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

March 2021



The Advocate

2021 ACEA Election: Meet the Nominees

ACEA holds an election every year. During odd numbered years, the elections are conducted for the ACEA Executive Board members. During even numbered years, the elections are conducted for ACEA Officers. However, ACEA elects members every year to serve as NEA Delegates and MSEA Delegates as allotted.

After nominations close, each nominee in the election is invited to submit a brief article for *The ACEA Advocate* to introduce themselves to our membership. The members who have been nominated are featured in this edition, along with any information that was submitted for publication.

As a reminder, the 2021 ACEA Election will be held from March 17- March 31, 2021. Electronic Ballot access will be sent to the personal email of record for each member through Election Buddy. To update, add, or verify your personal email, please contact the ACEA office as soon as possible.

Nominees for ACEA Executive Directors/Regional Representatives

<p>Region I: George's Creek, Westernport, Westmar, West Side Jill Bell</p>  <p>SPED Teacher: Westmar</p>	<p>Region I: George's Creek, Westernport, Westmar, West Side Melissa Kealy</p>  <p>2nd Grade Teacher: Westernport</p>	<p>Region II: Mtn. Ridge and Mt. Savage Alyssa Werner</p>  <p>Science Teacher: Mt. Savage Middle</p>	<p>Region III: Fort Hill and Washington Keith Mikula</p>  <p>Math Teacher: Fort Hill</p>	<p>Region IV: John Humbird, Northeast, South Penn, Flintstone Whitney Stoner</p>  <p>Art Teacher: South Penn</p>
<p>Region V: Allegany and Braddock Dawn Shepetuk</p>  <p>Foreign Language Teacher: Allegany</p>	<p>Region VII: Beall, CCTE, ReStart, Frost, Central Office, Food Service, Maintenance, Operations, Transportation, ACM-CBPT Michelle Saville</p>  <p>Kindergarten Teacher: Beall</p>	<p>At-large ESP: Unit IV at any location Peggy Bass Mt. Savage IA</p>  <p>Instructional Assistant: Mt. Savage Elementary</p>	<p>At-large ESP: Unit IV at any location Tysen Ott CCTE IA</p>  <p>Instructional Assistant: CCTE</p>	<p>At-large ESP: Unit IV at any location Susan Sommers South Penn IA</p>  <p>Instructional Assistant: South Penn</p>

Note: There were no nominations received from Region VI which is comprised of Bel Air, Cresaptown, Cash Valley and Parkside.

Nominees for MSEA and NEA Delegates



**Nominee for
NEA Delegate**

My name is Mark Malone, and I am currently assigned as a social studies teacher at Fort Hill High School. I found the desire to give back to our union for being there throughout my teaching career. So, for the past three years, I have taken an active role participating in many of the ACEA activities. I am currently serving as our ACEA Certificated Vice-President, and have been broadening my knowledge by attending MSEA and NEA leadership training conferences. I would like to continue to learn and grow, and represent you again this year as an NEA delegate, and be part of your ACEA voice at the NEA Representative Assembly in July.



**Nominee for
MSEA
Delegate and
NEA Delegate**

My name is Nick Amick, and I am seeking your nomination to the MSEA and NEA Conventions this year. Currently, I teach English at Allegany School High, where I was recently named Teacher of the Year. In addition to my classroom responsibilities, I also serve as the school's "Blue" Mock Trial coach and the Student Government advisor. Prior to this, I taught English at Westmar Middle School and served as the PBIS Team Leader and Robotics coach.

Since 2016, I have represented MSEA as a convention delegate. Through these opportunities, I have advocated for a better future for our children in the classroom, networking with other educators from around the state in the process. In these uncertain and unprecedented times, it is more important than ever to raise our voices and fight the good fight. I would be honored to serve as your voice.

If you haven't noticed, this month's newsletter is dedicated to our 2021 ACEA Election. That is because elections are kind of a big deal. The course of a country, community or in our case, an organization, are decided by elections, and should never be taken for granted. And, of course, our ACEA Bylaws require it.

It is often reported that it is a disconnect between the voter and the candidates that many claim is the reason for not participating. With that in mind, we have included as much information as is feasible in the space of our newsletter.

You should be aware that each and every one of these candidates have served as leaders in our organization, most for several years, some more than 10, and devote a good deal of volunteer time and energy guiding our association. It is because of willing members such as these, who have stepped-up, that we have not only have an association that is over 110 years old, but one that is sound, and prepared for the future.

So, if you haven't thought to thank your ACEA leaders, perhaps now is the time to do so. I am certain that emails or other gestures of thanks would certainly be welcomed by these folks. But I know that they would also be thrilled to see that their regions voted in this election at 100%! In solidarity and service,

Kim



2020 - 2021 Nominations and Elections Committee Timeline

For Election of ACEA Executive Board/Regional Directors, and MSEA and NEA Delegates

- **October 12** - Present timeline to Board of Directors for board approval
- **January 11** - send *Notice of Nominations and Elections* Postcards for ACEA Executive Board/Regional Directors, and MSEA and NEA Delegates to membership via U.S.P.S.
- **January 11–29** - Nomination forms available on our website at www.aceamsea.org
- **January 29** - nominations due to the NEC committee in the ACEA office by 4:30 p.m.
- **February 1-5** - NEC Committee meets to review nominations and prepare form to present nominees to the RA (Representative Assembly).
- **February 8** - NEC presents list of nominees already received to the RA and accepts nominations from the floor; moves to close nominations.
- **February 9** - request biographical information from nominees for the March newsletter; and/or give notice to nominees to speak at the March 15 RA.
- **February 22-26** - NEC Committee meets to review nominations and prepare ballots for Election Buddy.
- **March** - Publish list and/or biographical information of nominees in March Newsletter.
- **March 15** - Nominees permitted to speak at the March RA
- **March 17** – Electronic voting starts through Election Buddy. Voting will take place from 8:30 a.m. on March 17, 2021 through 4:30 p.m. on March 31, 2021, when voting closes.
- **April 6-9** - NEC meet to count ballots.
- **April 12** - NEC reports the results of the election to the RA.

Respectfully submitted,
NEC Committee

Cheryl McCarty (Chair), Wendy Hoffman, Whitney Stoner

Welcome New ACEA Members!

Unit 1

Janet Wilson Fort Hill

Unit 4

Shawn House Westmar

ACEA Calendar >>>

- March 3: MSEA Celebration of *The Blueprint!*
- March 9: ACPS BOE Meeting
- March 12: \$2,500 *Educator Jackpot* quarterly entry deadline (see www.aceamsea.org)
- March 13: MSEA's Annual IPD Conference
- March 15: ACEA Representative Assembly
- March 17-31: Voting window open for 2021 ACEA Elections**
- March 19-26: NEA ESP National Conference
- March 22: ACPS Teacher of the Year Virtual Ceremony

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

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