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West Lobby Day

Allegany County Education Association

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

March 2024



The



Advocate

And the winners are...

MSEA ELECTION:	ACEA ELECTION:	HIGHEST VOTING GROUP:
MSEA President Elect: Paul Lemle	ACEA President Elect: Kimberly Sloane	***** <i>With a spectacular voting turnout of 73.17%, our fellow ACEA Members at BEALL ELEMENTARY have earned a visit from Steeple City Coffee on March 4th during Parent-Conference Day with a special treat on ACEA. Congratulations!</i> *****
MSEA Vice-President Elect: Nikki Anzer Woodward	ACEA Vice-President Elect: Michelle Saville	
MSEA Executive Directors: Sonia D'Urbano Tony Martinet Russell Leone James Henderson III	ACEA Non-Certificated Vice-President: Stewart Monroe, Jr. ACEA Treasurer: Debra Weisenmiller ACEA Secretary: Kelly Griffin	
State Delegates to NEA: Kelly Griffin Kimberly Sloane	ACEA Delegates to NEA: Amy Duncan Kelly Griffin Kimberly Sloane ACEA Delegates to MSEA: * Jason Huber Nicholas Amick	
*All elected ACEA leaders are also elected as Delegates to MSEA		

SAVE THE DATE: Tuesday, March 19, 2024

ACEA will be hosting informational meetings for our members' benefits on Tuesday, March 19 in the fellowship hall of Christ Lutheran Church located at 1222 Vocke Road in LaVale. To best accommodate the varied schedules of our members, we will hold three separate sessions: one beginning at 3:30 pm, one beginning at 5:00 pm, and the final one beginning at 7 pm. We will share the same information at each of these meetings, so just plan to attend the one that is best for your schedule. Among the topics to be shared are: Career Ladders, Teaching Licensure (to replace certificates), and an introduction to Family Medical Leave Insurance a/k/a "The Time To Care Act". While all members are welcome, the majority of the information will impact our certificated members only, and we will be certain to share any pertinent items at our next ESP gathering on Tuesday, April 16 at 4 pm.

Welcome New ACEA Members!

Unit 1

Ashley Grant Cresaptown

Unit 4

Janet Herring West Side



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 Thursday, March 21, at either 3:30 p.m. or 4:30 p.m. If interested, please email Kim at ksloane@mseanea.org and she will register you and send the Zoom invite to you a day or two in advance of the seminar. Please note that these are the last sessions to be scheduled for this year.



2024 MSEA Key Legislative Priorities

SB937/HB1157

Expanding Grow Your Own Programs to Improve the Educator Pipeline

The legislation helps address the teacher shortage by establishing programs that support education support professionals, such as paraeducators, who want to become teachers.

HB945/SB771

Expanding Educator Licensure Pathways

The legislation expands pathways to licensure for aspiring educators, helping to address the teacher shortage by growing and diversifying the profession.

HB785/SB738

Freedom to Read Act

The legislation protects an honest and accurate education for students and pushes back on extremist efforts to ban books by establishing standards for libraries to assure fair criteria are applied and enforced in maintaining library collections.

SB545/HB789

Strengthening the Blueprint

The legislation addresses inequities across job categories in the career ladder and would bolster the recruitment and retention of educators in shortage areas, including mental health professionals.

SB1043/HB1175

Responsible Contracting in Our Public Schools Act

The legislation requires certain conditions to be met before outsourcing public school services to assure quality, transparency, and contract compliance and protect students, communities, and educators from harmful privatization and subcontracting practices.

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Maryland State Education Association

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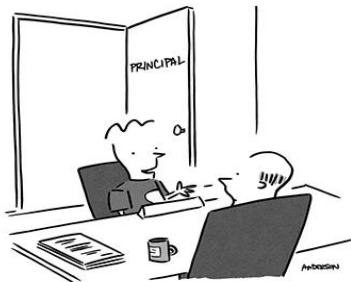
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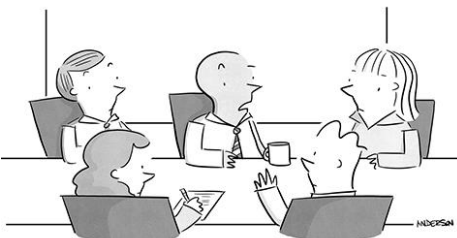
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"You know, I'm really going to miss our little chats over spring break."

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"Technically, Daylight Saving Time isn't time travel, but, sure, I guess if you see another you, try to avoid him."



While Monday, February 19 was the President's Day holiday for many, your ACEA President, Kim Sloane, UniServ Director, Cresta Kowalski, along with a bus load of our colleagues from across the West Region (Garrett, Allegany, Washington, Frederick and Carroll Counties) journeyed to Annapolis to meet with our elected representatives about the issues affecting our students and profession. Pictured from left to right at MSEA Headquarters preparing for our legislative visits are Cresta, Kim, and Shawnee Mills of the Garrett County Education Association.