

# MVEAdvocate

*The Official Publication of the Moreno Valley Educators Association*

## Budget News: Quick Facts

- The previous Legislature did not enact any legislation to amend the budget in November.
- The Governor made a proposal at that time.
- The newly elected Legislature went into Emergency Session on December 1 to address the fiscal situation.
- The Legislature has 45 days to enact something. Every day that goes by, the deficit rises.
- The state deficit as of Dec. 12, 2008, is \$14.8 billion.
- The projected deficit, if nothing is done by the end of 18 months, is \$28 - \$31.6 billion.
- State Projects will stop within two weeks (roads and highways, etc.) and the state will have to begin issuing IOUs by March. State workers are threatened with lay-offs.
- Nationally, California schools already rank 46th in per-student spending.

### MIDYEAR

- The current proposed minimum reductions to public education are \$2.5 billion.
- The current proposed minimum reductions to Moreno Valley Unified School District are \$12 million, which is the equivalent of a reduction of \$367 per student, and a 5 % reduction to the revenue limit.

## Bargaining News

- A**tentative agreement was reached on Appendix C: Calendars for the 2009-2010 Traditional Year, the 2010-2011 Traditional Year, and the 2009-2010 Preschool and Head Start Calendars. **These calendars, however, may be subject to further modifications, depending on the impact of the financial crisis.**
- Reduced class size for high needs students (Association objective)
  - Increased caseloads from 165 students to 175 students in grades 6-12 (District proposal)
  - Reducing the number of days in the school year to save money (District proposal)

The following items were **not** agreed to in Article XIII – Class Size and Article X – Hours and Assignments:

The District withdrew its proposal to require MVEA Bargaining Unit Members to sign in

and out of their sites. This is not current practice.

Bargaining will reconvene on January 15, 2009, January 26, 2009, and January 27, 2009.

Thanks to our MVEA Negotiation Team members: Harold Acord, José Alcalá, Jay Hannah, Judy Hyneman, Peggy Murphy, and Vida Swilley for taking time away from their classrooms to make a difference for their MVEA colleagues.

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## Inside this issue:

Budget News:	1
Quick Facts	
Bargaining News	1
Recommendations for HVAC Programming	2
8 Simple Ways to Reduce Energy Costs	2
Save on Your Prescription Medicines!	2
Do You Think You Didn't Get Paid Right?	3
CTA Joins Against Algebra Decision	3
Educator of the Month	3
Important Dates	4

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MVEAinfo.com

# Recommendations for HVAC Programming

*MVEA, as a member of CAMM, agreed to the following recommendations in order to reduce costs during the state's fiscal crisis:*

The following changes will be in effect January 5<sup>th</sup> 2009. Heating/Ventilating/Air Conditioning (HVAC) will be shut down during weekends, holidays, spring, winter and summer breaks. The override button or special request programming will be utilized during these periods.

## HIGH SCHOOLS

All rooms and buildings will be shut down at the end of the contractual work day based on the bell schedule except for the Administration area. This area will remain on for a period of time to be determined by Kim Kruger.

## MIDDLE SCHOOLS

All rooms and buildings will be shut down at the end of the contractual work day based on the bell schedule except for the Administrative area. This area will remain on for a period of time to be determined by Kim Kruger.

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

All rooms and buildings will be shut down at the end of the contractual work day based on the bell schedule except for the Administrative areas. This will remain on for a period of time to be determined by Kathy Nordin.

## OTHER SITES/BUILDINGS

These will be programmed to shut down at the end of the work day.

## 8 Simple Ways to Reduce Energy Costs

1. Unplug devices when they are not being used.
2. Shut down all personal computers and monitors when not in use, including power strips.
3. Turn off lights when they are not needed or when a room is unoccupied.
4. Unless they are approved by your site administrator, remove all personal electrical devices and take them home.
5. Keep doors and windows closed.
6. Keep all electrical devices at least three feet away from thermostats.
7. Utilize the smallest room possible for after hour and weekend events.
8. Report energy waste to your site administrator.

## It is No Secret—Save \$ on your Prescription Medications!



**Give Yourself a Great Holiday Gift! Help Yourself be Healthy!**

**It only takes 15 minutes per month and costs nothing extra!**

Your MVEA Benefits Committee members want you to know **you can save up to thousands of dollars** each year on your prescription medications!

Medications prescribed to help you manage your condition(s) will **be reduced to \$0.00 copayments**—if you have been diagnosed with diabetes, high blood pressure, and/or high cholesterol **and join the American Health Care (AHC) Disease and Wellness Management Program!**

As a member of AHC you will receive a care manager or “coach”—someone to walk side by side with you through a series of personal steps toward better health! Your care manager will track your progress and answer your health questions!

*Contact an AHC Disease Management Specialist at 866-571-6104 for more information.*

## Do You Think You Didn't Get Paid Right?



the District. So what should you do if you feel that has occurred to you?

