

# Welcome to **YOUR Union**

We are excited to welcome you as a fellow member of the Mt. Pleasant Elementary School District (MPESD). We are Mt. Pleasant Education Association (MPEA), the union that represents the teachers at MPESD. We are inviting you to be a vital and active union member of the MPEA. We need to stand together and support one another as we protect and improve public education in San Jose. Our goal is to strengthen MPEA's voice by:

- Advocating for each of our members,
- Working with the district in providing a quality educational environment for all students and teachers,
- Strengthening public education by uniting the power of educators, parents, and local communities.

## **Our Vision**

Provide students with a safe and supportive learning environment to be successful.

## **Our Mission**

Advocate for our students and unite our members to fulfill the promise of public education for every student to succeed in a diverse and ever-changing world.

## **Member Connections/Benefits**

<https://app.flowcode.com/page/mpea> (MPEA Website Flowpage)

<https://www.mpesd.org/> (MPESD Website)

<https://www.cta.org/> (CA Teacher Association)


<http://www.nea.org/> (National Education Association)

Please reach out to your union representative at your school site (Site Rep to be voted on by staff at first meeting) as well as our staff or elected leaders of MPEA with any questions or concerns.


Welcome to the MPEA and MPESD family!

If you have not yet joined our union, please consider joining here:







## Your Executive Board



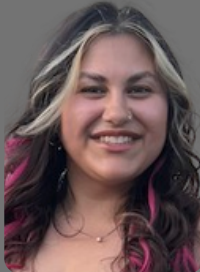
**President:**  
Alyssa Smith  
alyssachristinesmith@gmail.com



**Vice President:**  
Virginia Bailey



**Secretary:**  
Claudia Jones  
claudia.avila1981@gmail.com



**Treasurer:**  
Marissa Kieffer

**CTA Benefits**

**Classroom Setup Grant:**

The CTA Classroom Setup Grant is a special program for brand new educators to provide financial assistance towards the purchase of materials, resources, supplies, tools, and other educational instruments used by the educator to create and promote a positive learning environment in a classroom. More details available at:

<https://www.ctamemberbenefits.org/Life-Events/Classroom-Setup-Grant>

**New Educator Conference:**

The New Educator Weekend is a conference for new CTA members in their first three years in the profession. The conference has everything that educators need to be successful in their first years of teaching, including sessions about classroom management, creating engaging classrooms, lesson plans and ideas, connecting with your union, student loan forgiveness information, member benefits, project grants and more. It takes place December 5-7, 2025 in Burlingame (hotel provided).

**MPEA Rep Council Meeting Dates:**

All meetings begin at 3:45pm.

**ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND**

September 15th @3:45pm

October 20st @ 3:45pm

December 1st @ 3:45pm

December – Holiday Party TBD

January 26th @ 3:45pm

February 23th @ 3:45pm

March 16th @ 3:45pm

April 20th @ 3:45pm

May 18th @ 3:45pm

June – End of the Year Party TBD

**OUR SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS:**



Melissa Got-Lopez  
[mgotlopez@mpesd.org](mailto:mgotlopez@mpesd.org)



Derek Grasty  
[dgrasty@mpesd.org](mailto:dgrasty@mpesd.org)



Antonio Perez Jr.  
[aperezjr@mpesd.org](mailto:aperezjr@mpesd.org)



Bob Ramirez  
[r Ramirez@mpesd.org](mailto:r Ramirez@mpesd.org)



Brenda Serrano  
[bserrano@mpesd.org](mailto:bserrano@mpesd.org)

**Board Meeting Dates:**

Meetings are currently being held in-person at the August Boeger Cafeteria. There is also a link to view the meeting Live via YouTube. You can find the Board Agenda and more information on the MPESD website – <http://www.mpesd.org>

To show solidarity and engagement for the wellbeing of our community, we are asking sites to represent MPEA each month at the board meetings.

