

15-B INSIDER

<http://www.mea15b.org>

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MICHIGAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

2008

WELCOME BACK

Well we hope everyone had a wonderful summer. We look forward to a successful school year. Remember we are here to assist you with many services, including:

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| -Contract Bargaining | -Grievance Processing |
| -Job security protection | -Retirement Concerns |
| -Development of training programs | -Contract interpretation |
| -Presentation of arbitration cases | -Unemployment compensation |
| -Bargaining crisis preparation | -Assistance for local leaders in governance matters |
| -Civil rights violations | -Employee counseling for work-related problems |

NEW FACE IN THE OFFICE!!

We are pleased to announce that we will have two UniServ Directors working with you out of the Cadillac MEA this fall. With the help of a program through the National Education Association (NEA), UniServ Director Damien Nelson has been assigned to the 15-B Coordinating Council. Damien Nelson joins us from Little Rock Arkansas until the end of November. We welcome Damien to our office.

From the Desk of Damien Nelson:

I am honored to help serve in the MEA 15-B office. As a former classroom teacher, I made a wonderful transition to unified services. I will be working directly with Marty Lankford, another advocate for the members and the Association. I, too, am eager to help members to achieve in the educational profession. Please do not hesitate to contact me at the MEA office. dnelson@mea.org

ATTENTION NEW MEMBERS

We invite you to spend an evening and enjoy dinner with your MEA UniServ Directors. This is a great opportunity to learn about the MEA as well as hear job survival tips you won't hear from anyone else. "My experience is that members that attend this workshop rarely experience workplace difficulties," states UniServ Director Marty Lankford.

Additional topics will included, Understanding Your Contract, What you need to know about Evaluation, and for teachers, information about Tenure. Don't miss this opportunity on Tuesday, October 7, 2008 at 5:00 at McGuires Resort. Call the MEA office at (800) 300-1162 or (231) 775-6553 to reserve your spot on or before October 1st.



CASH FOR KIDS (PAC)

By now you should have been approached by one of the “Cash for Kids” delegates. If not, it will happen. Forty cents of every dollar comes back to the local coordinating council PAC account. This means the coordinating council can contribute to local issues, i.e., school board elections, millages, bond issues, trainings, local, state elections, judges, etc. So if not a “Cask for Kids” contributor yet, be one. A little help goes a long way!!!!!!

CASH FOR KIDS (PAC) PAYROLL DEDUCTION INFORMATION

The Michigan Court of Appeals has decided once again, that public bodies may not payroll deduct PAC contributions on behalf of labor organizations. MEA will be filing an Application for Leave to Appeal with the Michigan Supreme Court asking the Supreme Court to hear the case and to reverse the decision of the Court of Appeals. In addition, we will be taking action to attempt to stay (stop) the effect of the Court of Appeals decision while the case is pending in the Michigan Supreme Court. We will keep you advised as we proceed through the appeals process.

SETTLED CONTRACTS 08-09

	<u>BA Base Increase</u>
Mesick EA	2.3%
Cadillac PACE	2.0%
McBain EA	2.25%
McBain ESP	3.0%
Pine River EA	2%
Pine River ESP	2%

UNSETTLED CONTRACTS 08-09

- Cadillac EA
- Evert ESP (re-opener for salary & insurance)
- Evert Transportation
- Manton ESP (salary only)
- Manton EA (salary only)
- Mesick ESP



*** MARK YOUR CALENDAR***

- Oct 7 Probationary Member Workshop
- Oct 10 Election 2008 Training
- Oct 20 Coordinating Council Meeting
- Oct 24 Advocacy Academy (BFCL)
- Oct 29 School Board Election Training
- Nov 4 Election Day
- Dec 4-6 IPD Conference

- McGuire's Resort
- E. Lansing
- Cadillac MEA office
- Traverse City
- Lakeside Charlies
- Dearborn, MI

****Reminder****

Visit our website for great classroom ideas and resources at www.mea15b.org

