

EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF CHARLES COUNTY

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Wednesday, October 11
Rep Assembly
5:00-7:00 p.m.
Gwynn Center
- Thursday, October 12
IPD Committee Meeting
5:00-6:30 p.m.
EACC Office
- Wednesday, October 20
& Thursday, October 21
MSEA Convention
Ocean City, MD
- Thursday, October 26
Minority & Human Civil
Rights Committee Mtg
5:00-6:30 p.m.
EACC Office
- Thursday, November 2
GR Committee Meeting
5:00-6:30 p.m.
EACC Office
- Friday, November 3 &
Saturday, November 4
EACC Sparks Retreat
MSEA HQ, Annapolis
- Tuesday, November 7
Elections Open House
La Plata Fie Department
6:00-8:00 p.m.

INSIDE:

- From the Desk of
the UniServ Direc-
tor** 2
- Welcome Back
Unit II Members** 2
- Committee
Updates** 3
- Committee
Updates (cont.)** 4
- MSEA Convention
Information** 4
- Hot Deals & Dis-
counts from Mem-
ber Benefits** 5
- Government Rela-
tions Corner** 6

Beacon

September/October 2017

Welcome Back! *from Linda McLaughlin,
EACC President*



Welcome back, fabulous Charles County educators! I hope everyone had a restful and enjoyable summer! There are many exciting things in store for us in the year ahead!

New Teacher Orientation was amazing! EACC recruited 222 new members by the end of NTO, and the new teachers were again delighted with the EACC New Teacher Store. Thanks to everyone who donated new or gently used items so the new teachers could stock their classrooms less expensively!

Speaking of Early Career Educators, we have a brand new "Early Career Educator Team" as part of the EACC Membership Committee. Our Early Career Educator Team is headed up by Melissa Carpenter (Wade ES) and Chelsey Herrig-Paine (Berry ES). This new team has come up with some great ideas and plans for supporting early career educators, and we have received a grant from MSEA to help fund some of the plans. If you are an educator in the county with under 6 years of experience, you qualify as an "early career educator." They will be sending out a survey by the end of September for early career educators to fill out. The survey will help us plan for activities this year, so if you are an early career educator, please take a few moments and respond when you get it!

Many CCPS educators and administrators were trained in Restorative Practices last spring and this summer. This training was in response to the concerns I heard when speaking to you in your schools, from your emails,

and from reps about the need for something else to address discipline concerns. I researched Restorative Practices, talked to educators in other counties where it has been implemented, and reached out to the IIRP (International Institute of Restorative Practices) before I took the proposal to CCPS. CCPS agreed that training in Restorative Practices was a good idea, and through our partnership (and grant money from MSDE that CCPS acquired), we began training. Last spring the first set of middle school educators and administrators were trained, and because it was so successful, we had 3 more trainings during the summer (and yes, there are future trainings planned).

Restorative Practices is not a "program," it is a philosophy. As we all know, building relationships is key to having a classroom where students feel invested and engaged in the learning environment. Restorative practices base their strategies around building positive relationships and repairing harm when it is done to the "community" (classroom, individuals, and school). Two of the extremely effective strategies employed in Restorative Practices are the "conferences" and "circles" that are held, which can be very powerful tools to building and maintaining a community. I have heard from our members that the circles they participated in at their schools during the in-service week were very meaningful. Other members have told me that the restorative circles in their classrooms have been very helpful in building that beginning of the year classroom community. I look forward to hearing more

feedback about the Restorative Practices initiative as it unfolds in your schools.

At the MSEA Summer Leadership Conference, advocacy was brought forward with a whole new intensity at the Grassroots Organizing (GO) Team training. This year will hold many opportunities for everyone to become involved in some way in advocacy for our profession. This includes organizing around the recommendations of the Kirwan Commission, which was created by the Maryland legislature to develop recommendations for how to meet our students' needs. Experts say that we are dealing with a \$3 billion shortfall statewide. The recommendations of this committee could infuse resources and funding into our schools (just as the Thornton Commission did 15 years ago) as the state re-writes the funding formula. We'll be organizing around our bargaining goals (which our members help us define), and working together to continue to promote a positive image of our profession and our classrooms.

We must work together to achieve these goals because we are stronger together. We need to work as a team to make and implement a game plan to regain, promote and advocate for our students, our educators, our county and our profession- and then move forward as a unified front to attain those goals. We can do it together.

*"Education
is for
improving
the lives of
others and
for leaving
your
community
and world
better than
you found
it."*

—Marian
Wright
Edelman

American Lawyer
& Social Activist

From Randy Mickens, UniServ Director

Welcome back for another school year!! This year promises to be a busy year with lots of opportunities to advocate for your students and your profession. As fall approaches, Maryland will enter it's statewide election season. This means an opportunity for us to stand up for those elected officials on the federal, state and local level that have supported educators and public education. This election is very important because Maryland will elect the statewide offices from the Governor, Attorney General, and Comptroller, as well as the entire House and Senate of the state legislature. Locally, there are important elections also. Charles Coun-

ty will have elections for school board and county commissioner. These elected officials play a very important role in shaping education policy, including education funding, at the state and local levels. With recommendations from the Kirwin Commission on revamping the state's education funding formulas due to be considered by the legislature this session, the stakes couldn't be higher.

