

Dear EACC Members, Here are the EACC updates as of Friday, April 1, 2016

**Recap of past events:**

**Read Across America/ Books for Babies** -In honor of Read Across America month and Dr. Seuss's birthday month of March, on March 30, 2016 EACC made its annual donation of "Books for Babies" to the birthing center at the University of Maryland Regional Medical Center in La Plata. Cheryl Ervin, Reading Recovery teacher at Diggs Elementary School, was in charge of this project. Go to our Facebook page to see the picture of the presentation.

EACC partners with Tanya Barnett and Forever Free Books to donate 75 books to the birthing center each year (approximately 75 babies are born in the month of March at the hospital). Every baby goes home with their own book. We hope their parents will help foster a love of reading at a very young age by reading their book to them.

This year we received a donation of some new canvas bags, so we decorated them with EACC on one side and a Dr. Seuss inspired picture on the other.

**What's new?**

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Voting for the 2016 **MSEA NEA Director run-off election** began on Monday, March 7 at 9:00 a.m. and **the deadline for voting is April 1 at 5:00 p.m.**

- Make your voice heard for OUR association! Vote! It's super easy and takes less than 2 minutes!
- To vote, go to: [www.marylandeducators.org/msea2016election](http://www.marylandeducators.org/msea2016election).
- You will need your MSEA member ID number- which can be found on the back of your ActionLine Magazine or your MSEA membership card (or your rep has a list).
- Please watch the following video on the importance of voting and how MSEA members can vote: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CHX8zKTmEU>

Mark Tuesday, **April 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM** on your calendars! That is the night of the **Charles County Commissioners' Budget hearing** at the Government Building in La Plata. **We want to fill the auditorium!** The Commissioners need to see us in mass, asking for their support, wearing our "Feed the Fire" red t-shirts. The decisions of the Commissioners will determine the funding given to CCPS and will directly affect you as an educator!

**Coffee and Chat with Linda**- come visit with Linda at the **Waldorf Panera** on **Sunday, April 3rd from 2-4 PM**. Bring your concerns and questions, get an update on MSEA's "Less Testing More Learning" campaign and get a rundown on all the education bills that are being discussed in Maryland's General Assembly right now that will affect you as an educator.

**Come to the EACC Rep Assembly!** All members are welcome at any of our Rep Assemblies. Our next RA is April 13, 2016, at 5PM at the Gwynn Center. Come hear the latest updates from EACC, ask questions, and see how the EACC is working for you! Talk to your building rep to come to the RA!

**EACC's Got Talent!** has been canceled due to lack of interest.

*The EACC Government Relations Committee has met and has been making plans:*

- We want you to come to Annapolis and lobby our legislators with us! Your stories will resonate with your elected officials! Our last **Lobbying Date** is:

- April 4, 2016

Lobby Night incentives:

- Gift card drawing each Lobby Night
- If you attend 4 of 5 of the Lobby Nights, you will put in a drawing for a Kindle
- If you attend 5 of 5 Lobby Nights, you will be put in a drawing for dinner with MSEA President Betty Weller

Future Coffee and Chat with Linda

- Sunday, April 3, 2016, 2:00-4:00 PM – Panera, Waldorf
- Sunday, April 17, 2016, 2:00-4:00 PM – Panera, La Plata
- Sunday, April 17, 2016, 2:00-4:00 PM – Panera, La Plata

**VOLUNTEER AT THE NEA RA!**

This year Maryland and Virginia will be co-hosting the NEA RA in Washington, D.C. More than 200 volunteers are needed to ensure a great experience for delegates and attendees. We need volunteers.

Contact: Mary Fenton, 301/751-4435; Liz Brown, 301/452-2102

To register as a volunteer, request committee assignments, and learn more about the various committees, just go to <https://tinyurl.com/hostcommittee2016>.

**It is never too early to start thinking about the financial future and retirement.**

The EACC-Retired committee is sponsoring a financial workshop for those teachers who are within 5 years of retiring. The workshop is “Understanding Your Retirement” on Thursday, **April 7, 2016**, 5:00-6:30 PM, Stoddert MS Cafeteria

The workshop will be presented by Damion N. Dengler, CFP, CPA of Integrated Financial Solutions, Inc.

To register for this workshop, please go to: <http://teameacc.org/register-for-events/>

**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: Kathy Reamy

**Next meeting date TBA**

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

Happy Hour Dates: May 5.

Teacher Appreciation Week (05/1-05/06) events planned:

1. Picnic at Gilbert Run Park, 1-5 PM, 05/01
2. Cold Stone Creamery, Waldorf- 05/02
3. EACC Trivia Night, 5:30-7:30 PM, 05/03, Hanson MS Cafeteria
4. EACC Paint Night, 05/04
5. Happy Hour at Martini’s- 3:30-7:30 PM, 05/05
6. Sweet Frog, La Plata and Blue Crabs Game Tickets, 05/06

***Look for information from your reps/ flyers soon with information about how to participate and/or sign up!***

Government Relations (GR) Committee- Chair: Veronica McFadden

Next meeting- Tuesday, April 12, 2016, 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.

Future meeting dates: April 12, 2016, and May 10, 2016

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

Next meeting – Tuesday, April 5, 2016, 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 – TBA

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- April 18, 2016- 5 PM, Mattawoman MS Cafeteria

The Minority and Human Civil Rights Committee helps make ALL members feel that they are part of the union.

*Linda McLaughlin*

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