

**Murrieta Teachers Association**  
**Representative Council Agenda, October 6, 2008**

- I. Call to order: 4:30 p.m.
- II. Call to approve September's meeting minutes. Unanimously approved.
- III. Meeting agendas will no longer include committee reports, unless Chair requests it. Approved agenda for today's meeting with a few revisions. Motion: Jeannie Cusack, Ellie Fuller 2nd, unanimous approval.
- IV. Speaker: Pat Beal, PAR/BTSA Update
  - A. Many changes to BTSA this year. From CFASST to FACT = streamlined and focused on pedagogy, differentiated instruction, universal access, and formative assessment. No portfolio...focused on PLCs, school and community, and research project.
  - B. Reviewed BTSA history that explains progression to changes in format this year. BTSA is preferred method of clearing a credential; participants can earn up to 5 graduate units per year for completion of program.
  - C. Requesting our support for teachers in the program and for voluntary PAR. BTSA is a fully funded program that benefits all teachers.
- V. Executive Officer Reports
  - A. Middle School: No report.
  - B. High School:
    1. Most class count issues have been corrected. New high school will eliminate numbers concerns.
    2. 21st century commission: discussion regarding lower credits needed to graduate; also discussing offering online courses. Challenges with online courses are tech concerns and teacher payment.
    3. No high school will be structured for a 6 period day.
    4. October 17, 2008, Shivela Middle School's MPR at 4 p.m., informational meeting regarding staffing for new high school. Email reminder will go out.
  - C. Elementary:
    1. Inclement weather issues where admin asks teachers to take their personal time to supervise students. This causes teachers to be over their instructional minutes. Contract allows a duty-free 30 minute lunch.
    2. Concerns with teacher obligation to support tutor requests for work for students in the movie/modeling industry that miss class frequently.
    3. Concerns for class size, especially in combo classes where students are placed on a class roll for a teacher they are not really assigned to so numbers are right to avoid financial penalty.
    4. Some schools still have modified days planned by admin, not teachers. Our contract requires teachers to use these days to collaborate. Can request trainings for website design etc. Probationary teachers feel pressure to comply with admin regarding agenda for modified days.
    5. Concerns for the length of time a temporary teacher has to endure a temp contract. Chuck states for as long as necessary until a permanent job opens up. CBEDS numbers will help determine numbers of permanent positions opening, as will retirement. Teacher can only be labeled probationary for two years.
    6. Temp teachers have no seniority. Do advance each year on pay columns and receive benefits. Temps also pay dues. No PAR rights and no two year right to

receive a permanent job placement. A temp contract can roll into a Probationary year 2 contract.

D. Treasurer:

1. Tom is at camp. Report copies passed out. If you have a questions, please email Tom.

E. Secretary: No report.

F. Vice President: No report.

G. President:

1. No need to worry about teachers being paid by state. There is ample money to support teacher pay in county reserves, as well as district emergency fund.
2. Jack Mitchell addresses Reps with an update:  
Concerns: Ed code says complaints from employees are under code #4144 that states that school board hears and rules on complaint. District is placing complaint under code #1312 that states the Superintendent has power to decide whether board can hear complaint. Union's concern is that our school board refuses to meet with a teacher and hear concerns in a formal setting. This is an on-going concern.  
Motion made by Denise Villemure to support Jack with a resolution asking that the School Board hear Jack Mitchell's concern under ed code #4144. 2nd by Susan Marsolais. Unanimously approved.
3. Committee meeting coming up:  
PAC: RJ's Sizzling Steer, Thursday, 4 p.m.  
Special Ed Committee met. No report. Will meet again in December.  
Health Benefits Committee, Thursday, 4 p.m., MTA Office.

H. Bargaining Chair: No report.

VI. Old Business:

- A. CTA gave \$250,000 toward defeating Prop 8. Some members concerned about this financial expenditure; it isn't an educational issue. Discussion revealed that it is viewed by CTA as a human rights issue and this is why it was funded through PAC funds. "Injury to one is an injury to all." Motion by Dr. Albert Ross to send a letter from MTA to CTA stating our objection to funds used for this cause. 2nd by Colleen O'Dowd. Vote results: 11 in favor, 17 opposed.
- B. Items b and c under old business tabled until next meeting.

VII. New Business:

- A. State budget: Governor given power for mid-year cuts. Expect them.
- B. Retirement: Possible incentive again this year if there are 20 or more teachers interested. MTA has told DSC there will be. Reps need to get input from their sites about anyone interested in an incentive. Chuck will send out an email.
- C. Still need email trees completed with home emails from all members. Each school should compile their own.
- D. Chuck will send an email to remind everyone about the Maternity Leave Seminar.

VIII. Misc:

A. High school reps take bags to new teachers and get their names to Chuck.

VIII. Closing: Prizes awarded.

A. Next meeting November 3, 2008, 4:00 p.m., MTA Office.

.Closing Prizes. Meeting adjourned 5:45.