



# 15-B INSIDER



## 15-B Coordinating Council

MEA 15-B UniServ Office, 1337 N. Mitchell Street, Cadillac, MI 49601  
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## October 2011

### WHAT IS AIM?

AIM is "All Inclusive Member" to the MEA-Retired group. It was adopted by the 2003 Spring Representative Assembly to help members who wish to do so become lifetime members of MEA-Retired/NEA-Retired.

As a lifetime member of MEA-Retired/NEA – Retired you have the ability to continue to invest and purchase insurance through MEA Financial Services; maintain work site liability insurance through NEA (EEL) should you return to work; receive NEA/MEA-Retired communications

on issues important to public education and retirement; and have continued lobbying on behalf of all active and retired members.

Members who join AIM after September 2006, have \$2 a month included with their MEA dues. Once members have paid \$400, you become a lifetime member. You may also pay a \$400 lump sum to join. When you join the MEA the Membership Application form has a box that you check if you do NOT want to join AIM. If you do NOT check the box you are enrolled.

If you choose to opt out of AIM later, you may do so by notifying the local MEA office in writing. Once they receive the notice they will remove you from the AIM membership and you will not be billed for any further fees, however, there are no refunds of MEA-Retired fees.



### Mark Your Calendar



#### Oct 24

Region Meeting, Cadillac office

#### Oct 25-27

Statewide Staff in Lansing-Bruce will be out of the office

#### Nov 2nd

President's Council, Cadillac office

#### Nov 8th

Retirement Seminar, Wex-Miss ISD 6:00 pm

#### Dec. 5th

Region Meeting, T.C.

#### Dec 6th

Coordinating Council meeting, Cadillac

### RETIREMENTS SEMINARS

The 15-B Coordinating Council will be offering a Retirement Seminar on Nov. 8th at 6:00 p.m. in the Lake Superior Room at the ISD. Call 231-775-6553 to reserve before Nov. 4th!

If you can't make that date, MPSERS will be offering

Seminar dates also:

October 27th, 5:30 p.m.  
Ferris State University

December 12th, 5:30 p.m.  
Kent ISD in Grand Rapids

March 27th, 5:30 p.m.  
NorthWestern Michigan Col.

To register call 800-381-5111 or go to [www.michigan.gov/orsschools](http://www.michigan.gov/orsschools).

If you have access to a computer you may also go to the website and review tutorials and webinars that have the same information as the seminars.





**Find MESSA on Facebook**



**Expectant Mothers**

MESSA's Healthy Expectations program provides support for expectant mothers. When you enroll in Healthy Expectations, you will receive a simple health assessment questionnaire to complete and return. If any risk factors are identified, a MESSA nurse may contact you and offer additional assistance.

Women who enroll receive a reference book on pregnancy and birth and a second book containing health guidelines to help you care for your baby, plus a baby bag with made-in-the-USA gear, including a bottle, bib, and blanket.

To enroll, go to [www.messa.org](http://www.messa.org).

**Flu Shots 2011-2012**

Flu shots must be administered and billed by a payable provider. Payable Provider #1: A payable provider is one who participates with BCBSM and can bill BCBSM directly.

Member should ask provider: "Are you able to bill Blue Cross?" If yes, the provider should bill. If no, this is not a payable provider and the flu shot will not be covered.

Payable Provider #2: Public Health Departments Most public health departments are non-participating with BCBSM and will require our member

to pay at the time of the service. Our member will be reimbursed by MESSA when a paid receipt including the member's name and contract number is submitted to MESSA.

**At-work Flu Clinics:**

- Must use a payable provider as noted above.
- For any questions or concerns about the provider for your at-work clinic, please contact Lori Merritt, at 800.336.0013, extension 5432.

**Annual Outstanding Persons Banquet**



Many of you are aware of the banquet that we put on every year, but for those of you who are new this year, the 15-B Coordinating Council puts on a banquet honoring outstanding peers and volunteers that each local group selects.

In January the nomination paperwork will be given out to the Coordinating Council delegates. They will be asking for nominations for those teachers, bus drivers, custodians, secretaries, food service workers, etc. that are going above and beyond in their daily work. Each local selects a person among their peer group. We also ask that a "Friend of Education" is nominated for each school district. This is a volunteer in the classroom, a volunteer from a group, or can even be an entire group.

Our banquet is held in April at the beautiful Timber Wolf Lake Lodge. Each honoree receives either a Bell or a Plaque.

This year Steve Cook, MEA's new president has agreed to be our special speaker for the night.

The Cadillac Band Boosters has graciously volunteered to provide students to serve for the evening also.

So over the next few months start looking around you at who you would like to recognize at this very special event!



***HELP FIGHT BACK!!!!***



**CONTACT YOUR REPRESENTATIVES**

**U.S. SENATE**

- Debbie Stabenow**  
231-929-1031  
[senator@stabenow.senate.gov](mailto:senator@stabenow.senate.gov)
- Carl Levin** 231-947-9569  
<http://levin.senate.gov>
- State Senate**
- Darwin Booher**  
517-373-1725  
[sendbooher@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:sendbooher@senate.michigan.gov)

**STATE REPRESENTATIVES**

- Bruce Rendon R-103**  
[brucerendon@house.mi.gov](mailto:brucerendon@house.mi.gov)  
1-517-373-3817
- Jon Bumstead, R-100**  
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- Phil Potvin, R-102**  
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517-373-1747

**U.S. HOUSE**

- Dave Camp, R-4**  
<http://camp.house.gov>  
1-800-342-2455
- Bill Huizenga, R-2**  
231-775-0050  
<http://huizenga.house.gov>