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May 23, 2020

Dear Members,

First, we hope that you are having a wonderful Memorial Day weekend with your family on this last 3-day weekend of the 2019-2020 school year. Ten weeks have gone by since we excused the students on March 13, and we have thirteen school days left in the school year!

As many of you may have heard, an email from Superintendent Lillian French-Maldonado went out to Madrid staff on Wednesday, May 20, 2020. A similar email was sent to Baker, Voorhis, and Twin Lakes. Here is an excerpt from that email:

*"The COVID-19 pandemic has caused tremendous disruption to our students and families and as we move into the next school year we want to minimize further disruptions and insecurity. Because of this, I wanted to reach out and share with you the restructuring plans we are implementing for the 2020-2021 school year.*

*Due to the uncertainty with the reopening of schools, and our need to do everything possible to retain our current students, we will be keeping our 5th-grade students at Voorhis and Baker next year for their 6th-grade year. Also, Twin Lakes' current 6th graders will remain at Twin Lakes next year for 7th grade and La Primaria's current 5th graders will move to Twin Lakes for 6th grade. We believe that allowing students to remain at or near their current schools will provide a sense of relief and comfort to our families and encourage them to remain enrolled in MVSD".*

Clearly, these grade level changes will affect many of our staff members. We must all be very aware of the language in Article 7 – Transfer and Reassignment Procedures. In particular, the staff at Madrid will be affected the most because of the displacements caused by the taking away of the 6<sup>th</sup> grade students.

Regarding staffing at all schools, Dr. Lovato is giving the principals their staffing numbers for 2020-2021 on Tuesday, May 26, 2020. Your principal should communicate with you regarding assignments for next year soon afterward. Watch your email this weekend for an updated seniority list sent to all MVTa Members.

The process of forming a task force to reopen schools also began last week. A pre-taskforce meeting was held on Friday at 3:30 p.m. The President and Vice President from both associations were there, as well as the four Superintendents, a principal and a director. At the meeting, discussion began on how a task force should be configured, which would include as many stakeholders as possible. We discussed surveys going out for staff, parents and students. For those of you interested in being a part of the task force, you would need to be willing to commit to unpaid, weekly summer meetings. We will keep you updated on dates and times of the meetings. Also last week, Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond held a town hall meeting on Facebook regarding issues around returning to school in the fall. Lillian and Darin attended on behalf of Mountain View School District. Attached is an article from the LA Times regarding this town hall meeting.

Finally, Darin DeKnikker's webinar: Business Services Update will be held on Wednesday, May 27, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. This webinar is open to the entire district. If you have any questions about facilities, construction, safety precautions or district finances, please send your questions in advance using the link he provided in his flyer.

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

President: Laura Gaber, [Lgabermvta@gmail.com](mailto:Lgabermvta@gmail.com) (562)822-8400

Vice President: Leticia Urias, [luriasmvta@gmail.com](mailto:luriasmvta@gmail.com) (626)826-0885

Secretary: Jacquella Payne, [nurseangel1@gmail.com](mailto:nurseangel1@gmail.com) (909)992-8268

Treasurer: Maria Frias, [Ms.MariaFrias@gmail.com](mailto:Ms.MariaFrias@gmail.com) (909)437-4721

Member at Large: Brenda Mancia, [brendabmancia@icloud.com](mailto:brendabmancia@icloud.com) (626)532-6744

Member at Large: Jenny Siebel, [jsiebel8@gmail.com](mailto:jsiebel8@gmail.com) (626)374-4331

Member at Large: Ruby Huesca, [huescaruby@gmail.com](mailto:huescaruby@gmail.com) (626)941-5637