

Dear EACC Members, Here are the EACC updates as of Friday, October 23, 2015.

Recap of past events:

Pre-tests were pushed back to the second week of school rather than being done during the first week of school. All pre-test data was loaded into Fast Test at a much faster rate than last year. The data was in Fast Test on/before October 9th to help with production of **SLOs**, but are also there to help guide instruction. CCPS worked hard to make this happen because of concerns brought forward by the EACC and its members.

Building visits: Since the end of September, we've been to: BOE, Westlake, Davis, and Stethem. We have plans to visit Neal, Stone, and Somers in the next month. We will let you know, in advance, when we will be visiting your school!

FYI: When we visit schools, we typically set up in the teachers' lounge and have snacks and give-aways for members and potential members who come visit us. We also have information about money saving opportunities available to members through NEA Member Benefits.

We come to visit you so that you may ask us questions directly, so that that we can provide you with updates on EACC activities, and so that you can voice your concerns. Please come by when we are in your buildings, because we are there to make ourselves available to you, our members! We love being able to see you face to face!

NEA Primary endorsement for Hillary Clinton: on October 3rd, the NEA Board of Directors voted to endorse Hillary Clinton for the Primary Elections. This was done following the protocols set forward for primary endorsements set forth in the NEA by-laws. NEA felt that an early endorsement would make us more relevant to the Clinton campaign, and Hillary Clinton has said that she wants educators involved her decision-making process. Our endorsement process is non-partisan. All candidates are invited for an interview with the NEA if they are seeking endorsement from the NEA. The Association interviews them and checks their background on voting history and stances on issues. We are most interested in those candidates who have proven to be education-friendly.

Mary Finneran, Vice Principal at Dr. Brown Elementary School, is the **new Unit II Representative on the EACC Executive Board**. Unit II members should feel free to take their EACC concerns and questions to Ms. Finneran, who will then bring them to the EACC Executive Board.

The District 27A Delegate Vacancy was filled by Suzie Proctor. As many of you may already know, Delegate Proctor passed away last month, leaving his position in the House vacant. The Charles County Democratic Central Committee held a lively public forum where candidates were given the chance to speak and answer questions about filling his seat. The CCDC voted to endorse Suzie Proctor to fulfill the rest of her late husband's term of office. The Governor appointed Mrs. Proctor to fill the seat.

The **MSEA Representative Assembly and Convention** was October 16-17 in Ocean City, Maryland. We had **31 SUPER EACC delegates** to the convention. We had a number of first time delegates to the convention; all of whom were attentive and active during the RA. Joe McMahan, EACC Vice President and teacher at Dr. Brown ES, was the co-chair of the MSEA By-Laws Committee and did a tremendous amount of work in the months leading up to the Convention to get the MSEA by-law amendments ready to be reviewed and acted upon by the MSEA Representative Assembly. Traci Davis, Diggs ES, put in a New Business Item (NBI) about MSEA continuing to research and gather data about the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment that was passed by an overwhelming majority. Alexis Eaton, Craik ES, and Christine Prozik, Gwynn Center, helped strategize on the Representative Assembly floor by moving to close debate at just the right time. Kathy Reamy, La Plata HS, was one of the winners in the MSEA App-tivist contest. Debbie Haan, Middleton ES, was our extremely awesome Political Action Campaign (PAC) captain. It was because of Debbie's hard work and the EACC delegates' donations that we were one of only a few locals to have 100% PAC participation and a **GOLD STAR!!!!!!**

What's new?

Coffee and Chat with Linda

- **Change of date to Tuesday, October 27, 2015** from Monday, October 26, 2015, 6:00-8:00 PM – Panera, Waldorf
- Monday, November 9, 2015, 6:00-8:00 PM – Panera, La Plata

EACC Retirees/Soon-to-Be Retirees Meet and Greet at Martini's on November 12, 2015, from 4:30-6:30 PM. There will be an NEA member Benefits Representative there to answer questions about member benefits to retirees.

Ruth Ann Hall Champion Student Recognition for middle school students:

The Ruth Ann Hall Champion Student Recognition was established by the EACC as a memorial to Ruth Ann Hall. Ms. Hall was a middle school teacher in Charles County for over twenty years, a former EACC President, and a passionate advocate for children and public education. In her memory, EACC established this award for middle school students in 2001.

The selection process will be simple:

- Nominations for the award will open in December.
- A teacher or a team of teachers may nominate a student by completing a brief nominations form.
- Members of the EACC Public Relations Committee will review the nominations forms and decide on the recipients of the recognition. We ask that you recognize a student/s who has shown improvement in areas such as attendance, good citizenship, excellent effort or other related academic reasons. This award is not intended for those students who already do well in school and who most likely receive other types of recognition. This is intended for those students who have worked hard, despite having some difficulties, and have persevered.

Please start thinking about deserving middle school students you would like to nominate!

EACC Committees

We would love for more members to become active on our committees! Please contact the committee chairs listed below if you are interested in joining. Committee notes will be posted after each meeting on the EACC website, www.teameacc.org

Membership – Chair: Kathy Reamy

Next meeting date TBD

The Membership Committee helps grow the membership of the Association by planning and running member social activities.

Government Relations (GR) Committee- Chair: Veronica McFadden

Next meeting- Monday, October 26, 2015, 5:00 PM, EACC office

The GR Committee is involved in political activities and helps members become strong advocates for public education. Meetings are the 2nd Tuesday of the month, 5:00PM, EACC office.

Instruction and Professional Development (IPD) Committee – Chair: Heather Hartman-Jansen

Next meeting – Wednesday, October 28, 2015, 5PM, EACC Office

The IPD Committee plans and implements Professional Development and Member Wellness workshops and activities.

Public Relations (PR) Committee- Chair: Joe McMahan

Next meeting – Thursday, October 29, 2015, 5PM, EACC Office

The PR Committee promotes and advocates for the education profession in a positive manner in all manners of media outlets in the community.

Minority and Human Civil Rights Committee – Margot Savoy

Next meeting- Monday, November 16, 2015, Mattawoman Middle School Cafeteria, 4:30 PM

The Committee helps make ALL members feel that they are part of the union.

NEA Member Benefits Updates:

- **Fight Student Hunger Hashtag Campaign**, which is an NEA MB partnership with Bank of America and NEA Healthy Futures to raise \$50,000 to help eliminate childhood hunger in schools. Starting now and lasting until December 4, 2015, the campaign simply asks members to visit the Fight Student Hunger page online. For every click-through to the page, Bank of America will contribute \$1, up to \$50,000, toward NEA Healthy Futures' student hunger project.

Go to: <http://www.neamb.com/fightstudenthunger.htm>

- **NEA Personal Loan**, offered in partnership with First National Bank of Omaha, is newly enhanced to cover multiple uses such as debt consolidation, home repair and improvement, special events like weddings and graduation parties, and out-of-pocket medical and dental expenses. [Note: The enhanced NEA Personal Loan Program will be available beginning November 1, 2015.]

Go to: <http://www.neamb.com/finance/nea-personal-loan-debt-consolidation-first-national-bank-of-omaha.htm>

Linda McLaughlin

President, Education Association of Charles County