



MEA News

September 2017

MEA Co-Presidents Carl Fowler & Donna Gogas

MEA Meeting Schedule 2017-2018

All meetings: 3:30-5:00

Light refreshments

All Mtgs. @ MEA Office 184 Pleasant Valley St

September

- 9/12 MEA Executive Board meeting
- 9/27 "Living in Retirement" with Maria Ardito 10 AM-12 PM @ MEA Office

October

- 10/17 MEA General meeting (All MEA members are welcome)
- 10/26 MTA Retirement Sem. w/ Mary Parry @ MEA Office. 3:30 PM

November

- 11/14 MEA Executive Board meeting

December

- 12/12 MEA Executive Board meeting

January

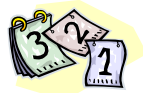
- 1/9 MEA Executive Board meeting
- 1/29 Self Nominations for MTA and NEA delegates begins

February

- 2/2 Self-nomination for MTA & NEA-RA delegates ends
- 2/5-2/9 Candidate postings for MTA & NEA-RA delegates
- 2/13 MEA Executive Board meeting
- 2/15 Vote for MTA/ NEA delegates

March

- 3/13 MEA General meeting (All MEA members are welcome)
- 3/29 Retirement Seminar- Marie Ardito @ MEA Office 3:30 - 5:30PM



April

- 4/2-4/6 Self-Nominations for officers and chairpersons, submit to Kathy Borden
- 4/9-4/13 Posting of Officers' Nominations in Buildings/iContact
- 4/10 MEA Executive Board meeting
- 4/24 Election of Chairpersons and officers in Buildings by (secret ballot)

May

- 5/4 & 5/5 MTA Annual Meeting @ Hynes Center Boston
- 5/10 MEA Retirement Party
- 5/15 MEA Executive Board meeting

June

- 6/5 MEA Executive Board meeting

July

- June 30-July 5 NEA Convention - Minneapolis, MN



Retirement Seminar

The retirement seminar with MTA's Mary Parry is on Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017 at 3:30 in the MEA office – 184 Pleasant Valley St. If you are interested, please let us know at carldonna2014@gmail.com. Light refreshments will be served.

Change of Name or Address

If your name or address has changed please make sure you notify Colleen McCarthy in Human Resources. You also want to contact DESE and MTRS about your name or address change.



Calling All MEA Members

We are looking for building representatives to attend monthly Executive Board meetings, to support members and give vital feedback and information to members through ten minute building meetings. Building Point People are also needed to assist the Building Reps in giving out information and collecting data that will benefit and inform the Executive Board of membership concerns or ideas. Please notify us by Sept. 15, 2017 if you would like to be a building representative. Our first E-board meeting is September 12th.

The MEA is a membership driven organization that needs support from its members in order for it to be most effective. Sign-up sheets will be made available through Point People for members to complete as we chart the buildings to reorganize our infrastructure of communication. Please consider volunteering your time for the MEA. If everyone does a little something, it will strengthen our organization.

MEA Committees



Our MEA By-Laws outline the committees we should have and how they are created and function. The first vice president oversees these committees. We have specific priorities for this year. Your participation is needed to serve on the committees below:

- Unit A Negotiation Committee (5-7 members)
- Professional Development Committee (5-7 members)
- Grievance Committee (5 members)
- Sick Leave Pool Committee (5 members)
- Nominations & Elections Committee (5 members)
- Scholarship Committee (3 members)
- Fundraiser Committee (3 members)
- MEA Retirement Committee (3 members)
- Festival of Trees Committee (3 members)
- Public Relations Committee (3 members)

Descriptions of each committee's duties and responsibilities are in the MEA By-Laws. If you do not have a copy of them, please visit the MEA website <http://methuen.massteacher.org>.

Communication

MEA communication will be done through home emails (iContact), the MEA website, hard copies in mailboxes, ten minute meetings, building reps, point people, and MEA meetings. These communications will keep you informed of what is going on in education as well as the district. It is very important for members to submit home e-mails in order for the MEA to send out important and current information through i-Contact.

We have set up a Facebook account to showcase teachers', program assistants', and secretaries' achievements, announcements, and MEA social activities. We also have a Twitter account which will be used to make announcements, reminders, and quick updates.

When members wish to contact us using email, please do not get into specific details using school email. It is preferred that you send us email from home to carldonna2014@gmail.com.

Salary

To verify your salary is correct please use the following formulas and the salary schedule in the contract.

Salary = 21 x Gross weekly pay (21 week pay period)

Salary = 26 x Gross weekly pay (26 week pay period)

If it does not please contact Colleen McCarthy (HR)

Welcome Back and Have a Great Year!