

# Federation Voice

MONROE FEDERATION OF TEACHERS  
& SCHOOL EMPLOYEES

LFT, AFT, AFL-CIO

MARCH 2009

## President's Message...



Well, where do I begin? Yes, it is in the works for all employees to receive a onetime supplement of \$1100 for certified and \$700 for classified. These amounts are to be paid on April 8, 2009 just in time for Spring Break; however I would not spend it until you actually have in your hand. Yes, it should have been different but it is what it is.

And, if you are not a Federation member you need to **THANK** those who are. If the truth is told, it is because of the Federation and those who make and made the sacrifices that we are getting anything at all. A very special "Thank You" goes out to Transportation and all those who are sick and tired of being sick and tired. Let no one tell you that **YOUR** actions had **NO** impact. Thanks to all of you who filled out yellow cards, and thanks for coming to the board meetings.

I must THANK our new Board President, Brenda Shelling for leading the charge and Vice-President Mickey Traweek for his support. Thanks to Vickie Dayton and Stephanie Shoulder-Smith for their vote of support. Vicky **Krutzer** voted **NO**. **Handy** was absent but **was not in support**.

McFarland was out-of-town.

We must remember from the beginning of this school year we have been disrespected. The MFP was buried in the budget and totally overlooked. Why, because of our superintendent's issues with the school board. And, **NO WE ARE NOT AT THE SREB** (Southern Regional

**STATE 07-08 SREB AVERAGE \$45,662**  
**MCSSS 07-08 SREB AVERAGE \$46,655**

**To find more information on the SREB average please see the article on page 2**

Average). Monroe City Schools sends the figures to the Department of Education and the Dept. of Ed. figures reflect what Monroe City sent them. What a surprise when the School Board and the Teachers learned that we are paid above the Southern Regional Average.

The struggle is nowhere near over; you must continue to be my extra eyes and ears. Please do not hesitate to call, fax, e-mail, or stop by with any concerns, questions, or comments. It's all confidential unless you want it otherwise. The Federation is here for you and because of you.

Blessings, Love and Peace,

*Sandie*

**The Next  
School Board Meeting  
Tuesday, March 10, 2009  
6 p.m. at the  
Media Center**

## PAYROLL MALFUNCTION!

We don't know the reason why Payroll Deduction did not work on February 26, 2009. But, what we do know is that you should not have to pay for it. You or your bank should notify the school board office immediately for any NSF checks (bounced checks), posted anytime after 12:01 am on February 26, 2009.

# What is the SREB Average?

The Southern Regional Educational Board represents 16 states with at least four members from each state, the governor and their appointees, The southern regional average which is set up by each state is driven from data collected from individual local school boards.

In Louisiana the southern regional average is based upon **ALL CERTIFIED EMPLOYEES**. This includes teachers, administrators at school sites, office administration in central office, and superintendents at each local. **This heavily skews the actual salaries of teachers when reporting their salaries to the state.**

### How does that affect you?

**First**, it makes it easier for teachers to reach the southern regional average when the state gives pay raises, so they do not have to continue giving raises in the future.

**Secondly**, once a school district reaches the southern regional average, any growth money will no longer have to go to teachers. It will be left up to the school board members as to how they will spend it.

This year the state SREB Average based on 07-08 school year was \$45,662. The Monroe City School System says you are above the SREB at \$46,655, and the superintendent took the growth money and used it up in the 08-09 school budget.

- **Is it fair** that the administrators who make the big bucks in Monroe are allowed to be in the formula that skews the figuring of the average teacher salary?
- **Is it fair** that the same administrators take advantage of the growth money to spend more money in administration?
- **Is it fair** the governor and politicians can use this skewed average not to give raises in the future?

We all need to pull our heads out of the sand and start paying attention as to how we are being manipulated in the old political arena. It is time to get active in our up and coming legislative session to help protect our rights.



**Get Active!**  
**Just go to <http://la.aft.org>**  
**and click on**  
**“Sign up with LFT Action Center”**



## Join The Organization Working For YOU!!!!



### Payroll Deduction Authorization

I hereby authorize the Monroe City School Board to deduct in equal installments, from each of my paychecks, current dues for the local chapter of the Louisiana Federation of Teachers. I understand that dues are set by the constitution and by-laws of the Monroe Federation of Teachers/School Employees (Local 4326).

This authorization shall remain in effect until revoked by me through proper written notice to the Monroe School Board Human Resources and the MFT/SE Local 4326. Dues: Teachers \$36.70 School Employees \$17.00

Name _____	School or Worksite _____
Address _____	Position: <u>Teacher</u> or <u>School</u> <u>Employee</u> (Circle One and List Title) _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____	Signature _____
Home Phone (318) _____ E-Mail _____	Social Security # _____ Date _____

**Monroe Federation of Teachers & School Employees**  
Sandie Lollie, MFT/SE President  
2809 Evangeline St., Suites 1 & 2 Monroe, LA 71201  
(318) 322-2442 FAX (318) 322-6310 [monroefederation@bellsouth.net](mailto:monroefederation@bellsouth.net)

