

Murrieta Teachers Association
Representative Council Agenda, September 8, 2008

- I. Call to order, 4:00 p.m.
- II. First Financial presentation: Teacher grant available, honor 75th anniversary...will give away 75 \$500 grants. To qualify, one must be a member, full-time teacher, and application must be post marked by 9/30. They are located in San Diego, Oceanside, and Temecula, behind Costco. Open Mon-Sat. Only credit union approved by CTA. Also give scholarships = 25 for MVUSD.
- III. Approved minutes of last meeting with corrections to treasurer report.
 - A. Clarification under Old Business: One site rep from each site needs to be responsible for collecting teachers' home emails and be prepared to give Mary access when needed. This was unanimously approved
- IV. Approved agenda for today's meeting. Motion: Jeannie Cusack, Ellie Fuller 2nd
- V. Executive Officers Reports
 - A. Middle School:
 1. New rep from McElhinney Middle School introduced.
 - B. High School:
 1. Thanks to those who committed to be reps this year. Expect challenges due to Pres election and state budget.
 2. 21st century commission=alter curriculum and have 6 periods and grad credits
 3. October 3, 2008 ask for resumes for new high school teachers that want to transfer.
 4. Class sizes at MVHS are an issue; keep watch for class sizes. Have 20 days to rectify these numbers at all campuses.
 - C. Elementary:
 1. Class sizes are issues and supplies for kids over 20 an issue.
 2. PLC issues/Marzano strategies/ability grouping
 3. Tech issues...websites required? Not all working. Aries/Fast Math, history erased is an issue.
 4. Universal access to teachers' curriculum.
 - D. Treasurer:
 1. Review last year's budget. Minus = money is there/not spent. Positive=spent it
 2. Report shares where we have allocated money...increased \$549 for committees for food during meetings. Payroll clearing increased=Mary's salary. Rent=low here so will stay as long as CTA doesn't need the space.
 3. Membership fee goes for dinner at end of year. Will have a lot of training this year, so use it=increased this to accommodate training. 940 members are what budget is based on. We have done well this year with budget.
 4. Treasurer, Tom Kuzma moves to approve budget. Christina Anderson-Huber, 2nd. Motion unanimously approved.
 5. Discussion budget: Investment=carry over 50,000 in CD that earned 3,000 and will reinvest again this year when it comes due.
 6. Changed from First Financial credit union to School's First. /They gave us an Assoc. credit card for the union where First Financial wouldn't do that for us.
 7. Cash your stipend check so we can close out budget!
 8. President's grant=\$18,300. We commit line 596 of budget into escrow account and NEA/CTA also commits money for a total of 29,000. We have \$15,000 that we are obligated to this year. Next year, the district picks up the whole tab. Budget passed with unanimous vote.

- E. Secretary: No report.
- F. Vice President: No report.
- G. President:

1. Update on letter written last year for Jack Mitchell to be allowed to address the school board. District has said yes, but must present it based on a form that specifies how he can present.
2. Jack Mitchell's report: Harassed for 4 yrs when MTA Pres. Allowed by DSC because of his role as Union President. Jack asked for board to meet with him. Lawyer gave legal decision was part of his harassment team. Told he must meet privately on his own with School Board Members. If going to public session he had to give notice that he would be there 24 hrs in advance. Only 2 board members agreed to meet, and only Diffley came to meet with him. No one else will meet with him, because Superintendent sent email to board that said do not meet with Jack Mitchell. Chuck sent letter to board disappointed that board wouldn't meet with him. DSC has binder on Jack. Requested from lawyer for records on what have spent on Jack's case. Refuse to give info to Jack until after the board meeting this week. None of the info is in his personnel file. DSC says info is under public contract, not personnel contract...this should be under personnel/ employee contract that would stop Superintendent from making the final decision on this issue. DSC is stonewalling and will continue to. If under public law, Superintendent can reject any request a teacher makes. Under personnel law, the law stipulates what happens. Saddest part of this is pressure Jack has been under this whole time. We need to try to take some of it off him. DSC lied about Child Abuse not reported by Jack, when it was. We as a union, are ready to go to board meetings and fight for Jack being attacked by DSC...they are in violation of the law and are hiding it. The Union VP that served under Jack supports him totally. Past bargaining chair made a statement in support of Jack too. DSC allowed lawyer and District principal to speak to board, but not Jack or MTA. We are asking for support at board meeting from teachers to support Jack's request to be heard when and if needed. Request that we prepare teachers to reserve Sept 18, for Board Meeting show in force to support Jack. Claims against Jack are not in writing which is illegal. Documentation does not support this allegation.
3. Summer schedule:
 - NEA/RA summit - All our reps attended.
 - President Conference - Chuck Smith/Christina Anderson-Huber attended.
 - Summer Institute - Chuck Smith and Matt Johnson attended.
 - Executive Board Retreat conducted with entire board present.
 - Board committed to several relevant trainings for Reps and members.
 - Example: Rep training; Maternity Leave etc.
 - Union will pay for sub, feed you, and then run the training.
 - Rep training = 3 days, one for each level-elem, middle, high. Directors will ask for input on dates to run trainings.
 - CTA Caution: Best practice to avoid contact with students via phone, email, text messaging, and websites like MySpace and Utube. Best practice to not engage in sharing personal information on any webpage accessible by kids. Avoid pictures and personal input. Web isn't private and teachers are bound by a morals clause that can cause the loss of a credential. If involved with blogging, keep it professional using professional standards.

