

mtea advocate



Educators standing strong for our students, our profession, and public schools

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Volunteer power!

Here is how **you** can help elect a new governor on Nov. 4. Check all events that you can help with. Then sign up to volunteer at mtea.org.

I will (check all that apply):

- Make **phone calls** (weeknights at the MTEA office).
- Canvass door-to-door** (Saturdays and some Sundays).
- Do school based canvassing in my school neighborhood** to get out the vote (starts October 20).
- Get trained to register others to vote** at MTEA (Tue. Sept. 23, 5-7pm).
- Register parents and caregivers to vote at parent/teacher conferences** (only when you are not working at conferences).
- Bring family, friends and neighbors to the MTEA so they can register to vote** (Mon. Sept 29 and Wed. Oct. 1 from 4:30-7:30pm; Sat. Oct. 4 and Sat. Oct. 11, 10am-2pm).
- Vote early; **attend MTEA early voting event** (Mon. Oct. 20, 4:30pm at Red Arrow Park).
- Contact 10 **family members, friends and neighbors** to ensure they vote for Mary Burke Nov. 4.

**WE'LL
REMEMBER
IN NOVEMBER**

VOTE Tues, November 4, 2014

MTEA in full swing for Nov. 4 governor election

MTEA and WEAC have endorsed Mary Burke for governor; electing Burke on Nov. 4 is essential in our quest for a strong union, a strong profession and a strong public school system that serves all children.

Member volunteers are needed **now** to make sure that we elect a governor who will support public education, public employees, and working families.

Recent polls show Burke in the lead; if we work hard to get out the vote, we have a good chance of winning this election. We need to:

- Make sure all MTEA members are registered to vote, and make sure all members vote in the Nov. 4 election.
- Expand our reach by having thousands of MTEA members contact 10 friends, family members, and neighbors *each* to ask them to register and vote.
- Get out the vote in Milwaukee neighborhoods by canvassing door-to-door.

Our union will run an active and well-organized campaign to get out the vote for Mary Burke, and we need hundreds of member volunteers to help. Please review the volunteer opportunities at left, and sign up at mtea.org.

This is an 11.29 communication with MTEA members only.

Submit documents by Sept. 30 to ensure correct pay

Teacher unit members received letters from MPS in August with information about their 2014-15 base wage. Keep in mind that if you have a master's degree, the \$3,000 in compensation for your master's degree is now included in your base wage.

Some teachers receive compensation in addition to their base wage:

- \$2,000 for teachers who don't have a master's but do have an additional high-needs certification in Montessori, bilingual, special education, and high school math, chemistry or physics;



MEAA leaders celebrate Labor Day with our next governor, Mary Burke

- \$2,000 for National Board Certification;
- \$1,165 for a PhD.

Be sure to check the letter you received. If it does not correctly reflect your degrees and certifications, you may need to provide documentation to MPS to ensure that you are properly compensated.

Proof of additional degrees and certifications must be submitted to Central Office (room 124) by Sept. 30. Keep copies of all paperwork submitted to Central Office.

MTEA members celebrate Labor Day 2014

Hundreds of MTEA members marched in this year's Labor Day parade and attended the LaborFest celebration afterwards.

Members and supporters gathered under a light rain at Zeidler Park, wore MTEA "Standing Strong" t-shirts, and signed up for canvassing and phone banking this fall to help oust Scott Walker and elect Mary Burke governor.

We were joined at Zeidler Park by Lily Eskelsen Garcia on her first day as NEA President.

MTEA Secretary Ingrid Walker-Henry represented the MTEA at a press conference held by MTEA and several other



Members and supporters march to LaborFest

unions and community groups. Walker-Henry said that referenda on the Nov. 4 ballot to expand BadgerCare and raise the minimum wage are critical to our students and families.



NEA President Lily Eskelsen Garcia

MTEA distributed about 500 tickets to President Barack Obama's speech, and MTEA Vice President Kim Schroeder represented our union on stage, bumping fists with the President after his speech. Obama told the crowd: "I'd join a union!"

Teacher evaluation: Get ready for 2014-15

The 2014-15 school year brings a new phase in the Educator Effectiveness system of teacher evaluation. This year, each teacher must complete a Student Learning Objective (SLO) to document student growth, in addition to documenting competencies according to the Danielson Framework.

New and veteran MTEA members can rely on the MTEA to make sure this system supports their individualized professional growth.

Plan to attend the MTEA Educator Effectiveness training on Sept. 18 or 23. (Veteran teachers, please invite a new teacher to join MTEA and attend this training with you!)

You will learn:

- How to design an SLO that is relevant and meaningful to you and your students.
- How the new evaluation process works, as well as the detailed steps your administrator must follow when evaluating you.

It is critical for each educator to document administrators' actions as they pertain to his or her evaluation. This documentation is needed when there is a dispute about an evaluation.

If you need assistance with an unfair evaluation from 2013-14, please contact the MTEA office immediately.

Easy new method withdraws dues on payday Fridays

Starting this month, all MTEA dues paid by automatic bank deduction will be deducted every other Friday, on paydays. Most members prefer a smaller deduction twice per month.

Dues will be deducted every other Friday starting on September 12, 2014. (Members at IB schools begin and end

their payments one pay period earlier than members at traditional schools, so withdrawals align with the IB schedule.)

Members do not need to take any action to change to this payment method. The change will be made automatically for all members who currently pay dues through automatic bank withdrawal.

Upcoming events

Standards Based Grading Workshop for High School Teachers, Tue. Sept. 16 at 4:30pm. Learn how to plan for, implement, and communicate to parents about standards based grading. Register at mtea.org.

Benefits Help Sessions for New MTEA Members, Wed. Sept. 17, 4:30-6:00 p.m. For new members who need assistance with MPS benefits paperwork.

Educator Effectiveness: What's new in 2014-15, Thu. Sept 18 and Tue. Sept. 23 at 4:30pm. See article at left. Two sessions due to high member demand. Register at mtea.org.

Fall Book Study organizational meeting, Mon. Sept. 22 at 4:30pm. Earn three credits through a graduate study book course. Register by Sept. 11 at mtea.org.

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mtea

Milwaukee Teachers' Education Association
5130 West Vliet Street | Milwaukee, WI | 53208
PH: 414-259-1990 | FAX: 414-259-7801 | www.mtea.org