



MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

NEWS & VIEWS



November 2010

Amy Johnson
Our Current President,
Bayshore Middle School

This message is to inform you that our Association President, Linda Guyer, is presently out due to a serious back injury. As is stated in Article V, Section 5 of our Constitution, as the First Vice President I will be assuming her role until her return. Please continue to utilize the chain of command when handling building based issues, first seeking direction from your Building Representatives, then the level appropriate Executive Member. Working together we will continue to strengthen our resolve as we face this challenging year ahead.

I can be reached through school email: johnsona@middletownk12.org, / mtea@verizon.net or call the MTEA office and speak to Lorraine Schutt, our MTEA Administrative Assistant at 732-758-0200



NJEA -Endorsed Disability Insurance Program

Enrollment periods for the NJEA-Endorsed Disability Insurance Program are very important events for our members. They only happen once every three years.

While members can enroll in the program at any time, there are two major advantages to enrolling during a school visit enrollment period.

- New applicants can enroll without answering health questions
• Members already insured can increase their benefit level an additional \$50 per month (up to a maximum of 66 2/3% of salary) without answering health questions

Your Senior Representation will be scheduling a meeting for your building. Don't miss this important opportunity.



A General Membership of the MTEA has been scheduled for November 18th at 4:00 p.m. at Jacques in Middletown. It is imperative that you make every effort to attend this very important ninety (90) minute meeting. Attendance will be taken, so please see your Building Representative in advance if you are unable to attend. Wendell Steinhauer, NJEA Vice President, will be in attendance to answer any questions you have of NJEA and discuss current issues.



NEGOTIATIONS

The Negotiations Survey has been analyzed by NJEA and returned to the MTEA. The results of this survey will be used by the negotiations team to determine priorities during bargaining. The MTEA will keep the membership informed once negotiation meetings are set up with the Board of Education. The Negotiations Team, along with Marc Abramson and Brian Furry, Uniserv Consultants held their first meeting on November 2 to review the results of the survey. The next meeting is scheduled for November 15th.



THIS IS YOUR FUTURE !

We are encouraging all members to continue to write letters and call Senator Joseph Kryillos. You need to be heard. This is your future. Do not sit back and think someone else will fight for you. Only you can make changes!! Contact Your Legislator(s) for current representatives in your county. The M.T.E.A. will be providing you with postcards to express your personal opinions to Senator Kyrillos, and will also handle the mailing of the postcards. See your Building Representative for details.

Senator Joseph M. Kyrillos Jr.
1715 Highway 35, Suite 303,
Middletown, NJ 07748
Phone 732-671-3206



Members Action Committee (MAC)

Our Board of Education

Kathy Seetoo, NJEA Uniserv Consultant, met with representatives from the schools on October 20th to discuss the importance of keeping the staff informed on the Governor's Took Kit. Petitions should of been handed out to each member.

We are asking you to get as many signatures of voting age family members, public employees, their friends, and neighbors as possible. Any Monmouth County resident and/or employee of any Monmouth County public sector agency, etc. We need to show the public representatives that we are organized and watching their vote on these issues. You are to turn in collected signatures by November 9th to your Senior Representative in your building.



Despite the fact that there have been many cutbacks, the Board of Education has been able to add positions rather than replace cut positions.

When the required work gets done only because members who have been affected by staff cuts take extra work home, come in early and or stay late, there is no reason or incentive for the Board to replace positions that have been cut. Come to a Board meeting and hear our Superintendent tell the public that everything is fine in the district. Speak out about issues that are affecting you, and let the public know that everything is NOT fine. Site specific examples on what programs are not working, how too much testing takes away from student learning time, etc.



Contract Corner:

HELP WANTED CORNER

Q. Can I be required to attend meetings, or view material at the direction of Administration during my Professional Preparation time?

A. Article XIX A - Teaching Hours and Teaching Load : Section 19.21 a. : The Administration shall schedule no item for inclusion in the professional preparation time agenda for any employee without prior mutual agreement with such employee.

ESP Issues

The issues raised at the last Rep Council meeting have been addressed with the Superintendent on the workload of the ESP Child Study Team/Guidance Staff. The Superintendent's response is that there is no plan to hire additional secretaries at this time. She stated that the federal stimulus (Educational Jobs Funds) can be used over the course of a two-year period. The district only received \$694,714 and has already learned of a \$384,936 debt that the district owes the State due to an increased pension obligation for non-certificated staff that can be paid from these funds this year. If they have to pay the same amount next year, that will expend all of the funds.



Tips for Educators using technology in the classroom:

Nea.org/cet/wired/
Nea.org/technology



Wanted: One elementary school teacher to fill an opening on the District Professional Development Committee. You will be responsible for attending meetings periodically throughout the school year, as well as for writing the annual district professional development plan and the mentoring plan. Some of these meetings are after school, while others involve release time during the work day. As compensation, you will receive 10 PD hours per year and be paid at the curriculum rate for up to 10 hours of after school work. Your term on the committee will be three years. If interested, contact the committee through district e-mail on Outlook (BOE-Prof Dev Comm.).

Wanted: Volunteers

Register with your Senior Representative to attend

- PTO, PTA, PFA, PIC, monthly meetings in your building
- Monthly Board of Education meetings

It is imperative that we show our unity as a Union and attend all Board of Education Meetings



Season's Greeting Card

This year the High School Students will be asked to design a card. A prize of a \$100 Savings Bond is given to the child whose design is selected.

Your Senior Rep will be posting the Greeting Card sign up list shortly. The suggested donation is \$10.00

