

# Federation Voice

MONROE FEDERATION OF TEACHERS  
& SCHOOL EMPLOYEES

LFT/AFT/AFL-CIO

MARCH - APRIL 2010

## President's Message...



The clock is ticking. Last minute preparations for standardized testing, and the school year is all but over. The school board has once again hired another firm (McPherson and Jacobson) to search for a new superintendent, again costing the district thousands of dollars. Add this to a very long list of other costly items that does not directly impact the education of our children.

This school year has been one of the most difficult and embarrassing school years ever reported by teachers and school employees. Also, many employees have regretfully stated this will be their last year with Monroe City Schools. Many will seek employment elsewhere, retire, or just leave. Others wish they could leave but simply can't afford to do so. The morale in the district has hit an all time low. And, even sadder, many of those in decision making positions don't seem to care. Ms. Brenda Shelling is the only board member who has stated that we need to give our teachers and support workers a long overdue raise.

The MFP money that was taken from teachers doesn't seem to matter to those in office. The promise for a much overdue pay raise for all support workers does not seem to matter as well. What does seem to matter is power and politics. So let's get involved in the politics, because **YOU** have the power to talk to parents and community leaders for them to make educated decisions in this year's school board elections. It is time for school board members to hear from its employees. The Federation will not stop or give up the fight for what is Right, Fair, and Just.

*Sandie*

## Contact Your Board Members and Ask Where Is The Money?

President Mickey Traweek 388-0596 [mickeytraweek@comcast.com](mailto:mickeytraweek@comcast.com)  
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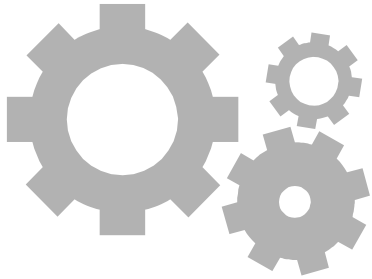
***CRUISE!  
ALL ABOARD!***



**A SPECIAL THANK YOU**  
To those Support Workers  
Who came to the March 25,  
2010 School Board Meeting  
And Asked For A Raise

**Start Getting Your  
Boarding Passes  
In Order. You need to  
have them turned in  
by April 30, 2010**

**What are you willing to do?**  
Please Let us know by calling  
322-2442 or e-mail us at  
[monroefederaton@bellsouth.net](mailto:monroefederaton@bellsouth.net)



# LFT 60-Second Issue Factory

*Lead, follow or get out of the way!*

## State budget has grim news for our schools

There is grim news for our schools in Governor Bobby Jindal's budget. Because of bad choices made over the past few years, the state is facing a huge deficit. The governor's budget "fixes" the problem by freezing or cutting funds for public education.

Already, the governor has frozen the modest 4% merit increase for state employees.

If the governor's budget passes as is, it will mean:

- **No more state stipends for nationally certified teachers, guidance counselors, librarians, and therapists.**
- **Over \$100 million in Minimum Foundation Program growth funds will be eliminated.**
- **Local school systems will be forced to pay for transportation of private and religious school students.**
- **Nearly \$13 million in mid-year education budget cuts will be annualized.**

But at the same time, the governor's budget increases funds for religious school vouchers in New Orleans and quasi-public charter schools. The department of education will get \$73 million for a whole new bureaucracy.

The Louisiana Federation of Teachers believes these budget choices are wrong for our teachers and school employees, wrong for our schools and wrong for the children we serve.

We will work with lawmakers in the legislative session to halt the cuts to public education. To find out more, and to see what you can do to help, please visit our Web site at <http://la.aft.org>.



## 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: **Teacher** or **School Employee** (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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