mtea advocate





Volume 2017-18: Issue #3, October 2017



Strategic Planning & Budget Committee | Tuesday, October 24

4:30pm - Dinner and prep at MTEA **5:30pm** - Pack the school board hearing

MPS has a \$20 million budget shortfall and is planning a pay freeze for all employees. We MUST stand together to fight for a budget that funds the front-lines.

Call your school board representative and ask them to:

SAY YES TO:

- Class sizes that enable teachers to connect one-on-one with each student
- Well-rounded curriculum at EVERY school with arts, phy. ed., and
- A budget that honors the AGR class size Board Policy
- Full funding of a salary schedule and raises for educational assistants
- Steps and a cost of living increase for every MPS educator
- Increasing administrative fees & lease costs for privately operated MPS charter schools

SAY NO TO:

- · Cuts to front-line educators
- Cuts to our students and classrooms
- Excessive use of no-bid contracts
- Additional layers of administration

MTEA member delegations from every school are needed at this important hearing. RSVP at mtea.org/events.

Gearing up to WIN Recertification Vote YES for Our Union Noon, Nov. 1 - Noon, Nov. 21

One brief phone call and you can voice your support for union power and collective bargaining. All MTEA members and non-members alike need to vote in the upcoming recertification elections. Act 10 requires that every public sector union must recertify every year. Walker and the state legislature need to know that our union is as strong as ever. MTEA continues to fight, not only for better pay, but also for better teaching and learning conditions, and for the right of every child in our city to attend a quality public school.

A separate vote will be held for each bargaining unit:

- Teacher unit (includes teachers, social workers, school nurses, speech and language pathologists, school counselors, library media specialists, occupational therapists, physical therapists)
- Educational assistant unit (includes paraprofessionals, general assistants, interpreters, and safety assistants)
- Accountant/bookkeeper unit

For each unit, a successful vote requires 51% of all educators who are part of the bargaining unit (both members and non-members).

If a person does not vote, it counts as a "NO" vote.

We need to organize and get as many "yes" votes as possible! Non-members do not have to join the MTEA to vote, but this is an ideal time to talk to new teachers and non-members and ask them to join the union.

We know that our union is about much more than just collective bargaining, but bargaining is still an important part of our work and winning recertification reflects the power of our union in all matters.

Here's how you can help:

- Sign up for a phone banking party at at mtea.org/events.
- Let your building leaders know right away once you vote yes so we can take you off our call and email lists.
- Create social media buzz daily by sharing posts about recertification with the hashtag #MTEAunionYES.



Stay connected

Do you currently receive emails from MTEA? If not, please update your contact info at mtea.weac.org/resources/member-data-update so we can reach you with important information and opportunities. If you have moved, changed banks, or changed positions, please email Linda Scherlie at Ischerli@mtea.weac.org.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Writing Contest

The MTEA is proud to sponsor the 2017-2018 Dr. Martin Luther King Writing Contest!



2016-17 Writing Contest Winners (Photo MTEA/Joe Brusky)

The goal of the contest is to strengthen students' reading, writing and public speaking skills while encouraging them to learn about and support the dreams of Dr. Martin Luther King. This year's theme is "Take a Stand for Truth and Justice." Writers can relate this theme to themselves or others in their families, schools, neighborhoods or world.



Writing Contest

Deadline: Tues., Nov. 14, 2017 at 5pm | Sponsored by MTEA and the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel



Speech Contest

Deadline: Friday, Nov. 17, 2017 at 5pm | Sponsored by We Energies



Art Contest

Deadline: Mon., Nov. 13, 2017 5pm | Sponsored by the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts and the Brewers Community Foundation

This year's Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration will be held at the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts on Sunday, January 14, 2018. The winners of the writing, speech, and art contests will be recognized at this event. Plan to join us!

For more information or to download the contest instructions, visit mtea.org.

MTEA Safety & Discipline Committee

The MTEA Safety and Discipline Labor Management Committee (SD LMC) meets monthly to discuss climate and safety issues our schools are facing. These committee meetings are open to all MTEA members. Please join us.

All meetings are held on Mondays at the MTEA Building at 4:30pm:

- November 13
- December 11
- January 22
- February 12
- March 12
- April 16
- May 14

Special Notice to MTEA Teacher & EA Unit Members

Self-nominations are being accepted from teachers and educational assistants to serve as delegates at the WEAC Representative Assembly and the NEA Representative Assembly.

Additional information about the roles and responsibilities and nomination instructions will be emailed to all teacher and educational assistant members. If you are not receiving MTEA emails, please send a message to zomborm@mtea.weac.org with your name, school, and email address so we can update our records.





All events held at the MTEA office unless otherwise noted. For more information and to register, visit: mtea. org/events.

Professional Development at the Milwaukee Center for Teaching, Learning and Public Education:

National Board Jump Start Sat., Oct 14 and Sat., Oct. 28 from 8am-4pm - cost for both days is \$25 for MTEA members and \$850 for nonmembers.

MTEA-R General Membership Meeting Tues., Oct. 17 at 10am | Washington Park Senior Center.

Degrees Not Debt! Thurs., Oct. 19 and Thurs., Nov. 2 from 4:30-5:30pm.

Pack the MPS Budget Hearing Tues., Oct. 24 | Meet at MTEA at 4:30 for dinner before the 5:30pm meeting.

Substitute Teachers' Workshop Wed., Oct. 25 at 4:30pm.

National Board Support Sessions Wed., Oct. 25; Tues., Nov. 28 from 4:30-6:00pm.

New Teacher Cohort Mon., Oct. 30 from 4:30-6:30pm.

Building Leader Training Mon., Oct. 30 from 4:30-7pm.

MTEA Building Leader Safety & Climate Meeting with Dr. Driver Tues., Oct. 31 at 4:30pm

New Teacher Lesson Planning Sun., Nov. 5 from 1-4pm at the Prospect Colectivo and 92nd/North Ave Colectivo.

Culturally Responsive Practices to Engage Student Resistance Tues., Nov. 7 from 4:30-6:30pm.



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