

MVEA Advocate

The Official Publication of the Moreno Valley Educators Association

MVEA Needs You!

By Janet MacMillan, MVEA President

October 2010

Volume 21 Number 3

MVEA's focus this fall is on electing education-friendly school board members Jesús Holguín, CJ Johnson and Oscar Valdepeña. The MVEA office is open from 4:00-7:30 Monday through Thursday evenings for you to come and help with this project. You can make phone calls, stuff envelopes, or write post cards. Come and meet colleagues from other sites, join us for a light dinner and be included in a drawing for prizes. **We NEED your help and support!**



Inside this issue:

MVEA Needs You!	1
Why Are We Still Bargaining?	2,3
Phone Banking Schedule	4
Know Your School Board Candidates	4,5
After School Staff Development	6
Educator of the Month	7
SERP Possibility	7
Your MVEA Reps Want You!	8
Important Dates	8

PHONING—POSTCARD WRITING

Monday—Thursday 4:00-7:30 p.m.

Once the election is over, however, MVEA will look to fulfilling its mission of providing quality education programs and protecting members' rights. We have committees to work on both these components. Let your voice be heard by applying to be a member of the **communication, instruction and professional development, elections, human rights, fall leadership, communication, bargaining support or political action committees.** Committees meet six times during the year, usually on Tuesday or Thursday afternoons at the MVEA office.



MVEA depends on input from members to make decisions. Your Association needs you to provide this input. Call the office or email me at MVEAinfo.com if you are interested in serving on one of these committees.

We're on the web!
MVEAinfo.com

Why Are We Still Bargaining the Impact of the State Budget?

That is the Million Dollar Question...

By Ann Adler, CTA Executive Director

Many people are asking when they will know about budget cut days (furloughs). Others ask why MVEA and the District are still bargaining. There are many questions about the hopefully, short-term increase in health benefits. These are all good questions.

First, let's remember that currently there is a Contractual Agreement between MVEA and the District. This is a three (3) year Agreement which expires on June 30, 2011. The reason MVEA and the District went back to the table is that the District did a "demand to bargain" (an Ed Code term, not a banging of the fist) on the impact of the state budget. So, MVEA has been bargaining now for about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a year.

- Several times during this period, the pundits have said a state budget was imminent. Up until today, October 8, 2010, that has not been true.
- In April and May MVEA believed we had been reached an agreement, and some of the RIFS were going to be prevented.
- The school year closed and a new one began.
- 120+ layoffs took place and as of now, approximately 72 have been recalled including four (4) counselors that were laid off in the spring of 2009, with one more about to return.
- Because there was no new agreement about benefits, all are paying the raised rates without what was (and still is) hoped to decrease some with a new Agreement.
- The Education Jobs Bill passed and is in process now, too late to catch the beginning of the school year. This money can be used for the following:



The Ed Jobs bill funds, SB 847, can be used to pay for support services necessary to retain existing employees, to recall or rehire former employees, and to hire new employees, where those employees provide school-level educational and related services. The money can be used to pay the salaries of teachers and other employees who provide school-level educational and related services. *In addition to teachers, employees supported with program funds may include, among others, principals, assistant principals, academic coaches, in-service teacher trainers, classroom aides, counselors, librarians, secretaries, social workers, psychologists, interpreters, physical therapists, speech therapists, occupational therapists, information technology personnel, nurses, athletic coaches, security*

officers, custodians, maintenance workers, bus drivers, and cafeteria workers who are at the site. It can also be used to pay for benefits, and offset furlough days. Funds **may not be used** for general district administrative expenses or for other support services expenditures such as equipment, utilities, renovation, or transportation. The District has recently received \$5.9 million for this purpose. It is one time money that must be spent by 2011-12. MVEA is exploring how this money may be used and to what the District will agree.

