



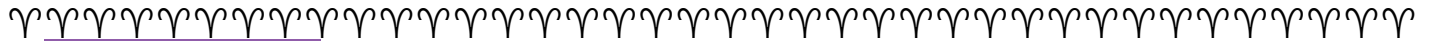
15-B INSIDER



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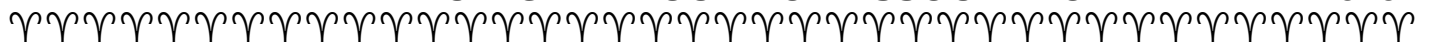
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MICHIGAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

2010



KNOWLEDGE HAS VALUE

How many times have we read, heard, and said "Race to the Top" in the past few months? With a possible \$400 million coming to Michigan should the state be declared a "winner" in this so-called race, you'll find that being knowledgeable about some of the facts related to the competition has value.



Did you know that according to *Education Week*...

- 20% of the states—from all over the country—decided not to compete in this first round of up to \$4 billion in RT3 grants.
- In their applications, Florida, Indiana, Louisiana, and Tennessee say they will base at least 50 percent of teacher evaluations on student data.
- Districts that signed on in Illinois will have student achievement count in at least 50 percent of teacher and principal evaluations by 2012-2013.
- The Obama administration will seek \$1.35 billion in next year's budget to expand the competition.
- Many states submitted proposals which cost much more than what they could actually receive.
- Teacher and leader effectiveness is seen as the most important component—worth 138 out of 500 points—in the RT3 competition.

Will this race be, indeed, to the top?

GOVERNOR'S PLAN

From the office of Chuck Agerstrand, MEA Government Affairs-

The Governor has decided that rather than attempt to find a permanent tax fix to the revenue hole in this state she wants to erode the pension system for school and state employees to the extent it is detailed below. We now should have no doubts about the untrue public utterances of the Governor who suggested we have a friend in the Governor's office and someone who would protect retiree interests. Any doubters should read the plan.

The plan is part of a four-part reform plan for state government that can be found at www.michigan.gov/gov or www.michigan.gov/ors .



Reminder--15-B COORDINATING COUNCIL SCHOLARSHIP

The Coordinating Council is awarding four \$300 scholarships again this year!! Two will be given to a child or dependent of a 15-B Support Staff (ESP) Bargaining Unit Member. The other two will be given to a child or dependent of a 15-B Teacher (EA) Bargaining Unit Member. The applications were sent out to High School Guidance Counselors, Coordinating Council Delegates, and Presidents to distribute in January. The application must be postmarked no later than Friday, February 26. The winners will be notified in March and will be invited to attend our Annual OPIE Banquet in April, where we will acknowledge them.

OPIE REMINDER

Our banquet will be held on **Thursday, April 16th** at Timber Wolf Lake on M-66 in Lake City. Reservation forms are available through your local association or the MEA website at www.mea15b.org. We are continuing to hold the price at \$15.00 per person on a first come-first served basis. Reservations are limited, so get yours in early!

UNSETTLED CONTRACTS 09-10

Marion EA
Marion ESP



*** MARK YOUR CALENDAR***

Feb 24-Mar 5 th	Frank out of office-NEA Training-Washington D.C.
March 15	Coordinating Council Meeting, MEA Office
March 19-20	Statewide ESP Conference, Somerset Inn, Troy
March 26	BFCL Bargaining Bootcamp, Schoolcraft College
April 2	Good Friday-MEA office closed
April 6	President's Council Meeting-MEA office
April 15	OPIE Banquet-Timberwolf Lake, Lake City

