



The MCEA Bulletin

The MCEA Bulletin is a publication of the

Middlesex County Education Association

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MCEA Officers:

President:
Deborah Eddy

First Vice President:
Lois Yukna

Second Vice President:
Sarah Vacca

Corresponding Secretary:
Barbara James

Recording Secretary:
Claire Geis

Treasurer:
Mary Sue Fisco

Election Issue 2010

By April 21st you will be receiving ballots to elect officers, delegate assembly members and NEA/RA delegates. This issue of the Bulletin contains information to help you decide who you would like to represent you and your interests on the county and state association levels. Please make sure to complete and return your ballot by May 6, 2010.

The following is a list of duties for the MCEA Officer positions:

The First Vice-President shall:

- Assume all duties of the President in her or his absence and work closely with committees as the President may suggest;
- Become President whenever the presidency becomes vacant
- Chair the Property and Personnel Committee; attend Condo Association meetings, maintain MCEA building, negotiate office personnel contract;
- Attend County Presidents Council (CPC) meetings;
- Shall be liaison to the Middlesex County Reception at the NJEA Convention;
- Maintain a monthly log of activities of the office to be submitted to the Executive Board;
- Perform all other functions usually attributed to the office.

The Treasurer shall:

- Be responsible for collection of dues;
- Deposit all monies in a bank in the name of the Association;
- Notify NJEA of the name(s) of bank(s) in which Association dues are deposited;
- Hold the funds of the Association and disburse them upon submission of vouchers approved by the President;
- Sign all checks along with the President;
- Prepare monthly financial statements to be distributed at each meeting of the Representative Council and the Executive Board;
- Prepare an annual financial statement to be distributed to the Representative Council and the Executive Board no later than January 1;
- Assist the Budget Committee in the preparation of an annual budget;
- File the appropriate Federal and State forms;
- Be bonded for such amount as may be determined by the Executive Board; and
- Maintain a monthly log of activities of the office to be submitted to the Executive Board;
- Perform all other functions usually attributed to the office.

Powers And Duties Of The Executive Board

The Executive Board shall:

- Be responsible for the management of the Association;
- Authorize expenditures within the limits of the budget;
- By a two-thirds (2/3) vote authorize the spending of money for non-budgeted items not to exceed \$500 in any one case. Said expenditures of the Executive Board shall be reported to the Representative Council at the next meeting;
- Be responsible for an annual audit of Association funds by an accounting firm for presentation to the Representative Council;
- Propose policies for consideration by the Representative Council;
- Execute policies established by the Representative Council;
- Cause to be reported to the members its transactions and those of the Representative Council;
- Establish such special committees as may be necessary; and
- Set the agenda for the Representative Council.

Middlesex County Education Association 1st Vice President Candidates



Lois Yukna

Local: Woodbridge Township

Association positions held:

Local: WTEA - Vice President – Transportation, Head Association Representative, Grievance Committee, Negotiations Team, Chair – Political & Legislative Action, ESP Committee, Health & Safety Committee, Screening Committee, 2003 ESP of the Year,

County Rep Delegate, Community Organizer

County: MCEA - Acting President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, 2003 ESP of the Year, Chair – Property and Personnel, Budget Committee, Liaison - Constitution/Policy Standards, Liaison – Legislative Action Team (LAT), Liaison – Human Relations Committee, Liaison – Convention Committee, Screening Committee, Chair – Privatization Committee, ESP Committee, IPD Committee, Awards Committee, NCUEA Delegate, Coordinator – County Overnight, Coordinator – LAT Ad Journal

State: **NJEA** - Executive Committee – ESP At-Large, Delegate Assembly, Delegate Assembly Alternate, Issues Committee, County President’s Council, Congressional Contact Committee, Pension/Benefits Task Force, Membership Committee, Working Conditions Committee, Screening Committee, Convention Presenter, Privatization Committee, Apprentice Program, Union School, School Emergency Preparedness Task Force, ESP Mentor, Sparks for Leaders, Speaker – Pension Rally

National: NEA Board of Directors – ESP At-Large, NEA Director Alternate, Membership Advisory Committee, Resolutions Committee, National Diversity Training Cadre, Anger-De-escalation Task Force, Organizing Cadre, NEA-RA Delegate, NCSEA Delegate, NCUEA Delegate, NCEA, Women’s Campaign Forum, Women’s Leadership Conference, Convention Presenter

I am seeking re-election as First Vice President of the Middlesex County Education Association because together we must continue to work towards moving the Association forward with progressive thinking to deal with the new challenges and hurdles that face public education. Many critical issues from health benefits and pensions, to collective bargaining and conditions of employment face us today. The direction of our Association requires collaborative teamwork and strong, dedicated leadership.

