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May 16, 2020

Dear Members,

The Governor's proposed budget for 2020-2021 was released this week. His projections for Education are grim. A lot of hope is being pinned on the Federal government stepping in to give economic aide to the states. Keep on the look out for Call to Action efforts, which will be coming down from CTA. Phone calls to our congressmen and representatives are very important and a quick way of making a difference. We will be attending workshops on the Governor's proposed State Budget next week, but there will be changes to the Budget before it is passed in June. However, we are projected to be in a dire financial situation for at least the next few years. More updates to come as soon as we hear.

Meanwhile, this coming week will be a busy week. To begin, we are being asked to go to our sites to close out our classrooms or work areas and turn in our keys. We are also being asked to prepare our students' personal items, and student work (if any), for pick up by the families. Students, except 8th graders, will be keeping the devices they were assigned through the summer. Please reach out to your administrator if you have questions or need more time. The reason we are being asked to do this so early is that work needs to begin on the deep cleaning before the summer, in an effort to save costs and give ample time to move furniture if needed. Part of deep cleaning will be the use of a heavy fog device. If you are concerned about your bulletin boards, paper, or borders being damaged by this cleaning method, please cover or remove those items. However, if you are not concerned with this possibility, then leave them as they are.

Also this coming week, principals will be working with Personnel to finalize the projections for next year. Of course, with so many unknowns, projections will be difficult to make and more changes than usual may happen in August. Once principals have their projections, they will reach out to staff to have the discussion about teacher placement for next year. If there are openings or displaced teachers at a site, we will be following Contract for the displacement and transfer process. Please know that we will be working closely with Personnel to make sure the Contract is being followed, but it's always good for you to become familiar with Article VII - Transfer and Reassignment Procedures of our Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA). Our CBA can be found on the District website, as well as our union website www.mtviewteachers.org

At some point in the next few weeks, we will also be filling out Placement cards and building classes. This year, the process will be virtual, and the District is working on a streamlined method to populate an online Placement card. There will be more information to come on the process for filling out the card and for working as a grade level team to "build" classes. The challenge will be handling this process virtually.

As we wind down the school year, the District is offering the last series of professional development classes each day this week. During the final 3 weeks, teachers and students will continue practicing virtual teaching and learning. Thank you everyone for all of your efforts, flexibility and willingness to take on this new challenge and learn as much as possible in order to support our students and families, now, and in the Fall. We still don't know what the next few months will bring. In an effort to prepare, the District LMI Team has begun work on creating a MVSD/MVTa/CSEA School Reopening Task Force. We will keep you posted on our next steps and how we will be proceeding.

Summer school postings were sent out by email on Friday, May 15, 2020 for Migrant Education and Extended School Year for our Special Education programs. These programs are mandated summer programs. The deadline for applications is May 29, 2020 at 4:00 pm. An application form was also sent through email later in the afternoon.

Finally, we continue to receive concerns from our 12-month employees regarding the ending of our current Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on June 30, 2020. The year round CC/HS programs begins on July 1, 2020, but we will continue to be on school dismissal until further notice. We want to ensure everyone that the language in the current MOU continues to protect us:

“This MOU shall expire on June 30, 2020, **or at the conclusion of school dismissals related to the COVID-19 crisis**, but may be extended by mutual written agreement.”

We will continue to work on behalf of membership and will be negotiating a new MOU before the reopening of schools as soon as we have a better idea of the situation. Please continue to forward questions and concerns to your Faculty Rep or to an EBoard member below.

We are all in this together, stay strong and be safe.

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