



LIVONIA
Paraprofessionals'
Association

LPA... Providing support in education

www.iammea.org/lpa

Newsletter

February/March 2018
Issue #5



Officer Elections

Online voting for the offices of **Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer** will begin on **March 20, 2018**. The Nominating Committee is currently accepting nominations for each of these two-year positions that will commence on **July 1, 2018**.

At this point in time, the following people have accepted nominations:

- **Cyndi Kaptanowsky - Secretary**
- **Beth McCann - Treasurer**

Should you be interested in running for one of these positions or know of someone who has expressed an interest in running, please contact one of the members of the Nominating Committee:

Christy Trepkowski, Public Relations
christytrepkowski@gmail.com

Carol Whitefoot, Vice President
cjwhitefoot@yahoo.com

Cyndi Kaptanowsky, Secretary
dribbies62@yahoo.com

Welcome New Parapro

Carolyn Ferreri - Coolidge
Rush Lockhart - Transportation
Traci Rayford - Hayes

All new employees receive a LPS email account. If you have not received your account information yet, please contact your administrator. The district and the LPA use district email to keep you updated on all pertinent matters so be sure to check it regularly.

We want to acknowledge and THANK the following NEW MEMBERS for your support through your membership in the Livonia Paraprofessionals' Association. This also comes with membership in the MEA and NEA.

- **Sandra Killmar - Skill Center**
- **Larry Jamison - Frost**
- **April Adams - Cleveland**
- **Jennifer Paige - Transportation**
- **Debbie Ostrowski - Skill Center**
- **Kimberly Boone - Skill Center**

Do you know? Newly hired members receive \$15,000 in term life insurance free of charge from the NEA in their first year of employment! Contact **Carol Whitefoot** to find out how to enroll... cjwhitefoot@yahoo.com

Free College!!

For You and Your Immediate Family with MEA Membership!

MEA is committed to helping you become the BEST possible you and that includes furthering your education. They have partnered with Eastern Gateway Community College to offer our members a life changing benefit. As a member of MEA, you and members of your family will be able to obtain an Associates degree online, with ZERO out of pocket costs in the following different areas of study:

- **Business Management with concentrations in Human Resources, Healthcare Management, Marketing and Finance**
- **Accounting**
- **Patient Home Navigator Certificate**
- **Associate of Arts**
- **Criminal Justice**
- **Paralegal**
- **Early Childhood Education**
- **Individualized Study**

Visit mea.org/free-collage to find out how you and members of your family can take advantage of earning a free Associate's Degree.

Dates to Remember

New Hire Meeting

All paraprofessionals who have been hired from January 2017 to the present are invited to attend an informational meeting on **Wednesday, April 18, 2018 at 5:15.**

Many of you have indicated that you have questions about personal days, vacation time and other benefits afforded to you as a member of the paraprofessionals' bargaining unit.

This is the perfect opportunity for you to get your questions answered. We will be taking questions and covering many topics of interest to new employees.

The meeting will be held at the local MEA office located at 40500 Ann Arbor Rd, Plymouth, MI. A light dinner will be served.

All new hires that have returned their MEA membership application will be entered into a **gift card raffle**. **SAVE THE DATE** and direct any questions to Cindy Ignash at cignash@gmail.com.

General Membership Meeting

Our next meeting is on **Tuesday, March 20, 2018 at 5:15 at Holmes Middle School**. It will be our final meeting of the year. You can arrive as early as 4:30. If you need help accessing your paystub or Aesop, someone will be there to help you.

We had a great turnout at our January meeting. It was nice to see so many members get a chance to socialize and get first hand information on all that is going on in the LPA.

If you haven't been to a meeting this year, please consider that your Executive Board does its best to represent all of our members. However, we need all of our members to communicate their needs and concerns to us. This is your opportunity to do so in person and we hope to see you there!

MEA Bargaining Conference

Members of the LPA Executive Board and Bargaining Team attended the MEA's Bargaining and Public Policy Conference on February 8th and 9th at Cobo Center. They attended many sessions geared at informing and training them to represent you, our members, not only at the bargaining table, but throughout the year as well. So, if you see Carol Whitefoot, Cindy Ignash, Beth McCann, or Carrie Shelton thank them for giving their time and be sure to ask them about their experience.

Building Representatives

Did you know that your building representatives have the opportunity to attend building rep meetings several times a year? They will be joining us again in April. These meetings keep them well informed and help them to know how to assist you at the building level should you ever need their help. It is also one more opportunity for your executive board to learn of the issues and concerns facing our members.

We thank them for the extra time and effort they put forth to help our members.

MEA RETIREMENT WORKSHOP

When: Wednesday, March 28th
3:30 p.m. & 5:30 p.m.

Presented by:
Dennis Kubas, MEA Executive Director

RSVP:
Seating and materials are limited to 50 participants! You **MUST** RSVP by March 23rd. An Eventbrite invitation will be sent-please reply to that email or call the number listed below.

Where:
Michigan Education Association
40500 Ann Arbor Road, Suite 100
Plymouth, MI 48170
734-207-4450

