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Allegany County Education Association

13145 Warrior Drive

P.O. Box 5179

Cresaptown, Maryland 21505-5179

T: 301-729-8280 F: 301-729-4834

aceamsea.org

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

January 2023



The



Advocate

President's Message >>>

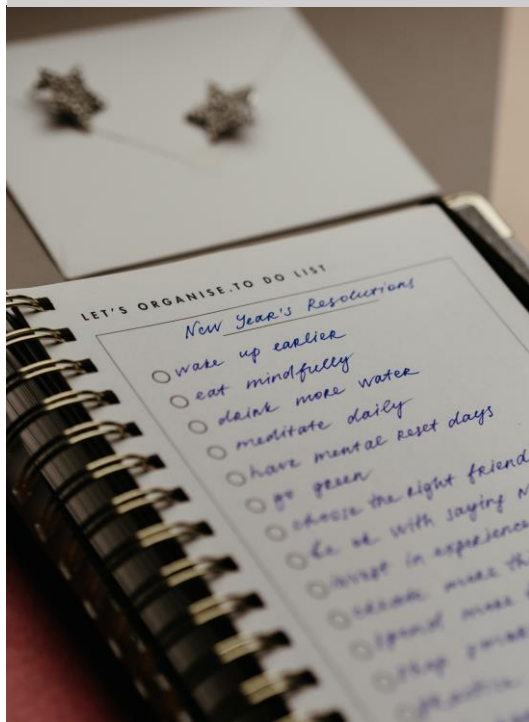
Welcome new ACEA Members!

Unit 1

Amy Broadwater Bennett SP

Unit 4

Rachel Harper SP



2023 MSEA ELECTION

First on the calendar this year is the MSEA Election. It is time to consider some of the leadership for our state association, the Maryland State Education Association (MSEA). This year, active MSEA members will elect one (1) Treasurer, four (4) Board of Directors, one (1) NEA (National Education Association) Director, and State Delegates to the NEA RA in Orlando, FL in July. Electronic voting will be conducted between January 30 - February 17, 2023, and your ballot will be sent to your personal email of record along with your member ID which is required to vote.

To help you with this, ACEA will make candidate recommendations to our members at our January 9 RA (Representative Assembly) which we will share with you via bulletin boards, flyers, and through personal emails. We will also be supplying you with an ACEA Membership Card which includes your member ID for this purpose, as well as for future reference when voting or registering for a course or event with MSEA or NEA.

So, why is it so important for you to vote in this election? Based on the voting results from last year, if all 847 members of ACEA would vote in the MSEA election this year, we could exceed the number who voted in each of the big counties like Anne Arundel, Prince Georges, Baltimore and Montgomery! We - ACEA members - could have the loudest voice in the state association!!

Therefore, to further encourage you to vote in this election, we will be considering some incentives at our January 9 ACEA Representative Assembly. More details will be provided with your membership card distribution just before the election voting opens.

2023 ACEA ELECTION

January also marks the beginning of our ACEA annual election process with the mailing of informational postcards to all members at their home addresses in accordance with federal law. In addition, the nomination period will be open from Monday, January 9 - Friday, January 27, 2023. More information can be found on our website at www.aceamsea.org under the [2023 ACEA Election](#) page, or by calling our office.

In solidarity and service,

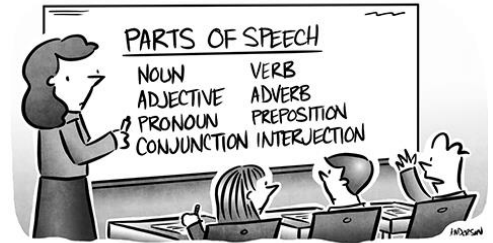
Kim

ACEA President
ksloane@mseanea.org

PLEASE VOTE!



We know that schools cannot function without ESPs. We bargain our pay with school board members, our county commissioners fund our contracts and raises, or they don't, and our state legislators write the laws that say what we can and can't bargain over and how much money our schools get. Too often they just don't seem to think support staff matter. If hoping it would change worked, the situation would have improved already. But it's not going to change on its own. Fortunately, MSEA has a plan to change it, and it's time we came together to do that. Beginning this month, **ACEA will be asking ALL members to attend a brief Ten Minute Meeting to learn about the ESP Bill of Rights and join the fight for respect and recognition of the invaluable work that our ESP colleagues perform.** We will notify each member of your building meeting date, time, and location via personal email. These will be held in conjunction with the MSEA Elections to help maximize the time, efforts and participation of all members in both events.



"What about expletives?"

MRSA SCHOLARSHIP

The Maryland Retired School Personnel Association, through its *MRSPA Fund*, is offering three \$2,000 scholarships 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. Applicants must hold a high school diploma or GED certificate.

The scholarship is also available 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 must be current employees of the Board of Education and must intend on working in a Maryland public school while working toward certification and upon completion of their requirements for certification.

Applicants apply online between January 3, 2023, and January 31, 2023, at www.frederickcountygives.org. Winners will be notified by March 30, 2023.

Additional information is available to potential applicants on the MRSPA website at www.mrspa.org. Please contact Wanda R. Twigg, Executive Director, at wtwigg@mrspa.org if you require assistance or have questions.



ACEA Retirement Seminar

If you are considering retirement this year, in the near future, or in a few years, please feel free to attend one of our virtual informational sessions on Wednesday, January 25, at either 3:30 p.m. or 4:30 p.m. If interested, please email Kim at ksloane@mseane.org and she will register you and send the Zoom invite to you the day before the seminar.

Please support the fourth annual COAT, HAT & GLOVE DRIVE



This initiative is held each January in memory of John Reuschlein, the former ACEA President and 45 year member. We are collecting **NEW** coats, hats, and gloves for those in need. Donations will be accepted at the ACEA office until January 31, or call 301-729-8280 to schedule a pick-up if needed.



"I'm just saying, with all the computing power in this electronic board, I bet it could take care of this itself."