

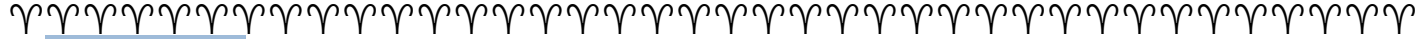
# 15-B INSIDER



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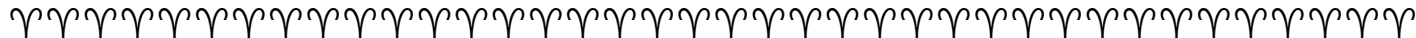
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## MICHIGAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

2011



### CONGRATULATIONS OPIE HONOREES!!

Our annual OPIE Banquet is just weeks away! Preparations are being finalized to celebrate our 35<sup>th</sup> year on April 14th. This year we will be honoring 16 individuals as Outstanding Persons in Education and 6 individuals as Friends of Education. Please congratulate the honorees in your school district for their outstanding contributions in education.

Outstanding Persons in Education – *Mary Whitely*, Cadillac EA; *Keith Wing*, Cadillac ESP; *Steve Stange*, Ewart EA; *Linda Tapling*, Ewart ESP; *Lisa Magee*, Forest Area EA; *Laura Boydston*, Manton EA; *Lisa Peterson*, Manton ESP; *Deb LaLone*, Marion EA; *Taffie Wiggins*, Marion ESP; *Leighann Sikkema*, McBain EA; *Kim Schonert*, McBain ESP; *Virginia Stahl*, Mesick EA; *Rayna Hackett*, Mesick ESP; *Dave Simons*, Pine River EA; *Brenda Lindquist*, Pine River ESP, and *Deb Myers*, Cadillac PACE.

Friends of Education – *Charlene Davis*, Cadillac; *Shannon Kotzizki*, Ewart; *Bobbie Nielsen*, Manton; *Ed Kirkby*, Marion; *Kelley Bowker*, Mesick; and *Vicki Rush*, Pine River.

Our banquet will be held 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](http://www.mea15b.org). The price is \$16.00 per person on a first come-first served basis.



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## NEW "SNOW DAYS" INFORMATION

During the winter, just like the kids, we all look forward to the occasional "snow day" to help relieve the winter blues and some stress. Then in March or April a new worry starts to add to our stress level. How many days are we going to have to make up this year to pay for those mini breaks we had during the winter. The Michigan Department of Education has recently notified all the school districts of the "allowable forgiven days" for this year. This year six days or the equivalent number of hours that were caused by an Act of God will be "forgiven". Enjoy your spring break. ☺



## 15B TO AWARD SCHOLARSHIPS

On March 10<sup>th</sup>, all scholarships were reviewed by the Scholarship Committee. Normally the council awards four (4) Scholarships, however this year we were only able to award three (3), two (2) from an EA unit, and one (1) from an ESP unit because other scholarships did not qualify for various reasons. The committee looks at different items such as G.P.A., ACT scores, Recommendations, Essays, etc. when determining who they will choose. The winners will receive \$300 towards the school of their choice. The committee selected the following students: *Amanda Melanson-Evart* (daughter of Scott & Marci Cherry), *Emily Gussert-Cadillac* (daughter of Dan & Renee)-, *Zachary Fent-Cadillac* (son of Kevin & Marilyn. All the winners are invited to attend the OPIE Banquet where they will be recognized for this award.

## BARGAINING UPDATE



2010-2011 Contracts Bargaining are: Cadillac EA, Evart EA, Evart ESP

2011-2012 Contracts Bargaining are: Wexford-Missaukee ISD, McBain EA, McBain ESP

## \* MARK YOUR CALENDAR\*



March 25	BFCL Bargaining Bootcamp	Livonia
March 31-April 2	NEA Higher Ed Conference	Lansing
April 7	President's Council	MEA Office
April 14	OPIE Banquet	Timber Wolf Lake
April 22	Good Friday-office closed	
April 29-30	Spring RA	Lansing
May 16	Coordinating Council Meeting	MEA Office

**\*Reminder due to OPIE there will be no CC meeting in April and no newsletter\***

Think

Spring!!!

