

Dear EACC Members, Here are the EACC updates as of Friday, January 6, 2017!

Happy New Year!

Catching Up.....

On December 15, 2016, EACC held our annual **EACC Legislative Reception**. State Senator Mac Middleton, Delegate Edith Patterson, Commissioner President Peter Murphy, Commissioner Ken Robinson, Board of Education Chair Ginny McGraw, Board of Education Vice Chair Mike Lukas, and Board of Education members Jennifer Abell, Vicki Kelly and Mark Crawford, and Sheriff Berry attended. Our elected officials answered many intense questions that had been created by our Government Relations Committee. A brief recap of the questions and answers is in the new EACC **beACCon** newsletter, which will be coming out shortly.

There is a pdf of the article from the Maryland Independent about the Legislative Reception on the EACC webpage: www.teameacc.org

What's New?

1. **The EACC Instructional and Professional Development (IPD) Committee is hosting an EdCamp!**
The **EACC EdCamp** will be on Saturday, 1/21/17, at Stoddert Middle School from 9 AM -12 noon. It is FREE to attend.

What is an EdCamp? An EdCamp is a type of collaborative conference that is guided by the interests of the participants to share ideas. The attendees will “drive” the presentations at the EdCamp, because the sessions will be their ideas and the conversations will be led by them.

The sign up page has a video to further explain what an EdCamp is and what to expect. If you aren't sure what an EdCamp is, please watch the video on the sign up page. Go to:

<https://teameacc.wufoo.com/forms/qzi6560sh9pwj/>

2. **MSDE wants to hear from you!**

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) was signed into law in December 2015, and ended the era of No Child Left Behind Act. ESSA spells opportunity for educators and students. Each state must put together a plan by September 2017. MSDE is holding a series of meetings as part of the **ESSA Listening Tour**. **The Southern Maryland meeting is Tuesday, 1/24/17 from 6-7:30PM at the CSM Prince Frederick campus**. We need volunteers who are interested and would be willing to attend and speak (we will have talking points for you).

From MSDE:

ESSA Listening Tours

This is your chance to provide your thoughts on how to best improve Maryland schools and classrooms in the coming years. We welcome and encourage ideas from parents, educators, students, and community members.

This series of meetings will be held across the state to provide overview information on ESSA and allow participants to engage in a group discussion regarding the ESSA State Plan. Each ESSA feedback session will include a welcome and an overview to the Every Student Succeeds Act.

Participants chose specific topics to discuss in small groups. Within the small groups, participants will be

provided an overview of the selected ESSA topic and then engage in discussion questions surrounding the topic.

The discussion topics include:

- *Accountability*
- *Educator Supports*
- *Student Supports*
- *Supporting Low Performing Schools*

To register, go here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/maryland-essa-listening-tours-tickets-30254702630>

3. **MSEA Elections** begin on January 30th and goes through February 24th. The elections are for: MSEA Treasurer (1), MSEA Board of Directors(4 seats), NEA Board of Directors(2 seats), and MSEA Delegates to the annual NEA Representative Assembly in summer 2017.

To see a list of who is running for those elected positions, go to <http://marylandeducators.org/elections-nominations>

Elections & Nominations | Maryland State Education Association

marylandeducators.org

Who will lead MSEA's educators' agenda? MSEA's Educators' Agenda focuses on funding, reducing testing, and opportunity—issues that include everything from ...

4. **Coffee and Chat with Linda**

Come see me at “Coffee and Chat with Linda!” I will be at Panera on the following date(s), sipping coffee and chatting with any member who comes to talk to me.

Sunday, January 22nd, 2:00 – 4:00 PM – Panera, Waldorf

Sunday, February 12th, 2:00 – 4:00 PM – Panera, La Plata

5. **From Charlene Haynie, our EACC-Retired Chair:**

Thinking about retiring? Contact the EACC to find out how to continue your membership into retirement, remaining involved and enjoying the camaraderie of your colleagues.