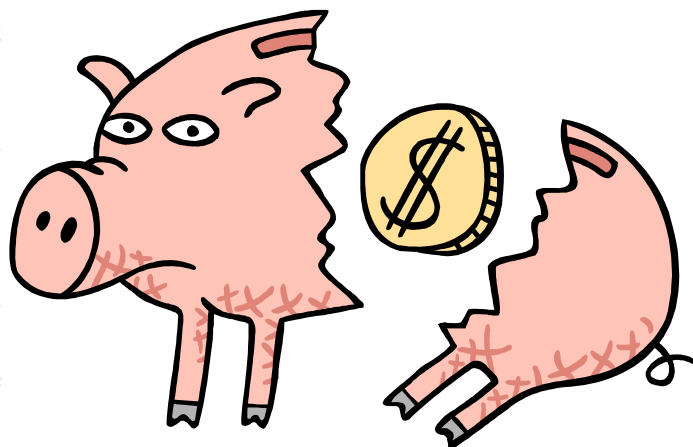
- As I write this, the Governor has line item vetoed \$296 million of the \$ 87.5 billion state budget. MVEA is already analyzing the final budget to verify its impact on MVUSD.

What we think we know about the new state budget is:

- It is built on “smoke and mirrors” much like the previous ones .
- It gives education more money than the May Revise projections, about \$258 more/ADA.
- **BUT it defers much of the money from arriving until MONTHS later.** These deferrals are on top of previous deferrals so that districts, including Moreno Valley Unified, will be guaranteed to have cash flow issues absent temporary borrowing. The District is on top of this to assure payroll.

The bargaining and budget environment has been like shifting sands. Now you see the money. Now you don't. What's under the magician's top hat? A bunny or a giraffe? If I cover the hat again, will I still have the bunny or the giraffe or will it now be a bear?

Your MVEA Bargaining Team has been “through the ringer” emotionally just as all have been through the financial ringer. So, where are we - MVEA and the District?



The District will not accept an Agreement without assurance that they have a positive certification when projecting the budget out for three (3) years as required by law. This means that they need an ending balance with at least a 2% reserve. MVEA agrees that the District must be solvent and has also analyzed the budget.

MVEA will not accept an agreement unless there is strong contingency language that guarantees any future increase in District funding will be used to reduce furlough days , so that if there really is more money, budget cut days will be reduced.

The two parties are working things out. We hope a reasonable Agreement is imminent now that there is actually a state budget, an Agreement that protects the members from extreme out of pocket losses in salary and benefits and one that provides solvency for the District in a time when the state continues to pass on its fiscal woes to any entity it can.

So why we are still bargaining? That is the million dollar question!

MVEA Phone Banking Schedule

- Tuesday, October 19th Edgemont & La Jolla
- Wednesday, October 20th Moreno & Serrano
- Thursday, October 21st Butterfield & Sugar Hill
- Monday, October 25th Honey Hollow
- Tuesday, October 26th Sunnymead Elementary
- Wednesday, October 27th Vista Heights & Box Springs
- Thursday, October 28th Vista del Lago
- Monday, November 1st Staff Development Center

– **Don't see your school listed? Feel free to come join us for dinner, campaigning, and friendship! See you at the MVEA office soon!**

5:00 – 5:30 Dinner

5:30 – 7:30 Phone Banking/Postcard Writing

You Might WIN one of the Nightly Prizes, and you'll be enter into the Grand Finale Drawings! Most importantly, please remember that these are the candidates who will support you as an Educator. **Now is the time**, so please come help get our candidates elected!

Thank you so much for your time and efforts!

Know Your MVEA SCHOOL BOARD Candidates

THEY ARE AWESOME!

Jesús Holguín

Jesús Holguín, a Moreno Valley resident since 1985, was born in Texas. He holds a degree in Accounting and has a Masters in Governance from the California School Board Association. For 25 years, he has worked for the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools in the Business Advisory Services Department. Jesús is very skilled in budgets. This assists him as a Board member when analyzing the District's budget. He has represented MVUSD in Sacramento and Washington D.C. by advocating for more funding for education and for *appropriate* reauthorization of the No Child Left Behind Act.

Jesús belongs to the California Association of School Business Officials and the California School Boards Association. He also has been active in a plethora of local groups over the last 15 years: Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, St. Christopher Catholic Church, Moreno Valley Morning Rotary Club, PTA at Box Springs Elementary, Vista Heights Middle, and Canyon Springs High Schools, and the District English Language Advisory Committee. For 5 years, Jesús was the Spanish translator at MVUSD School Board meetings.

His wife, Patricia, works for MVUSD as an instructional assistant at Bear Valley Elementary school. Jesús is also the proud father of 3 daughters who are all college students.

“CJ” Johnson

“CJ” Johnson has lived in Moreno Valley since 1978. He has two sons and a daughter with his wife Barbara. He graduated college with a Bachelor of Science in Sociology.

