

Bi-weekly update 02.20.15

Dear EACC Members,

Enclosed you will find a bulleted update of what is happening and what has been going on with the EACC. As always, if you have any questions, please call us at 301.392.0150 or email us.

- ❖ **Happy \$1000 Stipend Day!** What a great way to start the weekend! Remember that the money was from fiscal savings, and is a one-time payment given to all permanent employees “in recognition of the contributions you make to our school system and students every day.” This is not a replacement of the steps owed. If you missed the deadline to turn your \$1000 over to your 403b, you can still do that with any upcoming paycheck (contact Payroll to arrange).
  - ❖ Do you have concerns about workload, testing, evaluations, salary, or the Governor’s Budget cuts that you would like to voice? Come to our **EACC Member Town Hall** on Wednesday, 2/25/2015 at North Point High School in the Auditorium from 5:00 – 7:00 PM. All members are welcome! There will be a short presentation and then members will be able to sign up to speak (with a 3 – minute time limit). See the flyer at this link: <http://teameacc.org/eacc-flyers/>
  - ❖ **Unit II A&S Members:** We are having a Town Hall on Thursday, 2/26/15 to discuss issues and concerns that directly affect our Unit II A&S members. See the flyer at this link: <http://teameacc.org/eacc-flyers/>
  - ❖ Your elected officials at the local and state level need to hear from you! If you want to **communicate your concerns directly** to the members of the Board of Education, to the County Commissioners, or your legislators in Annapolis, we have created a list of all those addresses for you. It’s on our website at this link: <http://teameacc.org/contact-information-for-elected-officials/>
- If you are unsure how to construct an effective email to an elected/appointed official, we have created a template to help you! It is at: <http://teameacc.org/template-for-emailing-electedappointed-officials/>

- ❖ Thank you, EACC members, for letting me be your voice. I am bringing your concerns to the Board of Education every month, where the **EACC Update report** is a monthly agenda item. Would you like to read the script of my remarks and see how I am taking YOUR concerns to the Board meetings? My BOE reports since August, and the videos of those reports for January and February, are on our EACC website at <http://teameacc.org/eacc-president-monthly-reports-to-the-boe/>
  
- ❖ In our continuing quest to provide avenues for communication between the membership and EACC, please come visit me for **“Coffee and Chat with Linda”**. It's your chance for a one on one with the President... ask questions, get a better understanding of what the EACC has going on, see where EACC/MSEA on testing and other issues, and get an update on negotiations. I will be at the following locations on the following dates, sipping coffee and chatting with any member who comes to talk to me.
  - Sunday, Feb. 22, 2015, 2:00 – 4:00 PM – Panera, La Plata
  - Tuesday, March 3, 2015, 6:00 – 8:00 PM – Panera, La Plata
  - Tuesday, March 10, 2015, 6:00 – 8:00 PM – Panera, Waldorf
  - Sunday, March 15, 2015, 2:00 – 4:00 PM – Panera, La Plata
  - Sunday, March 22, 2015, 2:00 – 4:00 PM – Panera, Waldorf
  
- ❖ Courtney and I had our monthly **Labor Relations meeting** with Dr. Hill on February 19, 2015. I brought your concerns regarding testing, workload, and missed steps/COLAs to Dr. Hill.
  
- ❖ We have tallied the results of our **Instructional Professional Development (IPD)** and discussed them as a committee. Thank you to the 330 people who took the time to respond to the survey. Though the focus of this survey was Professional Development, we also received some commentary on negotiations, salary, and workload. We appreciate the time it took you to leave the comments. The EACC is dedicated to supporting its members in all of the different components of your profession. We will be working on providing workshops this school year in the following categories:
  - Advocating for Yourself with Administration
  - Veteran Teacher Panel Q&A Session
  - Financial Planning for all stages of your career
  - Creative Classroom Discipline
  - Stress Management and Well-being

- ❖ Courtney, Dan, and I have set up a meeting with Commissioner President Peter Murphy in early March to discuss the county budget and the school system's proposed operating budget for FY16. We also plan to ask about any supplemental funds that may be available for this year. We will keep you posted!
- ❖ **EACC elections** began on February 13, 2015 and ballots are due by 5:00PM on March 11, 2015. See our website ([www.teameacc.org](http://www.teameacc.org)) for information about open positions, forms and timelines.