I have represented our interests on the local, county, state and national levels. As an activist and leader I have worked with legislators, local presidents and their associations, and community leaders in the areas of professional development, government relations and political action while striving to protect the rights and benefits of all members. We must remain aggressive and continue to work together to advance the needs and concerns of our members.

Education is the building block that keeps our country strong. We must stay vigilant in lobbying our legislators and electing friends of public education. We must never lose the passion that drives us to do the work in representing our members and we must stay committed to the principals and goals of our Association.

My priority is to stay focused and speak to the issues that affect each and every one of our member’s lives. I have never once forgotten that I represent and work for you, the 15,000 members of MCEA and I am proud to represent our Association. Together we are the voice for “**One Strong United Association.**”



Debbie Roberts

Local: Woodbridge Township

Association positions held:

WTEA: Secretarial Task Force, Editor of “The Scoop”, Political and Legislative Action Chairperson, Board of Education Candidate Screenings, PLC Focus Group, Member of Rep Council, elected to attend NEA RA’s and named “Excellence in Education Support Person of the Year” 2006.

MCEA: Elected by my local as a Delegate to the Representative Council. An active member of the following committees: ESP and Anti-Privatization, LAT, LAT Dinner, LAT Reception, Convention, Committee of 1,000, County Overnight and Scholarship and Awards. I previously served on the Stipend Committee in 2009 and have attended two rallies in Trenton.

NJEA: Member of the Distinguished Service Award Committee, attend Winter Leadership Conferences, ESP Conferences, Fall Focus and Political and Legislative Conferences.

NEA: Member of the National Council of ESP, attended the NEA ESP Conferences in Baltimore, Orlando, and Las Vegas. Also selected as an NEA-funded participant of the 2007 NEA Northeast Regional Leadership Conference in Boston. Attended the NEA RA’s in Philadelphia, Washington, DC, San Diego, and the upcoming New Orleans.

My position at Colonia High School for 21 years is that of the Principal’s Secretary with the added responsibility of delegating work to an office staff of six. My plethora of duties include running an efficient office, overseeing the budget for the building, programs, graduation, state reports, and any other responsibilities given to me by the principal or administration of the school district.

I am an active member of various WTEA and MCEA Committees and am at a point in my life where I have the time to fulfill the term of office with commitment to help lead the County in a positive direction and feel that this makes me the best candidate for this position. I would like to ask for your support in electing me as MCEA 1st Vice-President.

Middlesex County Education Association Treasurer Candidates



Mary Sue Fisco

Local: Woodbridge Township

Association Positions Held:

County: Middlesex County Treasurer, Middlesex County Representative, Middlesex County Membership Chairperson Budget/ Finance Chairperson, MCEA Leadership Conference Coordinator, Fall Focus Chairperson County Liaison, Representative on MCEA Committees – Awards, Budget, Constitutional Review, Instructional Professional Development PR & R, Property & Personnel, Standards, Membership, County Overnight, NJEA Convention, and President’s Forum NJEA & NEA - Alternate NEA National Director, Delegate Assembly Member, State Membership Committee,

NEA: Representative Assembly State Delegate, Northeast Regional Leadership Conference Delegate, Women’s Minority Leadership Training, Summer & Winter Leadership Conference, Trenton Rally Day

WTEA: Association Advocate, WTEA Representative Council, Woodbridge Township Professional Development Committee, WTEA Secondary Task Force, WTEA Liaison Committee, LAT Committee Member

Professional Experiences: Educator and Mentor – 32 years, Biology & Chemistry Teacher, Governor’s Teacher Award, Curriculum Committees, Student Advisor – 32 years, Project Graduation Coordinator, Colonia High School PTO Faculty Representative and Community Volunteer

I am a well rounded leader advocate for all our members. I believe in connecting and uniting our members of Middlesex County with a positive, inclusive, member-oriented style of leadership. My experience, dependability, commitment to excellence, attendance record and personal responsibility are exhibited in my daily efforts for this organization. It is important to me that if you should make a commitment then you should fulfill the required expectations that our members have of you as a representative.

I am honored and enjoy serving as your incumbent MCEA Treasurer. I am proud of the accomplishments of our county. We are the second largest member county in the state. Our finances are secure after the five year budget proposal and we are making great strides at serving the members of Middlesex County. I ask for your vote on the ballots that arrive by mail on April 21, 2010 and need to be returned by May 6, 2010.



