



15-B INSIDER



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MICHIGAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

2011

NEW FACE IN THE OFFICE!!

We are pleased to announce that Bruce Grusecki has accepted the position in Cadillac as the new UniServ Director, replacing Dick Slagter who retired. Bruce comes to us from the Bloomfield Hills office where he worked with members of the Clarkston, Holly, and Pontiac locals. He has over thirty years of experience as a teacher, coach, and administrator. Bruce has a unique background in collective bargaining from both sides of the table and believes in advocating for members employment rights and middle class values. Bruce also used to live in the area about 17 years ago, when he was the Assistant H.S. principal for the Cadillac High School. Welcome back to the area Bruce!!

WHAT DO YOU GET FOR YOUR DUES MONEY?

Good question—and one you may have asked. Think again! Here are just a few things that your dues dollars buy you:

- *Members-only discounts of up to 50 percent with your MEA Member Benefit Card. Go to www.mea.org and log in to save on items like oil changes for your car, or on shopping at name-brand stores.
- *A discount online travel service through your MEA Members Benefit Card to help you find and save nationwide on hotel rooms, flights, cruises and vacation packages. Go to www.mea.org; log in and click on Hotel and Travel Service.
- *Services from UniServ directors who have the training and expertise in bargaining, grievance processing, arbitrations, unemployment hearings and retirement.
- *MEA's magazine, the *MEA Voice*, which keeps you up-to-date on issues facing MEA members across the state.
- *Legal assistance to protect your rights and privileges.
- *Up to \$1 million dollars of work-related liability insurance if you are faced with a civil or criminal complaint in the course of your work.
- *Lobbyists with the reputation as the leading advocates for the rights of Michigan's public school employees who make sure your interests are represented in the Legislature.
- *Professional development help on issues like certification.
- *Training opportunities for education employees at one of MEA's many conferences or on the local level.
- *Assistance in financial planning, choosing auto or homeowner's insurance, or the stock market through MEA Financial Services.
- *Medical advice and information on topics from the common cold to how to live a healthier lifestyle from MESSA.

So, what do you get for your dues dollars? The best bargain in town.

MEMBERS ONLY WEBSITE

MEA is excited to announce the launch of our new Members Only Website.

<https://netforum.mymea.org/members>.

This website features access for all MEA members to update their own contact information, including your home email address used for MEA communications, register for upcoming MEA conferences, and view committee affiliations.



You will need your member ID, which is located on your MEA Advantage card.



PAC (Political Action Campaign)

*MEA needs your support now more than ever to stop the continuing attacks by Governor Snyder and lawmakers on public education, public school employees and Michigan's middle class. By now you should have been given an envelope to donate to PAC. If not, see your President or contact the MEA office to get one. Forty cents of every dollar comes back to the local coordinating council PAC account. This means the coordinating council can contribute to local issues, like school board elections, millages, bond issues, trainings, local and state elections, judges, etc. So if you are not a PAC contributor yet, be one. A little help goes a long way!!!! You can also donate contributions online at www.meavotes.org. **Also visit MEA's website to see the latest Legislative updates.***



BARGAINING UPDATE

Summer Settlements: Cadillac EA, Evert EA, Forest Area EA, Marion EA, Marion ESP, McBain EA, McBain ESP, Mesick EA, Pine River EA

Tentative Agreements have been reached for: Evert ESP, Wexford-Missaukee ISD, & Mesick ESP

* MARK YOUR CALENDAR*



Sept 26
October 17
October 21

Region 15 Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
Coordinating Council Meeting
BFCL Advocacy

Traverse City
Cadillac
Traverse City