EACC, primarily through its Government Relations committee, will be recommending pro-public education candidates for your consideration. Additionally, EACC will host its annual

legislative reception and lobby nights during the legislative session. There will be more activities planned around the election. We hope you can join EACC for at least some of these activities. As educators, your voice matters, and we can have the best impact on public education when we support candidates for office that support public education. Please stay tuned for more information on upcoming events. Until then we hope you have a successful school year.

—Randy Mickens
UniServ Director

Welcome Back Unit II Members!

Welcome back to school Unit II members! I hope everyone had a smooth start and that your year goes as plan. For the first edition of the Beacon I wanted to reintroduce myself to current and new members. My name is Daniel Besseck, Jr. and I have been representing Unit II members since July 2014. My assignment as a UniServ Director with the EACC is to represent Unit II members with employment issues related to the contract affecting Unit II members, discipline investigations/actions taken against a Unit II member and other issues Unit II members feel that should be addressed

by the EACC. I also provide backup to Courtney Dowling who is the fulltime UniServ Director assigned to the EACC. In addition to representing Unit II members in Charles County, I also represent Unit II members in St. Mary's, Somerset, Frederick, Allegany and Garrett Counties.

In future editions of the Beacon I hope to share with you tidbits from the contract to help you understand how the EACC

contract affects you personally and professionally. If you need to contact me I can be reached at the EACC office 301-392-0150 or by e-mail dbesseck@mseanea.org.

—Dan Besseck
UniServ Director



Membership Committee Update

The Membership Committee's goal is to increase member participation in events. In order to achieve this we're planning on more happy hours, trivia nights, and paint nights. If you have ide-

as for member activities, please join us at the next Membership Committee meeting on November 9, 2017 at 4:30 PM at the EACC office. Please contact Lisa Terlecki at lterlecki@ccboe.com

Committee Chair:
Lisa Terlecki

Contact:
lterlecki@ccboe.com



Public Relations (PR) Committee Update



The mission of the Public Relations Committee is to promote and advocate for the education profession in a positive way in all manners of media outlets in the community. We attempt to improve the image of the EACC within our member-

ship, the education community, and the general public. The next meeting of the Public Relations Committee will be held on Thursday, December 21st at 5:00 at the EACC Office. All EACC members are welcome to attend and we would love to have you join us!

Committee Chair:
Kathy Reamy

Contact:
kreamy@ccboe.com

Negotiations Committee Update

The Negotiations Committee is gearing up for negotiation of the entire contract this year. We hope to start the process much earlier than in past years and reach a tentative agreement before the superintendent makes her budget request to the Charles County Commissioners. All EACC members are welcome to make suggestions regarding contract language they would like the Bargaining Team to consid-

er when writing the negotiations proposal. Those suggestions should be e-mailed to the Negotiations Committee Chair, Leslie Schroeck, at lschroeck@ccboe.com. There will be Negotiations Committee meetings this fall where all members will be invited to share ideas and discuss the suggestions made by members. The current contract is posted on the EACC Website at <http://teameacc.org/your-negotiated-agreement/>.



Committee Chair:
Leslie Schroeck

Contact:
lschroeck@ccboe.com

IPD Committee Update



Looking for an exciting, fun committee to join? Consider joining us on the IPD Committee to plan activities like an Ed-Camp, Wellness

Day, and our annual Sparks retreat. We meet bi-monthly and would love to have you join us! Contact me if you have any questions or want to join!

Committee Chair:
Heather Hartman-Jansen

Contact:
hhartman-jansen@ccboe.com

"A healthy attitude is contagious, but don't wait to catch it from others. Be a carrier."

—Tom
Stoppard
British Playright

Minority Affairs/Human & Civil Rights Update

The MA/HCR Committee is the joint efforts of two committee. MA (Minority Affairs) focus is to enhance minority representation at all levels of the union, local, Maryland (MSEA) and national (NEA). We seek assure involvement through the Affirmative Action Plan and to cultivate leadership within the minority community. The HCR (Human and Civil Rights) seeks

to identify current issues and trends impacting the human and civil rights of both students and members. One of the annual highlights of the year is the Dr. Martin L. King celebration.

We always have room for and welcome all new members. The meetings are held on the 4th Thursday of each month at the EACC office. We hope to see

you then.

Committee
Chair:
Margot
Savoy

Contact:
msavoy@ccboe.com



Introducing the Early Career Educators Team

We are excited to introduce the Early Career Educators Team. The goal of this Team is to build a collaborative community of new educators and provide support for their specific needs. We are looking forward to many events this year and are looking for interested members to join our team. Please contact eeofcc@gmail.com for more information.



