

**On the news front**, our MTA negotiations Team will begin meeting with the District later this month and has already set up three full day bargaining sessions before the end of February. Let's keep them in our minds and send as much positive energy as possible their way. Their planning session is January 22nd at the MTA/CTA Office. The first meeting with the District follows on January 25th.

Bargaining Team Members:

Matt Johnson (Chair)

Kathy Ericson

Teresa Basin

Wayne Conklin

John Ronan

Stacy Swenck

**Future Issues include:**

- MTA Officer Elections - Positions open for the 2010/11 - 2011/12 school year are; Vice President, High School Director, Elementary School Director, and Secretary.
- Additional positions available are for the NEA-RA local Representatives. This year the NEA-RA is in New Orleans. If you are looking to attend as a local Rep, we ask that you consider running as a CTA Representative at the same time. If you are elected as a CTA Representative, your trip is subsidized by CTA dues. As a local representative, MTA dues pay the costs. In order to run as a CTA Representative, you must submit a "Declaration of Candidacy Form" for State Delegate by January 29th, 2010. If you have questions let me know.
- Retirement - Along with 18 teachers retiring this year, three of our District Principals will be retiring. There is a process in place for replacing these departing administrators. The MTA will be responsible for placing four teachers from each site in the interview process. There will be more information coming to members through your site reps on how this process works.

**Remember to keep informed**, there is always information on education issues on the CTA website under the MyCTA pages. I strongly recommend that we all start watching the news out of Sacramento and Washington for issues that have effects on the Education Community. Also look for MTA emails with information for members.

Have a GREAT week!

Chuck Smith