

# PAEA BUZZZ

FEB 2009

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PALO ALTO EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION

## NEGOTIATIONS UPDATE

### **What is happening with negotiations?**

The PAEA negotiations team and the district sat down last week to talk about the 2008-2009 contract. In November, PAEA ratified a partial contract. We agreed to some language changes in the contract and to the new health benefits for this calendar year. We also agreed to a Memo of Understanding to reconvene negotiations in January 2009 when we had more information on the California State budget. Salary and retirement health benefits are still on the table. At this time we hope to know the effect of the decisions made in Sacramento on Palo Alto.

Well, anyone who has been reading the news knows that Sacramento does not have an agreed budget. The state legislature has been unable to secure the super majority needed to raise revenues. We in Palo Alto still do not know the extent or form of budget cuts.

### **What are the guesses?**

Palo Alto is a basic aid school district. That means Palo Alto property taxes fund the schools rather than California State revenues. Surrounding districts such as Mountain View and Los Altos, both state revenue districts, are guessing they may take funding cuts from \$300 to \$700 per pupil. Basic Aid Districts will not be immune. We receive money from Sacramento for a variety of programs including Class Size Reduction. A "fair share" reduction to Palo Alto might cost 3 million dollars.

We are also waiting to hear about the federal stimulus package. The House of Representatives passed a version last week and the senate is expected to debate a second version over the next few weeks. Money could come to the district for Title 1 programs and for special education. The special education funds could help the district's budget since those programs are mandated by the federal government but historically are underfunded.

A third piece of information will come from Santa Clara County's tax collector on February 24 when property tax collection information is updated.

The two teams realized that it was pointless to continue to discuss a contract settlement without real information. Our goals are to reach agreement on a fair compensation package while preserving jobs and the quality of our educational programs. We have scheduled the next negotiations date for February 26th.

**Feb.. Rep Council Meeting** will be held on Thursday 2/19  
 4:00–6:00 PM at Barron Park School Hosts Mary Goodkind &  
 Joanne Soraghan

**Site Reps for 08-09**

<b>Addison-</b> Teri Baldwin	<b>Barron Park</b> Rusty Tooley	<b>Briones</b> Mary Goodkind Joanne Soraghan	<b>Children's Hospital</b> Kevin Danie	<b>Duveneck</b> Mangla Oza Doug Burress	<b>El Carmelo</b> Diane McCoy
<b>Escondido</b> Richard Garcia Amanda Dungan	<b>Fairmeadow</b> Barbara Carlson Valerie Sabbag	<b>Greendell</b> Marion Krause	<b>Hays</b> Rachel Shepherd Kevin Rouse	<b>Hoover</b> Lonnie Spencer Peter Lee	<b>Nixon</b> Beryl Deremigio Janice Mulholland
<b>Ohlone</b> Kim Prescott Ashley McCrea	<b>Palo Verde</b> Pat Hanley Sheri Cundall	<b>Traveling/Music</b> BJ Floersheim	<b>Traveling/PE</b> Karen Dolkas	<b>25 churchill</b>  <b>open</b>	
<b>Terman</b> Lynn Repetsky Mark Dungan Martin Vetter Tijen Sambul	<b>JLS</b> Julia Brown Bobbie Whiteman Tim Sato Liz Walton Linda Howard	<b>Jordan</b> Millie Balsam	<b>Gunn</b> G. Garger Yukie Hikida Judy Niizawa	<b>PALY</b> Eric Bloom Magdalena Rivera	

If you would like to be a Representative for your site contact Triona Gogarty. There are once a month meetings for which you receive a stipend. Each site can have more than one representative and rep. positions can be shared.