While in the Air Force, he worked as an expert transportation manager. During his service, he received many awards and decorations. After his service in the Air Force, “CJ” worked as a Business Executive for Frito-Lay, Inc. from which he recently retired. There he served as an effective leader whose department’s budget was balanced for 13 consecutive years. He ensured team members were trained, empowered, and focused to produce positive business results. Currently, “CJ” is a Board of Director at Vine-Life Christian Fellowship Church in Riverside. He is also on the Moreno Valley Senior Citizen Board.

“CJ” is a team player who likes to talk to and listen to others. His time as a team leader at Frito-Lay has taught him discipline, honor, integrity and moral values. “CJ” promises to serve all teachers, children and families well in making our school district one that anyone would want their children to attend.

Oscar Valdepeña

Oscar Valdepeña has lived in Moreno Valley for over 15 years. His involvement with business and education extends over seven years. Oscar has volunteered at many school sites. He supports Junior Achievement as an industry instructor and has worked to implement school garden projects.

Oscar values the importance of connecting business to education. His commitment to Moreno Valley Unified is evident as he serves on school committees and panels including budget, school improvement, Student of the Month, Saluting Education, boundary, and facility improvements.

Oscar is currently President of the Moreno Valley Optimist Club, a Moreno Valley Noon Rotary member, Access to the Future Chairman, and serves on many city committees and advisory boards.

He is married and has twin 5-year old boys who attend school in the Moreno Valley Unified School District.

Oscar promises to listen, learn, and work hard as a new Board member.

Your MVEA Interview Committee talked to ALL eight of the School Board candidates. These are the **only** candidates they recommend for School Board: **HOLGUIN, JOHNSON and VALDEPEÑA**. All three will work to:

- Encourage high expectations for student behavior as well as academic achievement
- Promote an updated “Three R’s” in our schools including RESPONSIBILITY, RESPECT AND RESULTS.

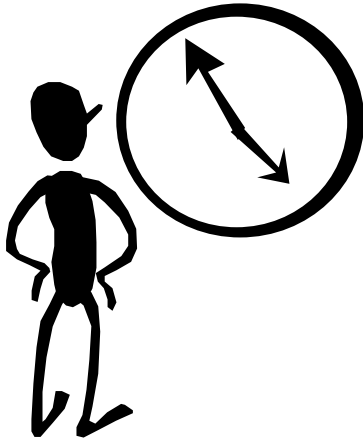
**Join your colleagues in supporting
the EDUCATION CANDIDATES!**

After School Staff Development...

Do I Have to Stay?

By Connie Pruett, MVEA Vice-President

Your principal can provide training, offer training, offer training, ask you to stay, pay you to stay, and plead with you to stay after your 7 hour and 20 minute day, BUT they cannot require you to stay after your contractual day. They can offer training in the summer, pay you to come to training on your off time, BUT they cannot require you to attend. The only way they can require you to attend a training is to do it during your contractual 7 hour 20 minute day. If this is happening at your site, contact your Site Reps and inform them of your concern.



Disclaimer: Please note this applies to time outside of your 7 hour and 20 minute day. Flex Days are a part of that day. It does NOT apply if the is training done as one of your monthly staff meetings. There can be two 60-minute all-staff meetings per month.

MVEA Members:

Laura O'Connell from **California Casualty** shares that here is an opportunity for you to look into the Auto and Home Insurance program that is offered by California Casualty. Currently, if you call in to the toll free number, California Casualty is offering a **\$15.00 gift card to Staples** just for comparing your current auto rates with theirs. California Casualty wants to thank CTA members for your efforts by giving you a gift card that will help you with supplies for your classroom, or for yourself personally. They look forward to speaking with you soon. You may contact them at **1-866-387-3228** and **press 2** to connect with the Quoting department.



Educator of the Month: Charlie Rader

By Janet MacMillan, MVEA President

Charlie Rader

was recognized by the Moreno Valley Chamber of Commerce as the September Educator of the Month. Charlie is currently assigned to teach fourth grade at Hidden Springs Elementary. He knows the curriculum, and more importantly, he knows how to make it come alive for his students. His colleagues report that the students love Charlie and remember him as their favorite teacher. At this stage in his career, Charlie is teaching the children of former students. These parents are requesting Charlie as the teacher for their own children. That in itself is testimony to the positive effect that he has on his students.

