers. A CTA lawyer was present to answer questions and to explain the rights of those who have received notices. MVEA has been diligently researching all the issues of the 184 unit members involved. The issues seem to center on disparate treatment for Interns, Skipping, Credential Authorizations, and timeliness of the notices. The final seniority list was received by MVEA on Wednesday, April 6. The hearings will be Thursday, April 14 and Monday, April 18. Please support your colleagues.

District Denies Violating Class Size Staffing Ratios but Claims CS Will Exceed 40

MVEA filed 2 association grievances on class size based on the number of RIFs and the impact on class size. One grievance is about staffing ratios, and the other focuses on the class sizes. The District denies that it exceeded the staffing ratio in its projections, yet admits that secondary classes will rise to 40 or more if all the RIFs go through. MVEA will be filing for mediation after spring break since this was an Association grievance which has been denied at the Superintendent's level.

Bargaining

Your MVEA Bargaining Team has met twice recently to discuss the impact of the state budget proposal on the District and the relevance to employee layoffs. The teams will be meeting again on April 15, 18 (if no second day of RIF hearings), 21, 22, and 25 in an attempt to reduce the number of RIFs through bargaining budget reductions. The District's inflated number of RIFs has made it difficult to assess the situation. The School Board by a 5:0 vote approved 240.1 layoffs which equates to \$21 million in savings when temps are included. Factually, 184 unit members received RIF notices. 75 temps who are mostly permanent and probationary employees in a temp status are set to be let go. According to the District's figures, this equates to \$17,353,000 million in savings from our unit. The District has, in the past, said it needed \$11 million in savings each year to project a positive budget for three (3) years as required by law.

Leafleting at Open Houses - Do you know your night to assist another school?

MVEA members have successfully leafleted parents at the Butterfield and Moreno Elementary Open Houses in both English and Spanish to educate them on the impact of the District's proposed layoffs. Parents have been very receptive. Some have not known there was a problem while others have said they didn't know it was this bad. Almost all have been willing to contact their legislators to ask that they "save our schools" by passing the tax extensions. The way it works is this. Your school is paired up with another school. You show up 45 minutes before the Open House event and pass out fliers on the sidewalk as parents enter. The schedule is in the March Advocate. This week on Thursday, come to Armada at 5:15 PM.

While You Were Away...

The State Budget - It is time to take BOLD action!

Unfortunately, the legislature has still not moved on the tax extension and the Governor, who is still hopeful to acquire the necessary votes, is threatening an "all cuts budget" if he is unsuccessful. Legislators are considering a 150 day school year being mandated by the state if the taxes are not extended to create a balanced budget. This is not good news. Take 45 minutes to help leaflet parents at an Open House!!! Plan to participate during the "State of Emergency."

What's Next?

STATE OF EMERGENCY



MVEA/CTA are working with other educational and non-educational groups to declare a state of emergency during the week of May 9-13. The state administrators association is on board already! This is the time to stand up and be heard. Enough is enough! Activities are being planned such as texting/emailing/rallying and in general, getting the word out that the taxes must be extended and our students spared from the worse than draconian cuts that are nearly upon us. Stay tuned and be ready.

IF NOT NOW, WHEN? IF NOT US, THEN WHO!!!

April 12 and 26-Plan to wear red and to attend the School Board meetings at 7 PM at the District Office.

April 19: **Temps**, Come learn about your rights at MVHS Lecture Hall-4 PM.

May 9-13: Help us declare a state of emergency about the budget-More details to follow.



An Injury to One is an Injury to All!!! Support Your Colleagues!