



LIVONIA
Paraprofessionals'
Association

www.iammea.org/lpa

Newsletter

October 2020
Issue #1



LPA ... Providing support in education

“Autumn, the year’s last, loveliest smile.”

-William Cullen Bryant

To all of you working above and beyond each and every day, thank you I am so grateful and proud. We are doing things we never thought we could or would do. Your resilience is unwavering. Continue to keep yourselves safe and healthy. Cold and flu season is upon us. Stay home if you are not feeling well. The risk to you and others is far too great. We are strong together.

“It is not about you. It is not about me. It is about ‘we’ working together as one.”



As news continues to be an ever changing event you may feel out of touch with what is going on. As stakeholders in your union it is sometimes difficult to sit back and wait for things to unfold. Please consistently check your emails for current updates and pertinent information. What you heard yesterday may be different tomorrow.

Building Rep Elections

In a perfect world we would have had our Building Rep Elections by now. Because paras are still being placed we will follow up with this.

Keep in mind if you have any concerns please bring them to your cluster rep.

Support staff will be receiving \$250 in hazard pay. The District will be mailing eligible staff a form to fill out and returned to them by December 4. The Department of Treasury will mail us our check sometime in February, 2021.

Coming up in January 2021 we will begin taking nominations for President, Public Relations & MEA/NEA RA Delegates.

This is an especially excellent time to become involved! Consider serving on your board as a voice for the LPA.

The full descriptions of duties can be found on pages 4-6 of the LPA By-Laws which you can find on our website:

www.iammea.org/lpa



Your Executive Board

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Cluster Representatives

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Buchanan, Career Center, Churchill, Coolidge, Holmes, Hoover, LTP, Niji Iro, Randolph, Riley, Roosevelt, Rosedale, Stevenson, Skill Center, Webster

#2 Chele Dolan

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Cleveland, Cooper, Emerson, Franklin, Frost, Grant, GSRP, Hayes, Jackson, Johnson, Kennedy, Randolph, Transportation

Welcome New Parapro

Welcome Anne Cox - Jackson Early Childhood Center

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.

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. To find out how to enroll contact Cyndi Kaptanowsky at dribbies62@hotmail.com



Dates to remember:

November 3 is Election Day. No school for students. You may use an earned vacation day or take it unpaid.

November 18 and 19 are half days (am) for secondary students and parapro.

November 25-27 is Thanksgiving Recess.

The District Calendar was updated October 19, 2020.

It was very difficult ending last year without having our LPA Banquet. We would have used that time to celebrate our retiring members. We now have a growing list of para's retiring due to the pandemic. We wish them well.

Check your payroll vouchers at the RESA website to be sure that:

--the sick day allotment for this year was added correctly to your balance from last year.
--any unused Personal Business days have been changed over to sick days and added to your sick bank.

--the correct number of Vacation days have been added to your vacation bank.

<https://hrweb.resa.net/eemployee>

→Check Aesop to be sure your work location, hours and time banks are correct.

**If you go out or return from any type of leave, you must notify Cindi Kaptanowski so we can let the MEA know.

YOUR
VOTE

2020
MAKE IT MATTER

10 REASONS YOU SHOULD THANK A UNION

Source: <http://bigcorporationusa.blogspot.com/2011/06/10-thank-union-35-ways-union-are.html>

1. WEEKENDS
2. WORKDAY BREAKS
3. PAID VACATION
4. FMLA
5. SICK LEAVE
6. SOCIAL SECURITY
7. MINIMUM WAGE
8. 8-HOUR WORK DAY
9. OVERTIME PAY
10. CHILD LABOR LAWS

Need to join the union:

<https://tinyurl.com/joinLPAunion>



I Have A Past Due Balance. Can I Set Up A Payment Plan?

If you cannot pay your balance in full at this time, MEA will work with you on a payment plan that will ensure you remain in good standing and are eligible for all the rights and benefits of membership. The MEA Help Center is available to help you set up payment plans, which includes determining a monthly payment you can afford, enrolling you in eDues for automatic payments for future month's dues, and, as a feature, getting you set up for automatic payments to pay down your prior year(s) balance over time. Alternatively to a payment plan, you may participate in the MEA's Commitment to Membership program. This program allows members to pay their current monthly dues, be in good standing, and receive a credit towards their outstanding balance. If you have questions, are interested in participating in this program or want to establish a payment plan, just contact the Help Center at help@mea.org or 866-MEA-HELP to get started.



WE'RE BRINGING IT BACK! THE 2020-2021 \$30 PAID-IN-FULL REBATE IS AVAILABLE!

Get a \$30 rebate by paying your dues in full up front! Members who pay their dues in full at the start of the school year are eligible for a \$30 rebate check in MEA's Dues Rebate Program.

The MEA Representative Assembly and Board of Directors requested the development of this program to reward members for paying their annual commitment to their local, state and, national unions up front rather than spreading payments over the full school year.

To get the rebate, pay your dues for the year in full by October 31, 2020. In November, you'll receive a rebate form at your home address that you need to sign and return to MEA by December 31, 2020. Then, within 90 days, you'll receive your check for \$30!

Note: members in arrears, fee-payers, members on a payment plan, members on a leave/layoff, and non-members are not eligible for the Dues Rebate Programs or any rebate. If you have any questions about your eligibility or how to pay your dues, please contact the MEA Help Center at help@mea.org or 866-MEA-HELP.



How Do I Pay My Dues If I'm Not Signed Up For Edues Auto-Payments?

There are several ways to pay your dues balances, in light of the Michigan Legislature's 2012 decision to prohibit you, as a school employee, from paying your dues via payroll deduction:

Online: The quickest and easiest way to pay your dues is online at mea.org/edues. There, you can log in to your secure online account to make a payment, and you can enroll in our eDues automatic payment program, so your monthly dues can be paid from your bank account or credit card automatically. If you need assistance in accessing your online account or setting up recurring payments, please contact the MEA Help Center at help@mea.org or 866-MEAHELP (866-632-4357).

By phone: You can make a payment any time using our automated phone system by calling 877-333-6007. To make a payment by phone, you will need your Billhighway account number, found at the top of your statement, as well as your zip code.

By mail: You can also mail your payment directly to our bank's secure processing facility. Checks should be made payable to Michigan Education Association and include the Billhighway account number, found at the top of your statement, in the memo area. Send payments to: Michigan Education Association PO Box 638341 Cincinnati, OH 45263-8341