Like all elementary teachers, Charlie teaches all subject areas. His area of special interest is health which he manages to fit into a classroom schedule frequently dominated by language arts and math. He also enthusiastically teaches PE and shares his love of athletic competition in such sports as high jumping and golf. His students understand the importance of exercise and healthy life styles and how they transfer to helping one do well academically.

Misty Kelly, the principal at Hidden Springs, reports that Charlie is open to new thrusts in education, the PLC being one of them. He listens to his colleagues and incorporates many of their ideas into his own teaching strategies. Charlie is a team player. He is the test facilitator for Hidden Springs and ensures not only that the security requirements are in place, but also that the testing environment is positive for students.

This year Hidden Springs met its AYP.

Charlie is special to the staff at Hidden Springs for many reasons outside his ability to teach his class. Charlie understands that staff morale is important. His colleagues report that he can make anyone laugh or smile at any given time. Charlie always has a

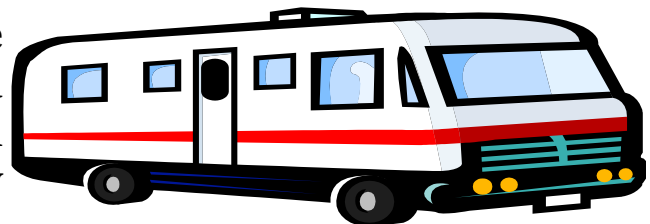
joke. His good humor is infectious.

Charlie has a life away from school. He competes in high jumping events and is a dedicated golfer. His wife, Susan, teaches at Bear Valley. Both Susan and Charlie plan on retiring at the end of this year.

Congratulations to Charlie Rader, a teacher who brings the joy of teaching and learning to his students and his colleagues!



The District is studying the possibility of offering a Supplementary Retirement Plan (SERP). MVEA has sent a survey to members eligible for STRS retirement. Information from the survey will be used by MVEA leadership at budget and bargaining meetings. If you did not receive one, please call the office at 485-0545 and we will get one out to you.



**The Official Publication
of the Moreno Valley
Educators Association**

23025 Atlantic Circle, Suite A
Moreno Valley, CA 92553
Phone: 951-485-0545
Fax: 951-485-0353
Email: info@mveainfo.com

*Moreno Valley Educators Association is an organization of professionals which serves as a powerful **voice** communicating the needs of Educators and students to the district, parents, and community in order to establish a **positive** school environment and build **quality educational programs**. The Association will continue to **protect** the **rights** of Educators, and thereby students, **by promoting equity and human rights**.*

Important Dates:

- **Now—Nov. 2**
MVEA School Board
Phone Banking &
Writing @ MVEA
4-7:30 p.m.
- **Oct. 23,24,30,31**
Precinct Walking—
Door Hangers 9-2 @
MVEA Office
- **Oct. 26** School Board
meeting @ 7:00
- **Nov. 2** VOTE!
- **Nov. 3** Exec. Board
mtg. @ 4 p.m.
- **Nov. 10** Rep Council
mtg. @ 4 p.m.

**MVEA NEEDS
YOU!**

WHO: YOU and your
SCHOOL SITE!

WHAT: Phone Banking and
Postcard Writing for our
Endorsed School Board
Candidates!

WHERE: MVEA Office

WHEN: 4:00 - 7:30pm!
(dinner from 5-5:30 p.m.)

WHY: To help our 3 MVEA-friendly candidates
win the election this November!

**PRIZES AND DOOR RAFFLES
WILL BE DONE ALL NIGHT!!**



MVEA Executive Board:

President	Janet MacMillan	Director of Member Services	José Alcalá
Vice-President	Connie Pruett	Director of Political Action	Anne Prows
Secretary	Peggy Murphy	Co-Director of Elementary	Vacant
Treasurer	Tom Weir	Co-Director of Elementary	Omar Tinoco
Executive Director	Ann Adler	Director of Middle School	Mike Sorter
Director of Contract Maintenance	Harold Acord	Director of High School	Juanita Quiroz
Director of Communication	Cathy Fulgenzi	CTA State Council Members	Harold Acord,
Director of Human Rights	Danny Alvarez		José Alcalá, Janet MacMillan, Connie Pruett
Director of Instruction & Prof. Dev.	Sharon Orme	CTA Board Rep. District O	Mikki Cichocki
		NEA Director District 11	Katherine Underwood