The EACC Retirement Seminar will be held on **March 21, 2017**, place TBD.

6. **SAVE THE DATES!!!!** The IPD has created even more opportunities for members! More information will be coming soon!

1. “Degrees Not Debt” presentation, 2/7/17, Mattawoman MS Media Center, 5:00 PM (Michael Gavin, NEAMB)
2. New Teacher Financial Planning, 2/28/17, 5:00 PM (Damion Dengler)
3. EACC Wellness Day, 3/25/17, 8:00 AM- 12 noon, NPHS

7. **EACC MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS!**

We know there are many awesome projects and initiatives going on in our schools every day that are created, initiated and led by our fantastic EACC members! The community benefits not only from what we do in our classrooms and in our schools to support our school community, but what we do outside of our schools as well!

Do you have a headline about yourself or another EACC member colleague that you would like to share? Do you know of an EACC member who is receiving an award for something school related, or something community-service related? EACC would like to know about it! EACC would like to recognize and

celebrate all the great things that are happening in our schools and in which our members take part. To do that, we need you, our members, to keep us informed.

We have created a form called “EACC Member Highlights” which can be found on our EACC website, www.teameacc.org. On that form, you can describe the fantastic feats of your school friends and colleagues that you feel should be celebrated! You will be able to tell about the amazing awards you and your colleagues are receiving! We will use the information we gather to promote EACC member accomplishments on our Facebook page, when we speak to our elected officials and the Board of Education, through the Maryland Independent, and when we advocate for our profession and the excellence that we create here in Charles County every day!

Please visit this link <http://teameacc.org/eacc-member-highlights/> today (or visit our EACC website), and any day to let us know about positive achievements going on for you and around you!

Opportunities/Action Items from MSEA:

SAFE SCHOOLS FOR EVERY STUDENT PLEDGE

Educators are witnessing firsthand the increase in hate speech and hostile acts directed at our students in our schools, and NEA is building a national movement of educators and allies committed to safe and affirming school climates and school communities. The first step in this effort is a pledge to show their support for safe learning environments for every student.

Pledge for Educators

Please share this widely with your members and on your digital properties. After educators take the pledge, they are prompted to engage their colleagues by sending a personalized link asking educators in their school to join them. This effort is based in GLSEN’s research that shows the tipping point for creating safe and affirming schools requires at least 6 educators to show support. Once at least 6 people from a school have signed the pledge, they’ll be sent a kit with materials and resources on school climate to show that they are an advocate for students in their school. NEA will follow up with these committed member-activists with resources and opportunities to build capacity and take action on related issues. [Click here for the educator pledge](#). [Click here](#) for additional resources and information regarding tracking pledge sign-ups and the Pledge for Allies.

Story Collection

NEA is looking for more stories of members protecting and supporting students in these divisive times. There is a tremendous amount of media attention on hate speech and bullying in schools. NEA wants to ensure the positive and powerful responses of educators are heard. Please email statecommdesk@nea.org with your stories.

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.

Membership – Chair: Lisa Terlecki

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

Next meeting: Thursday, February 9, 5:00PM

Government Relations (GR) Committee- Chair: Veronica McFadden

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

Meetings are the 1st Thursday of the month, 5:30PM, EACC office.

Next meeting: February 2, 2017, 5:30 PM

Come to Annapolis and lobby our legislators with us! Save these dates during the next legislative session!

Lobby Nights 2017-

1. 01/23 (snow date 01/30)
2. 02/06 (snow date 02/13)
3. 02/27 (snow date 03/6)
4. 03/13
5. 03/27
6. 04/03(if needed)

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

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

Next meeting: January 12, 2017, 5:00 PM, EACC Office

Public Relations Committee- Chair: Kathy Reamy

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

Next meeting: January 19, 2017, 5:00 PM, EACC Office

Minority and Human Affairs – Chair: Margot Savoy

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

Next meeting is February 23, 2017, 5:00 PM, EACC Office

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