Mike Wildermuth

Local: East Brunswick

Association Positions Held:

Local

Association Rep. 2005-2009
Together for Success Building Captain 2006-2008
Action Team building co-captain 2006-2007, 2009-Present
District Wide Council 2007-Present
Nominations and Elections Chair 2010-Present
Grievance Committee 2009-Present

County

MCEA Delegate 2007-Present
Chair MCEA Budget Committee 2009-Present
Member MCEA Constitution Review Committee 2009

State

NJEA Sparks class of ‘05
Speaker at NJEA “Back off” Pension Rally, Trenton December 2006
Committee of 1000 2006, 2008-2009
Member NJEA Budget committee 2007-Present
Chair NJEA Health and Workplace Safety and Health Committee 2007-Present
Member NJEA School Violence Preparedness Special Committee 2009-Present

National

NEA-RA Delegate ’06, ’07, ’09

Throughout my career, I have always stood up for my core beliefs of responsibility, fairness, and directly faced tough issues. I feel that the most gets accomplished when one works with the leadership and membership in an open and diplomatic manner. Whether it’s engaging members in my local, chairing meetings that stay on task, overseeing the development of fiscally responsible budgets, or advocating positions at the RA, you can count on me to be your reasonable voice and advocate as your Treasurer.

Delegate Assembly Candidates

What is the NJEA Delegate Assembly

The NJEA Delegate assembly (DA) formulates Association policies. The DA includes 127 representatives proportionately elected from the counties for two-year terms. Each county is represented by its affiliated county association president plus one delegate for each 1 percent of the state total of active members of the Association. In addition, one delegate each represents retired, student, and administrative members who do not otherwise have the representation through normal channels.

The Delegate assembly (DA) determines the policies of the Association; approves the Association budget; acts upon reports from the NJEA officers, the Executive Committee, and all standing committees; and elects New Jersey representatives to the NEA Board of Directors. DA members are elected by members of their counties and units of representation

All candidates for the NJEA Delegate Assembly were asked to respond to the following statements:

- 1. List the association positions you have held:**
- 2. Why do you think that you are the best candidate for the position you are running for?**



Michele Shields Buono
Local: New Brunswick

The following is a list of committees I have served on:

- State:**
 NJEA DA Alternate
 NJEA Convention Committee
 NJEA Professional Development Committee
 NJEA State Delegate – NEA/RA
 NJEA State Contact at the NEA/RA for the state of Pennsylvania

- County:**
 MCEA Professional Development Committee, Chair
 MCEA Rep. Council member
 MCEA Pride Committee member
 MCEA LAT Committee member
 MCEA LAT Dinner Committee
 MCEA County Overnight
 MCEA Budget Committee

- Local:**
 NBEA Association Rep
 NBEA Local Professional Development Committee Member-district level
 NBEA Professional Development Committee – NBHS – school level
 NBEA Delegate to the NEA RA
 NBEA Read Across America
 NBEA Delegate to the Northeast Conference
 NBEA Rep. - Lobby Days/Rallies in Trenton

I think I am a good candidate for the position of DA because I enjoy working collaboratively with my colleagues for our members. It would be a privilege and an honor for me to represent our members in this capacity.

Anne Chomko *Photo not available*
Local: Old Bridge

I have been an active member of my local, county and state Associations since 1996, serving as an OBEA Rep Council Member, MCEA Rep Council Member, Vice-President and local President. I served as the Negotiations Co-Chair during the previous round of bargaining in my local. I have represented Old Bridge and Middlesex County at the NJEA Convention in Atlantic City and the NEA Representative Assembly Meeting in San Diego, California. I have been serving as an MCEA Delegate Assembly member since 2008, attending NJEA DA meetings in Atlantic City and Trenton. I look forward to continuing the work of the County and State Association, if elected.

I believe that I would effectively continue to represent Middlesex County at the state level by attending the required meetings and keeping my colleagues informed of current educational issues and the work of each level of our Association.



Holly Cregar-Porch
Local: Piscataway
Photo not available



Michael Kelley
Local: New Brunswick

Delegate Assembly Candidates



Jayne Levinson
Local: Edison Township

Professional Experiences –
County - NEA Activities Committee
 Chairperson, Middlesex County
 Representative
NJEA & NEA - Delegate Assembly
 Member, Delegate Assembly Alternate
NEA – Representative Assembly State
 Delegate, Summer & Winter Leadership
 Conference, Trenton Rally Day
ETEA – Association Advocate, Head
 Representative, Public Relations Co-
 Chair (Internal and External Newsletters)
 Professional Experiences: Educator and
 Mentor – 24 years, 3rd Grade Teacher,
 Governor’s Teacher Recognition Award,
 Curriculum Committees, Newspaper
 Advisor, Computer Club Advisor,
 Computer Maintenance Co-Chair,
 Technology Maintenance Chair, and
 Community Volunteer

I have leadership qualities and am an
 advocate for all our members. The
 experience over the past year has afforded
 me the opportunity to learn about the
 responsibilities and procedures that are
 necessary to fulfill this position. I strongly
 feel that I would be an asset to the
 Middlesex County Association.