CTA is working on legislation to protect us from videos taken by students.

- H. Bargaining Chair report:

1. Sunshined DSC in Aug. Will begin bargaining in Oct.
2. Pressing issue is RTI and its implication for teachers.
3. Link put on MTA website for bargaining. Members will be kept update via this link.
4. Class sizes are being monitored.
5. Temp teachers can only be hired to cover permanent teachers that are out.
Temp teachers will be rolled into permanent positions based on year end numbers. Can't be tenured and move to a temp position. Temp can go in to take a tenured position for the remainder of the year.
6. All but one temp has been hired from last year.
7. So far, district has 250 kids this year over expected numbers.

VI. Committee Reports:

- A. Retirement: No report.
Question: How many retired? Only 7 from last year retired.
- B. Elections: No chair presently. Only does something in May. Mary does the work.
Email chuck if interested.
- C. Sp Ed Committee:
Lanka will send out email to introduce herself as new chair and ask for volunteers for committee.
- D. Grievance Chair:
 1. Important to settle things from bottom up whenever possible, to free Chuck to deal with major issues.
 2. Go through a site rep, then to head site rep, then to director, then to Chuck.
 3. Need to designate a lead rep for all sites to coordinator grievances.
 4. Need reps to serve on committee.
- E. Health benefits: New Committee Chair: Tom Kuzma
 1. Learning committee to see how benefits work and what prospect is for next 5 yrs.
 2. Keep up with what CTA and state are doing. Monitor universal health care etc.
 3. Once well educated, can be a conduit for insurance committee.
 4. Committee to be filled with teachers, not just reps so they learn and can inform colleagues at sites. Committee will likely meet monthly.
- F. PAC:
 1. Handout supplied with mtg dates and their purposes...please join committee. Training available for reps on this committee.
 2. Budget crisis is dire...probably will not have one until the new year...call legislator and continue to demand a budget. State that you are in favor of original conference committee budget. Phone number to call is 888-268-4334.
- G. PAR/BTSA = no report
- H. Insurance:
 1. Will focus on communication with members this year. Need an insurance site rep at each site.
 2. Insurance follows economy so be prepared for cost increases this year.
 3. Suggest HSA options for future cost help.
 - a. Developing a survey for those who opted for this HSA plan to determine how it is working.

VII. Old bus:

1. Discussed dues increase.
2. Discussion: Without increase no CTA funding for several important things we might encounter. Discussion occurred on voluntary PAC / versus specific

amount to PAC. Need to meet CTA's 30% requirement for financial support for arbitration. Last increase was 4 yrs ago.

3. Motion to pass the dues increase and table discussion regarding how it will be spent. Motion=Ellie Fuller 2nd=Ed from Shivela. Motion carried. 1 descending vote.

VIII. New Business: No report.

VIII. Closing Prizes. Meeting adjourned 5:45.