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ACEA Calendar

Allegany County Education Association

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A full color electronic version of this newsletter can be found on our website.

January 2020

The



Advocate

President's Message >>>

20/20 Vision: Strong Public Schools for ALL!

Several positive actions have been taken at the national and state level towards improving and visioning stronger public schools for all over the next decade.

Let's begin on the national level. NEA shared several victories that belong to the entire NEA family. The House and Senate overwhelmingly passed a year-end funding bill with several NEA priorities included. The funding bill includes:

- **Permanent repeal** of the excise tax (so-called "Cadillac tax") on high-cost health care plans
- **Key increases to education funding**, including \$450 million for Title I and \$400 million for IDEA grants; a 43 percent increase to full-service community schools; the first increase in 6 years to Title II (professional development/class size reduction); increase to Afterschool programs; historic funding for Head Start; the first increase in 5 years for English Language Learners; more for Pell Grants; and, the Office of Civil Rights, to name a few programs
- **Zero** increase for charter schools – the first time in 7 years
- **Zero** increase for DC private school vouchers
- **Rejection** of Betsy DeVos' proposed education eliminations and privatization agenda
- Two-year extension of the *Secure Rural Schools Act*
- First federal funding for **gun violence research** (CDC / NIH) since the 1990s
- Vital funding of \$7.6 billion for the **2020 Census** to help ensure an accurate count
- Recently, Congress also approved **permanent funding** for Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs)

In Maryland, we are in the first year of the ten-year phase in of *The Blueprint for Maryland's Future (the Blueprint)*, based on the work of the Kirwan Commission, and advocated for by ACEA and our colleagues across the state. This year, the General Assembly must consider the full funding proposal submitted by the Kirwan Commission to accomplish the goals set forth in the Blueprint. Your ACEA leaders, representatives, UniServ and I will be holding Ten Minute Meetings in January and February to provide additional information on the proposal and how you can help secure the \$43.5 Million in funding for our Allegany County schools over this new decade. In solidarity and service,

Kim

ACEA President

ksloane@mseanea.org



Happy New Year!

2020 Nominations and Elections Committee Timeline

For Election of ACEA Officers, MSEA and NEA Delegates

- December 20 - Present timeline to Board of Directors for board approval
- January 6- send Notice of Nominations and Elections with Nomination Forms for ACEA Officers, as well as MSEA/NEA delegate members, to membership via U.S.P.S.
- January 31 - nominations due to the NEC committee in the ACEA office by 4:30 p.m.
- February 3-7 NEC Committee meets to review nominations and prepare form to present nominees to the RA (Representative Assembly)
- February 10 – NEC presents list of nominees already received to the RA and accepts nominations from the floor. Close nominations.
- February 11 - request biographical information from nominees for the March newsletter; and/or give notice to nominees to speak at the March 16 RA
- February 24-28 - NEC Committee meets to review nominations and make up ballots
- March - Publish list and/or biographical information of nominees in March Newsletter
- March 16 - Nominees permitted to speak at the March RA
- March 18 - Ballots sent to schools for distribution and voting. Voting will take place from March 20 through April 3, 2020. Ballots due by 4:30 p.m. on April 3, 2020 to ACEA.
- April 6 – 8 - NEC committee will meet to count ballots.
- April 10 - NEA Delegates 2020 due to MSEA
- April 20 - NEC reports the results of the election to the RA

DID YOU KNOW???



Sisters, educators, and ACEA Members Connie Koelker and Brenda Bauer were featured in the December 2019 MSEA ActionLine!

MRS PA SCHOLARSHIP

The Maryland Retired School Personnel Association is offering three \$2,000 scholarship to public school employees in Maryland who are enrolled in a program leading to teacher certification or certification as a school counselor, speech and language pathologist, physical or occupational therapist, school social worker, administrator or supervisor, media specialist or school psychologist. This is also open to certificated teachers who are pursuing certification in another area or level of teaching, or to become qualified as one of the above-listed education specialists. Applicants may apply online between January 1, 2020 and January 31, 2020 at www.frederickcountygives.org. Please contact Wanda R. Twigg, Executive Director, at wtwigg@mrs pa.org if you require assistance or have questions.

If your personal email and other contact information is not up-to-date, you may miss important information, such as the upcoming **ONLINE MSEA ELECTION. The easiest way to update is to go directly to mynea360.org and enter the information yourself. You can also contact Dianne Erickson, administrative assistant at the ACEA office, who can edit the information for you as well.**

Don't forget to check out your January NEA Membership Benefits deals at

<https://www.neamb.com/>

ACEA Calendar >>>

January and February– Ten Minute Meetings of ACEA Members

January 7 – BOE Meeting - 6:00 p.m.

January 13 – ACEA Board of Directors and Representative Assembly- 4 p.m.

January 23-24 – Mt. Maryland PACE Reception in Annapolis

January 27 – West COBC Meeting in Hagerstown

January 27 - MSEA 2020 Election / **Electronic Voting begins**

January 31 – 2020 ACEA Election Nominations **DUE AT ACEA OFFICE!**

February 4 – BOE Meeting - 6:00 p.m.