



LIVONIA  
Paraprofessionals'  
Association

www.iammea.org/lpa

# Newsletter

February 2022  
Issue #4

LPA... Providing support in education

## President's Ponderings

After our return from a much needed and unexpected 3 day hiatus it reinforced how truly difficult these last couple of years have been. I keep reliving Groundhog day as I am sure many of you are. The struggle is real. Before I send you down a dark tunnel there is light; Punxsutawney Phil said Spring is on its way. I see signs of it in the stores. Days are getting longer and the birds are singing stronger. Winters can be tough in Michigan but we rise and face whatever weather comes our way, one day at a time, Parapro strong!

"What makes people resilient is the ability to find humor and irony in situations that would otherwise overpower you."

-Amy Tan

## New Hire Meeting

Our New Hire Meeting is February 17th at 5pm. A link has been sent out to all new hires. Here is a copy of the link if you need access: [New Hire Link](#) This is a great opportunity to introduce you to the Executive Board and answer any questions or concerns you may have regarding your assignment. We will discuss the benefits and protections of being part of a union, entering absences into Frontline, sick days, vacation days, holidays and collecting data for your students. I hope you will join us, we look forward to meeting you.

## General Membership Meeting

Our membership meeting is Monday March 21st at 5:00pm. It will be held in person at Johnson Upper Elementary. for members in good standing. This is an excellent opportunity for you to voice your opinions on negotiations, and hear updates on what is happening in the District. Following the meeting voting will be open for you to cast your ballots. Your voice, your vote! Look forward to seeing you.

## **TODAY IS YOUR DAY!**

Have you ever thought about being a part of the LPA Executive Board? Who could represent your perspective better than you? Or do you know a good candidate? We are taking nominations for Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Cluster Reps! Consider this an excellent opportunity to become involved. Feel free to inquire today!

## What are the benefits of being part of a union?

Unions support both employers and employees, and being in one has benefits for both parties.

- Negotiate better pay...
- Collective bargaining...
- Negotiate better working conditions...
- Provide training for new skills...
- Provide job security...
- Give general advice and support...
- Negotiate for additional benefits...
- Protection, Protection, Protection!

## **Your Executive Board**

President

Sue Gonyou

gonyousue@gmail.com

Vice President

Cyndi Kaptanowsky

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Secretary

Lisa Durand

thedurands@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer

Leona Andres

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Public Relations

Henry Morelli

henrymorelli@gmail.com

Cluster Representatives

#1 Georgia Tzelepis

georgiatzelepis@gmail.com

Buchanan, Career Center,

Churchill, Coolidge, Holmes,

Hoover, LTP, Niji Iro, Randolph,

Riley, Roosevelt, Rosedale,

Stevenson, Skill Center, Webster

#2 Chele Dolan

mdolan7@earthlink.net

Cleveland, Cooper, Emerson,

Franklin, Frost, Grant, GSRP,

Hayes, Jackson, Johnson,

Kennedy, Randolph, Transportation

## **Your Bargaining Team is meeting!**

Sue Gonyou

Carrie Shelton

Chele Dolan

Chris Flanagan

Betty Jo Woodworth



Your Bargaining Team is actively meeting to discuss items that are beneficial to our paraprofessionals. If you have questions, concerns, or comments that you wish to be addressed now is the time to let us know. Please reach out to any of the Executive Board members or the Bargaining Team members as soon as possible.

## **Welcome New Parapros**

*Lisa Kaitner - Holmes*

*Vanessa Salwa - Transportation*

*Lisa Iacovacci - Jackson Center*

## **Need to join the union?**

<https://tinyurl.com/joinLPAunion>

**IN THE END IT IS NOT THE YEARS IN  
YOUR LIFE THAT COUNT, IT'S THE  
LIFE IN YOUR YEARS.**

*Abraham Lincoln*

## **Dates to Remember**

### *Upcoming PLC dates*

April 27th ½ day- students attend am

May 25th ½ day- students attend pm

### *Upcoming Paid Holidays*

Good Friday

Memorial Day

Spring Break begins 3/28-4/01 ( please enter into  
AESOP as vacation or unpaid)