Marc Lifland
Local: South Brunswick



Pat Lieberman
Local: Sayreville

Local Involvement:
 1st Vice President: Sayreville
 Education Association
 SEA ESP Chairperson
 SEA Pride Committee Member
 SEA Negotiation Committee
 Member
County Involvement:
 MCEA ESP Chairperson
 MCEA Pride Committee Member
 MCEA Anti-Privatization
 Committee Member
 MCEA Delegate Assembly Member
 MCEA Executive Board Member
State Involvement:
 NJEA ESP Committee Member

As an NJEA ESP member, I
 understand the need for involvement
 to keep all members informed. Being a
 part of the NJEA Delegate Assembly
 is a vital part of my continuing
 leadership role. I consider this an
 honor and privilege and hope to
 continue to serve all our members of
 Middlesex County Education
 Association. With your support I will
 accomplish this goal.



Marilyn Ryan
Local: East Brunswick
Photo not available



Maureen Strzykalski
Local: South Amboy

I proudly serve as Co-President of the
 South Amboy Education Association for over
 8 years. I dedicate much of my time working
 with many committees - Health and Safety,
 Status, Educational Council, Social, Pride,
 Executive Board, Budget Passing and
 Negotiations. I am an advocate for all
 association members, offering advice and
 guidance on how to best serve the
 association.

I am currently a Delegate Assembly
 Member and serve on the NJEA convention
 committee. I am extremely involved on the
 county level serving on the Pride Committee,
 LAT, Rep Council, ESP/Anti-Privatization
 Committee, President's Forum and PR and R.
 As a result I try to bridge any gaps that may
 exist on local, county and state levels. In
 addition, I attend many MCEA and NJEA
 workshops, conferences and conventions.

In 2009 I was selected as Educational
 Support Professional of the Year for
 Middlesex County.

I will continue to fulfill my requirements
 as a Delegate Assembly Member.

I know how important it is to attend all the
 meetings and participate in NJEA, county
 and local activities. My professionalism,
 strong desire for excellence and
 communication will foster a well-respected
 working relationship on local, county and
 state levels.

I will continue to be a voice for all NJEA
 members. Please consider me as a Delegate
 Assembly Member. Thank you for your
 support.

Uncontested Officer Positions



Deborah Eddy
Local: New Brunswick
MCEA President



Claire Geis
Local: Edison
MCEA Secretary



Sarah Vacca
Local: Highland Park
MCEA 2nd Vice-President

**1. List Association Positions Held:
NJEA-**

- Delegate Assembly Current Member
- Hearing Committee
- Rep to NEA RA
- former alternate for Resolutions Committee

MCEA -

- current 2nd Vice-President
- current Chair for MCEA Overnight
- current Budget Committee
- current Liason to ESP/Privatization Committees
- former Chair Presidents' Forum
- former LAT Committee
- former LAT Dinner Committee

HPEA -

- current President (for past 10 years) of Highland Park EA
- Negotiation Team for past 10 years

2. Why do you think that you are the best candidate for the position you are running for?

My experience over the past 18 years in education, combined with my 10 years as a Local President has given me a wealth of knowledge to draw from, along with the excellent training provided by not only the NJEA, but also the County and my Local Association.

Meeting and interacting with the members of the State and County, along with the wonderful members of HPEA has been invaluable.

I enjoy helping people. I value the friendships forged and those yet to come.

I feel I have made a difference and want to continue to be a part of the decision-making process to strengthen this organization.

Uncontested Delegate Assembly Alternates



Karen Asson
Local: New Brunswick
Photo not available



Lucy Bloom
Local: Sayreville



Patricia Brauer
Local: Woodbridge Township



Cynthia Coppola
Local: South Amboy



Michele Jones
Local: Edison Township

MIDDLESEX COUNTY EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

43 Brunswick Woods Drive - East Brunswick, NJ 08816-5601

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www.mymcea.com

MCEA Presents

"XYZ'S of Retirement Workshop"

Date: Wednesday, April 28, 2010

Time: Registration - 4:00 pm

Workshop - 4:45 - 7:45 pm

Place: East Brunswick Chateau

678 Cranbury Road

East Brunswick, NJ 08816

Fee: \$15.00

Light refreshments (sandwiches) will be served.

-----clip and return-----

Please respond by April 21, 2010 to attend this workshop. Make all checks payable to MCEA, one check per person. Send check with this form for each reservation to:

Cheryl-MCEA, 43 Brunswick Woods Drive, East Brunswick, and NJ 08816, (732)390-5222 (MCEA Members only). No confirmation letter will be sent unless the limit of participants has been reached. Then, at that time you will be called to inform you that you are on the waiting list.

Checks will be returned at registration

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Emergency phone number for contact _____

School _____ District _____ School Phone _____

The MCEA has gone green!

Make sure you visit our website to find:

- Information and photos of MCEA Events
- Professional Development Opportunities
- MCEA Committees you can join
- Up-to-date MCEA information
- Links to useful education related sites



<http://www.mymcea.com>

PLEASE RUSH, DATED MATERIAL

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