

# Federation Voice

MONROE FEDERATION OF TEACHERS  
& SCHOOL EMPLOYEES

SEPTEMBER 2009

## President's Message...



Welcome back and I hope you were able to attend the Monroe Federation of Teachers and Support Employees annual back to school membership meeting. Over 100 members attended the meeting on August 27. The membership event was exceptional this year. Members received a legislative review along with an interesting member benefit update. There were several special guests from around the state and nation. On the first day of his new job the **Interim Superintendent, Julian Gray**, made Monroe's employees a priority. He attended the Federation's membership meeting and welcomed the employees back to school. He also stated: "One of his goals for this year is to try and unite the board and the teachers. We need to bring this board back together so they can appreciate their teachers and the teachers can appreciate the board." **Board President Brenda Shelling** attended the meeting and the Federation warmly thanks her for her commitment to the employees in Monroe and for opening our membership meeting with her unwavering support. Federation members also heard from the LFT President,

Steve Monaghan. Members received lots of information, welcomed new comers and truly fellowshiped. The meeting was a true celebration of the new school year and a commitment to move forward.

The door prizes were abundant and Donald Givens, Federation member from the alternative, Education Center, was the Grand Prize winner, however his wife Ozel, of Lee Jr. was present to help him spend it.

The membership meeting was also the kick off for the All Aboard campaign. The campaign is to get more members active in the organization and to increase the Federation membership. The Monroe Federation of Teachers and School Employees will be giving out boarding passes to all members who participate in the "ALL ABOARD" campaign. Passes will be given out for each activity you participate in during the school year. The member with the most boarding passes for the entire school year will board a ship for a cruise. The members who attended the membership meeting received their first boarding passes. Below you will find how you can earn your own boarding passes. There will be several activities coming up that will provide you with numerous opportunities.



## Sandie

### HERE'S HOW YOU CAN GET ON BOARD:



#### 5 Boarding Passes

- Become an ACTIVE Building Representative for your school or worksite
- Have a Bldg. Rep. school/site organizing plan
- Hold a morning or afterschool site meeting
- Have and maintain a school or site bulletin board
- Attend and sit through an entire School Board Meeting



#### 3 Boarding Passes

- Attend School Board Meeting for a least 1 hour
- Signing a member who drops another organization



#### 2 Boarding Passes

- Signing a new member



#### 1 Boarding Pass

- Attending any MFT, LFT, or AFT activity

The "ALL ABOARD" campaign will continue through-out the year.  
Save your Boarding Passes. You loose, No cruise!

**Let the FEDERATION be your LIFE SAVER!**



# Rumors, Rumors!

## What's Real and What's Not!

Rumors are spreading across the district about pay raises, and that's what they are, **Only Rumors**. These rumors are in response to an article in the News Star on September 5, 2009. The News Star released raises that the Central office administrators had received over the past few years. The News Star stated, "The administrative salary list shows increases in salaries during the past three years averaging \$6,704 per person for the 28 employees included." This article has upset district employees, some of whom who have worked 25 years or more and do not make those kind of salaries.

The Federation is working with Interim Superintendent Gray and the Board to find the funds necessary to give ALL support workers a salary increase. The Federation is also looking into the \$2500 MFP money that was not awarded last year to Certified Personnel. It should have been built into your salary schedule as the previous years, but it was partially given to you as a one time bonus. For those certified personnel, who said it did not affect you, think about your retirement. Your retirement is based on your 3 highest years of salary. \$2500 X 3 years = \$7500 added to your TRSL!!! The Federation will keep you posted every step of the way as we push these issues forward. You will have to do your part.

**REMEMBER!**  
Your retirement is based on your highest 3 years of salary. \$2500 X 3 years = \$7500 added to your TRSL!!!

And, just remember Rome was not built in a day, and the race goes to those who persevere.



**Is Offering \$50 Incentive For Opening A  
New Rewards Checking With Direct Deposit  
With Free Checks For Life**

**\$5000 Identity Theft Insurance**

**Free Saving Accounting For Overdraft Protection**

- \$50 will be deposited into your account 6-8 weeks after the 1<sup>st</sup> deposit
- No deposit required at the time of opening



# All Aboard With The Federation!



### 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**

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