

Welcome back to a new school year!



Welcome back, MTEA members! As we settle into the start of the 2016-2017 school year, there's a lot on our minds. I'd like to thank each and every one of you for your hard work preparing to return to the classroom. Many of you spent time over the summer on your professional development and classroom prep. Thank you for your dedication to our students and our community.

Last year was unlike any other. We saw unprecedented attacks on our schools and our students. However, through community mobilization and direct action, we stopped the MPS Takeover plans to take over one school. We all stand proud that we worked together with colleagues, parents, and students to make our voices heard. As we go to print, there have not been any new developments in the Takeover plan. However, we have to remain ready and vigilant. The politicians that passed the MPS Takeover legislation are not likely going to give up on privatization efforts. As always, we will update members with any new developments.

Over the summer, MTEA has been advocating for improvements in the teacher workday. We are seeing positive changes in teacher time around limits to administrative-directed time on PD days and increased student contact through student support and tutoring at the high school level. While we welcome these new changes, we will continue advocating for much-needed teacher planning time.

MTEA membership remains strong. The NEA summer organizers have already signed up 100 new members. Additionally, we will be launching our most aggressive new educator campaign this fall.

As we celebrate our victories, we will continue to build power and adjust to changes in the political landscape this year. The MTEA stands firm in our commitment to the public schools and communities our children deserve.

In Solidarity,

Kim Schroeder
MTEA President

Celebrate Labor Day with the MTEA

Celebrate Labor Day with the MTEA! Wear your MTEA green and join us at Zeidler Park (3rd and Michigan) starting at 10:30am on Monday, September 5.

The first 100 members to RSVP at mtea.weac.org/events will receive free food and drink tickets.



National Day of Action to Reclaim our Schools Oct. 6!

We will unite with hundreds of school districts across the nation on Thursday, October 6 to demand publicly funded, equitable, and democratically controlled public schools.

This national action will help shift the public debate and build a national movement for strong public schools for every child.

Here in Milwaukee, we will be organizing one of two powerful actions at each school around public education funding. Each school will hold either a morning walk-in or an afternoon neighborhood walk with parents, students, community members, and educators.

These actions will help us build our movement to expose and reverse the funding inequities that exist in Wisconsin's public schools.

Begin organizing your school community's October 6 action today! Talk with your MTEA building leaders and register at bit.ly/ReclaimOurSchools.

Register now for FALL PD at the Center

The Milwaukee Center for Teaching, Learning and Public Education, located in the MTEA office, offers support and resources for MTEA members.

The Center is located in the MTEA office at 5130 W. Vliet St.

Fall courses include:

- **Three Credit Book Study** | Mandatory course orientation, Thurs., Sept 15 from 4:30-5:30pm.
- **Restorative Practices** | Mon., Sept. 19 and Wed., Sept. 21 from 4:30-6:30pm both sessions are required. Limit 18 members.
- **Educator Effectiveness: Writing Your PPG and SLO** | Thurs., Sept. 22 from 4:30-6pm
- **Intro to National Board Certification** | Mon., Sept. 26 4:30-5:30pm.
- **Rethinking Columbus** | Mon., Sept. 26 from 4:30-6pm.
- **National Board Support Sessions** | Tues., Sept. 27; Tues, Oct. 25; Tues., Nov. 29 from 4:30-6pm.
- **EE: PPG/SLO/PDP Alignment** | Tues., Sept 27 from 4:30-6pm.
- **Donors Choose** | Thurs., Oct. 6 from 4:30-6pm.
- ***NEW* National Board Jump Start** | Sat., Oct. 8 and Sat., Oct. 22. from 8am-4pm—both meetings are required.
- **Drop-In PDP Support** | Mon., Oct. 10 and Tues., Nov. 15 from 4:30-6pm.
- **Distinguished Educators** | Mon., Oct. 17 from 4:30-6pm.
- **Degrees Not Debt!** | Mon., Oct. 17 or Thurs., Oct. 27 from 4:30-5:30pm.
- ***NEW* Support and Best Practices for Special Ed Paras** | Wed., Oct. 19 from 4:30-6pm.
- ***NEW* Student Engagement** | Mon., Oct. 24 from 4:30-6pm.

A full listing of courses, along with links to register, is available at mtea.weac.org/mke-center.



Upcoming events

All events held at MTEA unless otherwise noted. For more information and to register, visit mtea.weac.org and go to *events*.

Professional development at the Milwaukee Center for Teaching, Learning and Public Education, located in the MTEA office. For a listing of courses this summer, see article at left. For details and to register, visit mtea.weac.org

New Employee Benefits Sessions from 4:30-5:30pm:

- Thurs., Sept. 8
- Tues., Sept. 13
- Thurs., Sept. 22

MTEA Leaders Annual Convocation with Special Guest Russ Feingold

Wed., Sept. 21, 4:30pm at the Washington Park Senior Center, 4420 W. Vliet St.

Meet and Greet for Safety Assistants, Sat., Sept. 24, 10am-noon

National Day of Action to Reclaim our Schools, Thurs., Oct 6.

Basics of Budgeting and Savings Workshop, Thurs., Oct. 20 or Thurs., Nov. 10 from 5-6:30pm

Have you changed banks, moved, or switched positions?

As we enter the new school year, the MTEA needs to know if you have changed banks, moved, or switched positions over the summer. If you have had any changes, please email Linda Scherlie at lscherli@mtea.weac.org.

Congratulations on retirement to Libby Mitten

The Milwaukee Teachers' Education Association would like to express our deep appreciation to Libby Mitten for her long years of service to the members of our union. Libby began working part time at the MTEA in 1982 and four years later became a full time associate staff member. Her work at the MTEA included EA and Sub Membership, Committees, Grievances, Misconducts, MOUs, Assaults, Worker's Compensation, and assisting with MTEA publications. A lifelong Milwaukee resident and former MPS student, Libby became Assistant to the Director of Operations in 2001. She is a valuable part of the MTEA family and will be missed very much as she begins her retirement. Please join us in wishing Libby all the best in her future endeavours. You can send messages for Libby to the MTEA Building or email lehstenk@mtea.weac.org.



mtea

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