



Vote April 18-22 in the **MTEA EA and Sub Elections**

MTEA Educational Assistant (EA) and Substitute Teacher elections will be held April 18 through April 22. Members from the EA bargaining unit will vote to elect President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Elementary Representatives Seats (A and B), Special Ed Representative, and At-Large Representative Seats (C and D). Members from the Substitute bargaining unit will vote on Vice President.

All other candidates are running unopposed and therefore no election is held for those positions.

The elections will be conducted online for both groups. EAs will also have the option to vote by phone. To participate, you will need a voting registration code, which will be sent to you via email by Vote-Now. (All EA members will also get a postcard at home with the voting registration code.)

When you vote online, you will find a link to information about the candidates. You will also receive candidate information via email, and it will be posted on the MTEA bulletin board at each school. Watch your email for your voter registration code, voting instructions, and a link to the voting website!

MTEA Members Secure General Election Victories

The April 5th election results reflected a mix of wins and losses for public education advocates, but overall we saw our agenda to defend public schools move forward.

Chris Larson was outspent 26 to 1 by Chris Abele and wasn't able to pull off the upset victory MTEA members worked hard for in the County Executive race.

There is no doubt that our work during this election helped get Abele to back off his support for the MPS Takeover and instead promote wrap around services for our schools.

MTEA endorsed Aldermanic candidates Khalif Rainey defeated Michael Bonds, Chevy Johnson defeated Sherman Morton, and Tony Zielinski defeated Meagan Holman. All 3 of these candidates have committed to stopping the City of Milwaukee from chartering private schools.

In another Aldermanic race, our former member Justin Bielinski gave conservative incumbent Bob Donovan a run for his money. Donovan was the heavy favorite, yet Justin fell just a couple hundred votes short.

In the County Supervisor races, MTEA member and MEAA President Sequanna Taylor was elected to the County Board of Supervisors. MTEA member Marcella Nicholson also won her race.

Congratulations Sequanna and Marcella! We know you will do us all proud on the county board and be strong advocates to keep County Executive Abele on point in defending our public schools.

Thank you to all MTEA members who made phone calls, knocked on doors, contacted your friends, family, neighbors and colleagues in these races. Thank you for all of the hard work you do every day.



MTEA is Accepting Applications for **Summer Organizers**

MTEA is seeking applicants for a temporary organizer position to help with membership recruitment, member leadership development, and building member activists structures at school sites. This position directly reports to the NEA staff assigned to MTEA. For a complete description and application instructions, visit the job opportunities page on mtea.weac.org/resources. The deadline to submit applications is Monday, April 18 at 5:30pm.

Deducting union dues on your income taxes

If you itemize deductions on your federal income tax return, you can deduct your union dues, minus the portion of your dues that go to the Political Action Committee, along with your other “miscellaneous deductions.”

Members who worked the full calendar year in 2015 may deduct:

- Teachers: \$963
- Educational assistants: \$284.80
- Substitutes: \$240
- Bookkeepers: \$480

If you worked less than a full year or have questions about what you can deduct, call Linda at 256-6760.

Excessing and School Based Interview Process

The period for excessing and school based interviewing has begun. All excessing notices should have been delivered by now. The teacher with the least system-wide seniority is excessed unless a more senior teacher volunteers or a departmental/certification need warrants an exception. MTEA members who believe they have been excessed incorrectly should contact their Building Representative. If you have been excessed, please note that you can apply to be interviewed for school based openings. If you do not apply for a position, you will be assigned during the last phase of the District’s Exchange Process.

2016-17 School Year Staff Exchange Process

Please refer to the MTEA website for the district’s staffing timeline for complete information. Here is an outline of important dates:

- April 6-22: Interview Cycle A (Certificated Staff)
- April 26-May 16: Interview Cycle B (Certificated Staff)
- April 26-May 20 Interview Cycle C (Classified Staff)
- May 25-June 10: HR places candidates who still need a position for 2016-17

* HR: Human Resources (known in MPS as “Talent Management”).

MTEA Hires New Communications Director

Melissa Zombor was recently hired as the new MTEA Communications Director. Zombor has a strong commitment to social justice, workers’ rights, and public education and brings with her a passion and knowledge for progressive organizing.

Zombor has experience working on strategic communications for Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) Local 998, Senator Chris Larson, and Schools and Communities United. She has a bachelor of science degree in communication with an emphasis in public relations and will be graduating with a Master of Science degree in graphic communication this May.

Welcome, Melissa!

When will I see my raise?

Teachers should have seen their step increase and raises on the April 8th paycheck. MPS is saying that back pay will be on the April 22nd paycheck.

Upcoming events

All events held at MTEA unless noted. For more info and to register, visit mtea.weac.org/events.

WEAC RA, Fri., April 15 through Mon. April 18 in Middleton, WI

National Board Certification, Wed., April 20, 4:30pm-6:00pm

School Counselors Survey Review, Wed., April 20, 4:30pm-5:30pm

Educators on Twitter, Thurs., April 28, 4:30pm-5:00pm

ENSJ 9th Annual Teaching Conference, Sat., April 30 at Indian Community School. For more info or to RSVP, visit: <http://bit.ly/ENSJConference>

Understanding Long-Term Care Insurance and Preparing for Retirement, Tues., April 26, 4:30pm-5:30pm

Going on a leave, resigning, or retiring?

If you are taking a leave of absence, retiring, or resigning, please email Linda Scherlie at lscherli@mtea.weac.org. We want to help you make changes to your membership if needed.

Stay connected

Do you currently receive email and e-newsletters from MTEA? If not, please update your contact info: Send an email to scherliek@mtea.weac.org, call 259-1990, or visit mtea.weac.org/resources/member-data-update.

mtea

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