September 10th @ 6pm – RS

October 8th @ 6pm – MP/IJA

November 12th @ 6pm – IJA/VV

December 10th @ 6pm – AB

January 14th @ 6pm – RS

February 11th @ 6pm – MP/IJA

March 11th @ 6pm – IJA/VV

April 15th @ 6pm – AB

May 13th @ 6pm – RS

May 27th @ 6pm – MP/IJA

June 10th @ 6pm – IJA/VV

June 24th @ 6pm

# Welcome to Another Year with **YOUR Union**

## WELCOME BACK MPEA!

We are excited to welcome you back to the 2025-2026 school year! We want to take this back to school season to remind you of the many opportunities to get involved in our collaborative work and the many supports and benefits the union offers!

We are Mt. Pleasant Education Association (MPEA), the union that represents the teachers at MPESD. We need to stand together as we work towards the following goals this year:

- Finalizing our 25-26 contract and preparing to open our successor contract.
- Advocating for each of our members.
- Working with the district in providing quality educational environment for all students and teachers.
- Building strong relationships with our school board members.
- Strengthening public education by advocating for equitable funding for public schools and the inclusion of Prop 55 on the ballot.

### Our Vision

Provide students with a safe and supportive learning environment to be successful.

### Our Mission

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### MPEA Information

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Please reach out to your union representative at your school site (Site Rep to be voted on by staff at first meeting) as well as our staff or elected leaders of MPEA with any questions or concerns.


### **Bargaining Update**

We have not settled our 2025-2026 contract. Management asked the negotiations team to reconvene in October or accept no salary increase for the second year in a row.


**Our success at the bargaining table depends on the strength of our organizing! We need your support. Please wear your MPEA shirt on bargaining dates and stay tuned for other ways to show support!**

If you have not yet joined our union, please consider joining here:







### Your Executive Board



**President:**  
Alyssa Smith  
alyssachristinesmith@gmail.com


**Vice President:**  
Virginia Bailey





**Secretary:**  
Claudia Jones  
claudia.avila1981@gmail.com

**Treasurer:**  
Marissa Kieffer



### Negotiations Team

- Amy Jex - IJA/VV (Chair)
- Lisa Bui - Robert Sanders
- Marissa Kieffer - Robert Sanders
- Alyssa Smith - August Boeger
- Gabby Roman - MP/IJA

**CTA Benefits for All Members**

**Virtual Pass to Online Learning:**

CTA offers a continuing education program in partnership with CSU Chico. Members view recorded sessions to earn hours, with every 15 hours equal to one credit. CTA covers the cost of 6 credits per academic year and 6 credits per summer. This is an accessible and free opportunity to advance columns on the salary scale!  
More details available at: <https://www.cta.org/conferences/virtual-pass/2025-2>

**CTA 403b Retirement Savings Account:**

CTA offers retirement savings accounts specifically designed for educators with lower costs to participants than the other traditional accounts offered by the district. Compare all options available to you at:  
<https://www.403bcompare.com>  
More details available at: <https://www.ctamemberbenefits.org/Retirement/CTA-Retirement-Savings-Plan>

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January 26th @ 3:45pm	June – End of the Year Party TBD

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Melissa Got-Lopez <a href="mailto:mgotlopez@mpesd.org">mgotlopez@mpesd.org</a>	Derek Grasty <a href="mailto:dgrasty@mpesd.org">dgrasty@mpesd.org</a>	Antonio Perez Jr. <a href="mailto:aperezjr@mpesd.org">aperezjr@mpesd.org</a>	Bob Ramirez <a href="mailto:rramirez@mpesd.org">rramirez@mpesd.org</a>	Brenda Serrano <a href="mailto:bserrano@mpesd.org">bserrano@mpesd.org</a>
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Organizing Chair, Elections Chair, Political Action Committee Chair  
and Political Action Committee Treasurer  
**Each position includes a stipend. Contact Claudia Jones for more information! [claudia.avila1981@gmail.com](mailto:claudia.avila1981@gmail.com)**