Committed to keeping you informed…
In an effort to keep the MPCSD community informed, the District and MPEA are providing this status report about the June 12, 2019 negotiation session.

Negotiations Update
The District and the Menlo Park Education Association (MPEA) met on June 12, 2019. The last negotiations meeting was held on May 24, 2019.

The following individuals were at the meeting:

- MPEA Team: Cheryl Marelich (MPEA President and Hillview Teacher), Diane Glasser (Hillview Special Education Teacher), Rachel Knight (Encinal/Laurel Music Teacher), Sydney Merk (Encinal Elementary Teacher), Trish Stella (Oak Knoll Elementary Teacher), and Joseph O’Brien (Hillview Middle School Teacher), Nate Williams (CTA)

- District Team: Ahmad Sheikholeslami (CBOO), Willy Haug (Hillview Principal), Linda Creighton (Laurel Principal), Audra Romero (Human Resources Manager), and David Ackerman (Board President)

MPCSD consultant Matt Biggar was invited to the negotiations meeting to present his work on Article 10, Professional Assessment. Mr. Biggar reviewed the Third Draft of the Teacher Evaluation System Prototype that he developed with input from various stakeholders including MPEA, District Leadership and School Board. After reviewing the latest changes in the Prototype, Mr. Biggar reviewed revision to the contract language and associated forms in the appendix. MPEA members asked several clarifying questions regarding the documents.

Lead District Negotiator Ahmad Sheikholeslami presented the District position on all outstanding open articles including Article 13, Salary and Benefits. Mr. Sheikholeslami indicated the District is interested in continuing the current momentum in hopes of reaching Tentative Agreement on present articles that are still being negotiated so that the Tentative Agreements could then be ratified and approved by MPEA and the School Board in August 2019. MPEA requested additional time to review the changes proposed in Article 10, and was not in a position to reach Tentative Agreement on Article 13. There was not enough time remaining in the meeting to discuss the District’s and MPEA’s proposed positions on the remaining open articles.

MPEA and District agreed to reconvene for negotiations in September 2019. The final date of the next meeting will be coordinated by the Superintendent’s Executive Assistant Lanita Villasenor.