

15-B INSIDER

<http://www.me15b.org>

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May MICHIGAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION 2006



Mea budget, percentage dues finalized! *Cook, McLellan elected to officer positions*

Delegates to the MEA Spring Representative Assembly on April 29 adopted an amended budget for 2006-07 and finalized the implementation plan to collect dues next year based on a percentage of members' bargained wages.

The RA delegates, numbering 680, voted to cut \$800,000 from the proposed 2006-07 budget, before adopting a final annual budget of \$73.5 million. They also approved a percentage of 1.5 to be used to calculate 2006-07 member dues. Annual dues for members will be 1.5 percent of their 2005-06 bargained wages not to exceed a maximum of \$620. (Members with bargained wages of \$41,333 or more will be assessed the maximum \$620.)

Vice president, secretary-treasurer chosen

Steven Cook and Peggy McLellan won election to two of MEA's top officer positions at the RA. Appointed MEA's interim vice president three months ago when former vice president Iris Salters

became president, Cook was elected the association's vice president.

Cook, who had served as MEA secretary-treasurer for 15 years, defeated challengers Lynn Mason of the Belding EA and Richard Hawkins of the DeWitt EA in a special election. His term as vice president runs through Aug. 31, 2008.

Cook's election as vice president left a vacancy for the MEA secretary-treasurer position that was claimed at the RA by Reese teacher Peggy McLellan in a run-off election against Ric Hogerheide of the Westwood Heights EA. Sue Pagen of New Buffalo, Kent Bowden of Alma and JoAnn King of Grand Rapids also ran for the office.

McLellan, who teaches science and English at Reese High School, will begin duties as MEA secretary-treasurer on May 8. Her term runs through Aug. 31, 2008. She taught in Reese for 32 years.

(article courtesy of www.me15b.org)



Bargaining 05/06:

May 22nd - 24th
May 29th
June 19th - 23rd
August 1st - 3rd

BARGAINING UPDATE

Evart Transportation & EA, Cadillac EA, Pine River ESP & EA, Marion EA

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Northern Zone Staff Meeting - Cyndi out of the office
Memorial Day - Office Closed
Labor Practicum - Midland
Summer Leadership - Saginaw

Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other. - John F. Kennedy,

Percentage Dues training is available

The MEA Representative Assembly has adopted the percent and dues cap to be used to calculate the 06-07 dues. This percent and cap will be applied to the 05-06 bargained wage. **The percent will be 1.5 percent with a dues cap of \$620.**

Training sessions for membership chairs using this tool have been scheduled and can be found on www.iammea.org/percentagedues.

What will my MEA dues be? MEA dues for each member will be 1.5% of the 05-06 bargained

wage up to a maximum of \$620. (MEA dues for members with bargained wages of \$41,333 or more will be \$620.)

Membership Chair Trainings: Check the website for the locations of training sites. Please call the phone number listed on the site for the training session you prefer and reserve your spot today! There is an e-mail address shown to register for the webinars.

Murphy's Laws for Teachers

Yes, there is a set of Murphy's Laws for teachers. You've probably already discovered that no matter how well you plan—if something can go wrong, it will. Don't let these missteps trip you up. With each year you teach, it will get easier to deal with the unexpected. Remember—there's always next year!

1. The more important the occasion or the larger the audience, the greater the chance that the bulb on the projector will burn out in the middle of the film.
2. Students with behavior problems are never absent - not one day - all year.
3. After 27.5 hours of intense creative work, your bulletin boards—the best ever—are finally complete. Ten minutes later you're notified that you are assigned to another classroom.
4. The day the cafeteria serves mini-missiles—raisins, peanuts, peas—is the day the superintendent has lunch at your school and decides to eat with your students.
5. Once your notebook is full of good ideas, tests, sample lessons, films and a list of 500 library books for

supplemental reading, and all of this is correlated to the textbook you are using, you get the message: "We will be adopting new textbooks next year!"

6. Your first experience with a vomiting child will take place with a guest speaker in the room.
7. The larger the mistake in your paycheck (in the district's favor), the longer it will take to straighten it out.
8. News of what you failed to do travels at 1,000 times the speed of news of what you did well.
9. The week after you have completed your lesson plans that will keep you on schedule with the curriculum and allow you to teach all you need to before the school year ends, you will lose four days of school because of snow.
10. PTO Open House will be held on the night of part two of the best three-part TV show of the year.
11. The percentage of absenteeism on any day is directly related to the number of tests being given on that day.
12. The only time you are a few minutes late all year is the time your principal will be waiting in your room for you. . .looking at the clock.

It is the end of another school year and many of us are breathing a big sigh of relief! As in previous May newsletters we know that many of you will use the summer to recharge; others will continue to go to work each day; and some will enter a new phase of life in retirement. For those of us that are still bargaining, remember the words of Winston Churchill, *It's not enough that we do our best; sometimes we have to do what's required.* This is the final issue of the INSIDER until next school year so our final thoughts for you until then are to relax, spend time with family and we will see you next school year!



Please note that beginning June 5th,
Our summer hours will be 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
HAVE A WONDERFUL SUMMER!!

