

November 1, 2014

Representative

Council Highlights

- **PAC:** MTA supports Robin Crist and Kris Thomasian in upcoming School Board Election.
- Make sure your Site Rep. has your [home e-mail address!](#)
- **Next Rep Council Meeting:**
November 18th
- **November 4th:**
Election Day!

Negotiations Update

Things are really getting busy as we enter the holiday season! The negotiations committees are working on issues that affect teachers. The Ad Hoc committee has been working closely with the district on the current budget and we are looking at how the LCFF and LCAP affects our negotiations. The survey is done and we had about 600 teachers responded. We are currently assimilating the info and will share it out at the next Rep Council meeting November 18th. The district is currently looking at offering a SERP for early retirement. It looks very promising that one will be offered. More info will be sent out to employees who would qualify for a SERP.

Check out the new MTA website:

murrietateachers.com

MTA NEWS

Murrieta Teachers Association

President's Message from Kathy Ericson

Dear Colleagues,

It's hard to believe the first couple of months of the school year have come and gone, and we are headed into the holiday season. Thanksgiving and the week off that is attached to it are in sight! I know the beginning of the year has been jam-packed with a multitude of things to accomplish, and the ease with which you all multi-task is nothing short of

miraculous. I know you don't hear it near enough, but you are appreciated for all that you do for our district, families, and students.

A few of you have really stepped up beyond your normal workload to help with our local, MTA supported measure through phone banking, sign deliveries and more. I want to thank those of you who have given up personal time in the evenings and on Saturdays. I don't believe there is anything you could be doing at this time that is more critical for the future of our district and success of our students than working to ensure the passage of this measure.

These last few days, we truly need everyone's support, especially this Saturday and on November 4th. We have 384 teachers who work and live in Murrieta. That's a lot of **YES on Measure BB** votes! Encourage your family members and friends, and we can really make a difference.

I hope to hear from you soon.

Director Reports

Elementary Director

Matt Klingelberg

If you have concerns or questions regarding issues at your site, contact Matt first (rather than going directly to Kathy).

Middle School Director

Beth Szabo

There are differences in how middle school sites address parent conferences. There should be equality among middle school sites regarding the number of hours teachers are required to be available for conferences.

Special Ed. Director

Matt Johnson

Special Education conference issues need to be addressed through negotiations.

High School Director

Kyle Garrity

There are a couple of focal points MTA has at the high school level. The main goal has been to develop lines of communication within the union, with additional work at getting our voices heard on key committees at the district (LCAP, Common Core, Tech and Training). Further examples of this are gaining site rep

support (site leads and increasing rep involvement), improving site level communication (more regular meetings and emails), getting MTA leaders on School Site Councils, pressing for more democratic committees structure at each site, and broadening our scope of authority. The goal is to strengthen teacher voices on discretionary spending and the direction of teacher training and technology. An-

has been to always improve teacher salaries and stipends (athletics, the arts, extra-duty, etc.). Please send Kyle Garrity an email if you have any concerns or additions. An important part of being a teacher is also advocating for kids. A great way to do this is by helping out with the election and doing some canvassing activities on **November 1st and 4th.**

CTA Disaster Relief Fund

The fund is endowed to provide financial assistance to CTA members who have experienced significant losses due to natural disasters in California. The four grants are:

Standard Grant: CTA members may receive up to \$1500 for significant economic hardship related to their primary residence, displacement or disruption in required utilities

Catastrophic Damage grant: Recipients of the Standard Grants may be eligible for up to another \$1500 if total damages exceed \$50,000.

Temporary Displacement Grant: A grant of up to \$500 may be available for members displaced from their primary residence, but who do not meet all of the requirements for a Standard Grant;

School Site Grant: Members may receive \$500 for damage to their classroom.

Grants are administered by the FACT Foundation. For more information, contact the FACT office at (818) 254-4106, or check online www.CTAMemberBenefits.org/drf