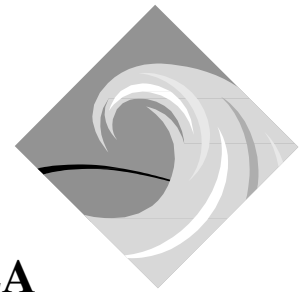




# NEWSWAVES



**Over 550 strong!**

**Affiliated with CTA and NEA**

Volume 28 Number 7

[www.MontereyBayTeachersAssociation.org](http://www.MontereyBayTeachersAssociation.org)

March 6, 2017

## President's Message

We are almost through the third quarter! I don't know what it is, but it always seems like this time of year is very hectic. Something about continuing the work of the current school year, while beginning to prepare for next year can make it difficult to fit everything in.

I've had many conversations over the last few weeks with educators who are struggling with much of the social and political uncertainty surrounding all of us. Many are not sure how to support their students and even themselves, as well as what can be discussed or how to address questions that arise in the classroom. No one has all the answers, so I will start with California Education Code 233.5 to help provide some guidance.

*233.5. (a) Each teacher shall endeavor to impress upon the minds of the pupils the principles of morality, truth, justice, patriotism, and a true comprehension of the rights, duties, and dignity of American citizenship, and the meaning of equality and human dignity, including the promotion of harmonious relations, kindness toward domestic pets and the humane treatment of living creatures, to teach them to avoid idleness, profanity, and falsehood, and to instruct them in manners and morals and the principles of a free government.*

*(b) Each teacher is also encouraged to create and foster an environment that encourages pupils to realize their full potential and that is free from discriminatory attitudes, practices, events, or activities, in order to prevent acts of hate violence, as defined in subdivision (e) of Section 233.*

Please remember, as individuals we all have our rights to our own personal viewpoints, but if the conversation is with our students, we are there as educators and need to present both sides of the conversation.

## Institute for Teaching (IFT) Grants

Do you have an idea for a project for your site? If so, you can submit a grant application to the Institute for Teaching. According to its mission: "The IFT works to create better teaching and learning conditions in all schools to create teacher-driven solutions that help struggling students and schools, reduce the high school dropout rate and close the achievement gaps."

IFT has given teachers grants to start community gardens to developing community programs, ranging from \$4,000-

\$20,000. Last year, our own Robin Coyne, from Monterey High School, received a grant for \$20,000 to help with his robotics program.

The IFT Grant application process runs from January-April 2017. Your application must be submitted by April 30, 2017.

Go to [www.teacherdrivenchange.org](http://www.teacherdrivenchange.org) for more information.

## MBTA Day of Action- March 14<sup>th</sup>

We will be having another Day of Action on Tuesday, March 14<sup>th</sup> as our negotiations team heads back to the bargaining table. ***Wear green to support the team!***

Thanks to all those who participated in our first Day of Action. Some sites had more participation than others, but we know we've always got room for improvement. King had 39% of members wear green, while Foothill, La Mesa, Olson, and Ord Terrace all had more than 50% participation! Shout out to Marina High, La Mesa, Foothill, and Olson for sending pictures. Not everyone had an MBTA shirt, but the creativity of some of the outfits was great! Your site reps filled out a google doc to track how many participated. Let's see if we can get each school to have a higher participation rate.

## The Importance of Retirement Information

By John Colombo, Retirement Chair

Recently I held a retirement meeting with Steve Bradley from CalSTRS. In attendance, we had many teachers who are retiring this year or very soon in the future. We also had Sara Prather, from Olson Elementary attend and asked her why she thought it was important to come.

*I found the retirement meeting very informative and beneficial. Although I am in my first 5 years of teaching, I was so happy that I attended. I have a much better understanding of the steps I can take now, to set myself up for a carefree retirement later. CTA and STRS have many great programs that are easy to sign-up for and are virtually effortless on my part, that will allow my investment and savings to work for me. I would definitely recommend attending this meeting whether you are planning on retiring this year or in 25 years. Now is the time to plan for your future.*

## **MBTA Human Rights Committee Movie & Pizza Night**

On March 16<sup>th</sup>, the MBTA Human Rights Committee is hosting a movie and pizza night that is open to educators, students, and community members.

Where we hope to:

- recognize issues of gender equity
- foster the creation of gender inclusive communities for all our youth
- develop a series of next steps for trans and gender expansive youth

Thursday, March 16th

6:00-8:00 pm

Admission Free

King Elementary Library, 1713 Broadway, Seaside

RSVP by Wednesday, March 15th

<https://goo.gl/forms/SD5owoB12UmQhxgR2>

You may also register on our website [www.MontereyBayTeachersAssociation.org](http://www.MontereyBayTeachersAssociation.org). Pizza will be provided. Some may ask why are the committee is focusing on this topic. There are many laws in California that support inclusivity, including, AB 9, AB 887, and AB 537, to name a few. If you have questions, please call the MBTA office at 831-375-8942.

### **Deadlines fast approaching!**

There are many upcoming deadlines for our own MBTA awards and member-dependent scholarships. We have many people who we work with who are awesome in their own ways. Some are colleagues who go above and beyond in providing support around human rights, while others do their part by providing support as your site representative. We also have our *member-funded* scholarships for graduating member-dependent students. Your child does not have to attend MPUSD schools to qualify.

Information has been sent to sites for reps to post, but in case you missed it, here are all the upcoming deadlines. You can find more information and electronic applications on our website: <http://www.montereybayteachersassociation.org/mbta-information--forms.html>

- MBTA Member Dependent Scholarship Applications  
*Wednesday, April 5, 2017*
- MBTA Service Recognition Award- Site Rep  
*Wednesday, April 5, 2017*
- MBTA Service Recognition Award- Association Leader  
*Wednesday, April 5, 2017*

## **CTA Grassroots Lobbying Training**

Date: Saturday, April 22, 2017

Time: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Location: San Jose Teachers Association  
544 Thornwood Dr.  
San Jose, CA 95123

Some of the topics that will be covered include:

- Overview of the Grassroots Lobbying Program
- Understanding the State Budget
- Organizing Your Lobbying Team
- Planning Your District Office Visit
- Components of the Legislative Alert

Please R.S.V.P. to Debby Baker at [dbaker@cta.org](mailto:dbaker@cta.org) no later than April 6, 2017. Lunch will be provided.

## **CTA Ethnic Minority Early Identification & Development Program (EMEID)**

The Ethnic Minority Early Identification & Development Program was created to identify ethnic minority members who are interested in expanding their roles in the organization, locally, and statewide.

The program builds on existing CTA/NEA programs, trainings, conferences, and events. The program incorporates coaching and interaction with leadership from local chapters, CTA/NEA as well as CTA board members and staff. The ideal candidate for this program is an ethnic minority member interested in leadership within CTA and its local affiliates.

Once identified and accepted into the program, participants are teamed with a staff coach and board member who guides them to set goals and identify appropriate steps to achieve those goals.

Deadline to apply is April 28, 2017. Applicants will be notified by May 19, 2017. Go to <http://www.cta.org/emeid> to apply.

*Newswaves* is published by the Monterey Bay Teachers Association, an affiliate of the California Teachers Association and the National Education Association.

Association Officers:

President: Allyson Schweifler

Vice-President: Tom Grych

Sec/Treasurer: Lauren Mauck

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MBTA office hours are 7:30-5:30 P.M., Monday-Wednesday. The Association Secretary is Debbie Reinstedt.

To submit information or articles to be considered for publication, contact President Allyson Schweifler through the MBTA office.