Team Leaders:
Melissa Carpenter and
Chelsey Herrig-Paine

Contact:
eeofcc@gmail.com
mcarpenter@ccboe.com
cherrig-paine@ccboe.com

MSEA 150th Annual RA & Convention

October 20, 2017 - 8:00am to October 21, 2017 - 3:00pm



Roland E. Powell Convention Center

Ocean City, Maryland

Join thousands of educators from across the state as they come together in Ocean City to participate in over 30 FREE professional development workshops, visit hundreds of education, health, and member booths in the revamped exhibit hall, and network with each other. Although CCPS made MSEA Convention day a student day, we hope our educators will request to go and take advantage of the wealth of information that will be presented, as our contract allows for that. Check out the line-up of professional development workshops and get more information about the convention at

<http://marylandeducators.org/convention>.

Hot Deals & Discounts from Member Benefits

Get in the groove for fall and the new school year! NEA **Click & Save**, the online discount buying service for NEA members, highlights select retailers and merchants each month. Check out these featured **"Buy-lights"** for October!*

**Note: Up-to-date information on merchant discounts, shipping terms and WOW Points appears on the NEA Click & Save Web page at www.neamb.com/clickandsave and may change at any time.*

ShoeMall.com:

Save on the perfect pair of shoes, from athletic to glamorous, and trendy to classic. Get free shipping and 4X the WOWPoints on all orders.

Lowes.com:

Select appliances are on sale now! Orders of \$399 or more qualify for free delivery, plus you earn 2X the WOWPoints on your purchase.

OmahaSteaks.com:

Save on gourmet treats, steak combos, seafood and more. Get free standard shipping on orders of \$49 or more.

WilliamsSonoma.com:

Realize great savings on everyday essentials including small electrics, specialty foods, cook's tools, bakeware and tableware. Get free shipping on orders of \$49 or more.

nea Click & Save

www.neamb.com/clickandsave

AdvanceAuto.com:

Earn 1X the WOWPoints and get free shipping on orders of \$75 or more at one of the most well-stocked and popular auto parts stores.

The Gap:

Outfit yourself/your family for the school year with reasonably priced apparel for men, women and children from one of the largest specialty retailers. Earn 1X the WOWPoints, plus get free shipping on orders of \$50 or more.

C&S Entertainment Store:

Get exclusive member pricing on world-class entertainment including Broadway shows, movie tickets, sporting events, and amusement parks; also features college and NFL game tickets.

Book Holiday Hotel Savings Now

Visiting relatives or planning a long weekend getaway this

fall? The early bird gets the hotel deals, and NEW Member Benefits has a couple of fantastic hotel options for you:

- Get 20% off any stay at Red Roof Inn's more than 500 locations nationwide. Pets are always welcome. Reserve your room at neamb.com/redroofinn.
- Save up to 60% off the best available rate when you book through NEA Vacations. Browse more than 145,000 hotels worldwide by visiting neamb.com/travel/nea-vacations.htm.

NEA Car Rental Program

Hitting the road to see the leaves change colors this autumn? Don't put additional wear and tear on your own car—instead, rent a vehicle from one of the five NEA Car Rental companies!

- When you rent through Hertz, receive up to 25% off base rates plus up to \$30 off weekly rentals at participating locations. Hurry! Deal ends October 31, 2017. Book online at neamb.com/travel/hertz-car-rental-discount.htm.
- Receive a free double upgrade and enjoy already low rates from Enterprise. Visit neamb.com/travel/enterprise-car-rental-discount.htm to reserve a car now.

*"Where there
is an open
mind there
will always
be a frontier."*

—Charles F.
Kettering
American Inventor

Be sure to check Click & Save often for unadvertised, limited time offers, including discount dining certificates from Restaurant.com. Join the 429,100 NEA members already registered for NEA Click & Save.



105 Centennial Street
Suite H
La Plata, MD 20646

Phone: 301-392-0150
Fax: 301-392-0151
www.teameacc.org

An affiliate of  msea

Executive Board Members

President

Linda McLaughlin lmclaughlin@mseane.org

Vice President

Kathy Reamy kreamy@ccboe.com

Treasurer

Dan Brady dbrady@ccboe.com

Secretary

Margot Savoy msavoy@ccboe.com

Members-At-Large

Cheryl Ervin cervin@ccboe.com

Mary Finneran mfinneran@ccboe.com

Veronica Golden vgolden@ccboe.com

Bill Reamy wreamy@ccboe.com

Leslie Schroeck lschroeck@ccboe.com

Shawn Starcher ssarcher@ccboe.com

Retired Member

Charlene Haynie chaynie53@aol.com

Government Relations (GR) Committee Corner

The GR Committee is involved in political activities and helps members become strong advocates for public education.

The role of the Government Relations (GR) Committee is to study and suggest legislation concerning public education. The GR Committee also assists members in the participation of the democratic process. With the upcoming 2018 election the GR Committee will be working to recommend pro public education candidates running for School Board, County Commissioner, State Delegate, State Senate.

The GR Committee meets every first Thursday of the month, 5:30 at the EACC office. Any member interested in joining the GR Committee should email Veronica Golden at vgolden@ccboe.com.

Committee Chair:

Veronica Golden

Contact:

vgolden@ccboe.com