Recently MVEA has received concerns from members who feel that they have not been paid correctly by

First, you must let your administrator know as soon as possible. Then, you should contact your MVEA site rep immediately so that the site rep can help monitor the situation and keep MVEA informed. If within 20 working days you do not feel your concern about pay has been satisfied, you must then file a grievance in order to maintain your

rights. Your site rep can help you with writing up the grievance. The grievance procedure is delineated in the Contract on pp. 36-39.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns regarding this process, you can call MVEA for assistance.

## CTA Joins Action Against Algebra Decision

The California Teachers Association (CTA) joined in a lawsuit this month against the State Board of Education and its decision to mandate that all eighth-graders take the Algebra 1 assessment test regardless of whether they have actually taken an algebra course. CTA joined the California School Boards Association and the Association of

California School Administrators in filing for a preliminary injunction.

CTA asserts that the State Board violated state law by not properly notifying the public of its decision to take action, and that it overstepped its authority by mandating a test that is



not aligned with existing state standards.

In order for schools to prepare all eighth-graders to take the Algebra 1 exam, the state would need to hire an additional 3,000 math teachers and providing training for 1000 more. The Superior Court is expected to rule on the preliminary injunction December 19.

## Educator of the Month: Paul Sexauer

Paul Sexauer was recognized by the Chamber of Commerce as MVEA's educator of the month for December. Paul believes that the arts help to make us human. He has spent his nineteen year career in Moreno Valley serving in leadership positions in the area of visual and performing arts both at Butterfield Elementary School and districtwide. Paul was instrumental in writing and facilitating the implementation of an \$800,000 magnet grant for Butterfield that established a schoolwide visual and performing arts program including a fully equipped art room and a musical keyboard lab for piano skills open to all students, kindergarten through fifth grade. Currently, he is serving

on the District Visual and Performing Arts Subject Advisory committee that has recommended the allocation of state funding to each site and developed a comprehensive district-wide arts program.

Paul also teaches prospective teachers at Chapman University to integrate the visual and performing arts into the core curricular areas so that all students have the opportunity to sing and act. His second grade students will tell you that he is cool and they have fun because of music in the class, and test results



show they learn the core curriculum.

Paul is respected and appreciated by his colleagues. He is a resource for his grade level at PLC meetings where he is known for his positive attitude regardless of the challenges of District, state or federal mandates. Paul's dedication to the Butterfield student community continues to extend beyond his own class. He and head custodian Art Villeneuve perform together to honor students' successes and reinforce positive character traits at Student of the Month assemblies.

Congratulations, Paul!

## The Official Publication of the

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*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:

- Dec. 20—Jan. 11**

Winter Break

*The MVEA Office will be closed*

*Dec. 22-Jan. 4 and will reopen Jan. 5*

- Jan. 12** Back to School
- Jan. 14** Exec. Board mtg. 4:00
- Jan. 19** M. L. King Jr. Day
- Jan. 20** School Board mtg. 7:00
- Jan. 21** Rep. Council mtg. 4:00
- Jan. 26** Chinese New Year



Happy Holidays  
 from the MVEA  
 Executive  
 Board and  
 Office Staff!

# January 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Winter Break	2 Winter Break	3 Winter Break
4 Winter Break	5 Winter Break	6 Winter Break	7 Winter Break	8 Winter Break	9 Winter Break	10 Winter Break
11 Winter Break	12 Back to School	13	14 Exec. Board 4pm	15	16	17
18	19 M.L. King Jr. Day	20 School Board 7pm	21 Rep. Council 4pm	22	23	24
25	26 Chinese New Year	27	28	29	30	31

## MVEA Executive Board:

<b>President</b>	Janet MacMillan	<b>Co-Director of Elementary</b>	Andrea Chouinard
<b>Vice-President</b>	Connie Pruett	<b>Co-Director of Elementary</b>	Tim Hampton
<b>Secretary</b>	Peggy Murphy	<b>Director of Middle School</b>	Mike Sorter
<b>Treasurer</b>	Tom Weir	<b>Director of High School</b>	Juanita Quiroz
<b>Executive Director</b>	Ann Adler	<b>CTA State Council Rep. to the Board</b>	Katherine Underwood
<b>Director of Contract Maintenance</b>	Harold Acord	<b>CTA State Council Members</b>	Harold Acord, Janet MacMillan, Connie Pruett, Katherine Underwood
<b>Director of Communication</b>	Cathy Fulgenzi	<b>CTA Board Rep. District O</b>	Mikki Cichocki
<b>Director of Human Rights</b>	Danny Alvarez	<b>NEA Board Rep. District 11</b>	Patty Taylor
<b>Director of Instruction &amp; Prof. Dev.</b>	Sharon Orme		
<b>Director of Member Services</b>	José Alcalá		
<b>Director of Political Action</b>	Heather Gardner		