

The School Year Begins: **Negotiations, Elections Mark Fall Activities**

Welcoming 139,000 children back to school, although always challenging, is not our only task this fall. Electing pro-education officials who will be supportive of educators and preparing for a full round of contract negotiations are also on the agenda.

“Creating an environment conducive to teaching and learning is our paramount task,” said MCEA President Bonnie Cullison. “To do that we need elected officials who will be supportive. And we need to do some creative problem-solving to deal with the ever increasing pressures that face educators.”

Primary Election: Sept. 12

Primary elections will be decisive in many of the upcoming races. MCEA’s “apple ballot,” the most recognized – and respected – election-day literature, needs to be widely distributed on **Tuesday, Sept. 12**. And **your help is needed**. MCEA needs educators to work brief shifts on election-day. Contact Jennifer Nguherimo at MCEA at 301-294-6232, or jnguherimo@mcea.nea.org.

Bargaining to Begin

Following an all member survey in September to assess member priorities, MCEA will begin contract negotiations for the next agreement. This is the final year of the current three-year contract. Benefits, salaries and “time to teach” are expected to be priority negotiation topics. Expanding opportunities for teacher leadership will also be on the agenda.

SHORT TAKES

New “Teacher Copy Service” Begins

Tired of waiting in copier lines? Send or e-mail your materials to COPY-PLUS and have them copied and returned in 48 hours, and there’s no charge to your school. This new program was negotiated last year by MCEA. And don’t panic. Your school’s copiers will remain. Simply go to copyplus@mcpsmd.org and follow directions.

New Teacher Reception

All new educators are invited to a reception at **Dave & Busters** (White Flint Mall) **Friday, August 25**, from **3:30 – 7:00 p.m.** Hosted by MCEA, the reception will provide an opportunity to kick back one last time before students arrive! Free food and specials on drinks. RSVP to: Joan Renne at MCEA (301-294-6232) by noon on Aug. 25.

Connecting to MCEA’s Online Forum

Want to find the quickest way to check on the latest negotiations developments? How about sharing opinions with your colleagues on professional issues? It’s simple. Put the MCEA Forum in your Favorites folder: open MCPS Outlook account; click on the folders list icon at the lower left; click on PUBLIC FOLDERS; click on ALL PUBLIC FOLDERS; click on CONFERENCES; click on EMPLOYEE ASSOCIATION; right click on MCEA FORUM; select add to favorites; move back up to the Favorites folder under Public Folders and click on it; Find MCEA Forum and right click on it; and select Add to Favorite Folders.

TEACHER TIPS

Student Survey (grades 4-8)

With 150 students, it's hard to get to know their names quickly. Try starting off the year with a student survey. The questionnaire is copied double sided, has a space for a student picture, and asks students questions about themselves, favorite books, interests and other information that helps you get to know them. Have a student helper go around the room and take a digital picture of each child. After school, print all the pictures on the school computer. On the second day of class, have the students find their picture and glue it to the box on the front of the form. Then, take the surveys home over the weekend and study their names. To prepare for back-to-school night, the students place this survey and a letter they've written to their parents in their writing folder. After back-to-school night, you can either place the surveys into a 3 ring binder or put it on the bookshelf (where students might really enjoy reading about their classmates) or keep it for your own background.

Birthday Coupon (grades 3-6)

On the first day of school, have your students fill out a birthday coupon, which includes each student's name, birthday and favorite candy bars (or other snack). If their birthday falls on a holiday or in the summer, they then choose another day for their school birthday. On the morning of their birthday, they find a happy birthday pencil, nametag and their favorite candy bar/healthy snack on their desk. It's inexpensive and starts their day off with a big smile! You'll be amazed at how genuinely surprised they seem that you remembered!

These tips were gathered from "Works4me" an NEA on-line program. For additional tips, e-mail to lyris@list.nea.org. Then in the message block, type: subscribe Works4me (with no punctuation)

ON THE JOB

Classroom Control and Discipline: Be Proactive

Effective school discipline policy should be preconceived, not ill-conceived. And that's exactly the perspective behind **Article 9** of the contract negotiated, and agreed upon, by MCEA and the Board of Education.

From the initial discipline policy which requires "involvement of all school community stakeholders" (9C1) to the requirement that "each school shall *annually* develop and adopt a local school discipline policy" to, finally, "all members of the faculty and administration *must be consulted* about the development of the policy prior to its implementation" (italics added), it's clear the policy must be developed collaboratively and reviewed yearly. MCEA recommends early action so the complete staff can follow the same policy and pursue the same goal.

Planning Time

If it's the start of the school year, it must be time to clarify language on planning time. Key provisions can be found in **Article 16, Secs. D, E & F** of the contract. The language

describing the schedule and length of time is clear: **Elementary**

"Principals will grant five hours of planning time per normal week, four hours and five minutes of which will be during the elementary teachers' student day and fifty-five minutes of which will be during the elementary teachers' work day...this provision will apply to elementary art, music and physical education teachers as well."

Planning time for **MS and HS teachers** is based on periods:

"Where the school is organized on a seven period schedule, each classroom teacher will be assigned no more than five regular classes." One of the other two classes may be assigned for instructionally related activities; the other is solely for planning.

The contract endorses flexibility in scheduling, however, and changes in the schedule may not reduce the amount of daily planning time for secondary teachers or weekly planning time for elementary teachers.

Planning Time and Part Time Teachers

Part time teachers receive pro-rated planning time. This means that a .5 teacher will receive one half of that received by full time.



TRADEWINDS

MCEA's Classified Ad Service

Tradewinds Submission Policies

Ads may only be submitted by MCEA MEMBERS and must be noncommercial in nature. Ads may be faxed (301-309-9563) or e-mailed to tradewinds@mcea.nea.org and must contain the member's name, home phone number, and school/worksite.

MCEA reserves the right to reject any ads or edit or delay any ads submitted due to space limitations.

Inclusion of any services, programs or goods in the *Tradewinds* does not imply endorsement by MCEA nor does MCEA assume any liability for any item included in the *Tradewinds*. For information or questions, call MCEA at 301-294-6232.

DEADLINE to submit ads for the next issue: **August 25th**

FOR SALE

'95 Plymouth Voyager: 3.0 V⁺, automatic, seats 7, 80K miles, good tires, runs great, or owner. Asking \$2400 call 301-774-5778.

Medical Equip: Electric scooter can be disassembled/folded for easy transport. Addtl batteries included. Asking \$1500. Other medical equip also avail, call 301-460-0097.

Sofa: Jennifer Convertibles queen sectional sleep sofa for \$400, call 301-770-2176.

Time Share: Virginia Beach Quarter Resort, step out to Board Walk, week 34. All amenities condo: kitchen, fitness center, pool, and tennis) sleeps 6 @12,900. Call 301-869-6635 for more info.

SERVICES OFFERED

Bathtub Reglazing: Residential or commercial. Insured and Licensed. Tiles, sinks, countertops, showers and more! Free Estimates. 10% off for MCEA Members 301-933-3052

House Calls: *Doc at Your Door*, LLC. Board certified Family Practice physician will come to you! No waiting room! Dr. Norm Balog, 301-879-0179, 301-448-9495. All ages accepted.

VACATION RENTALS

Grand Cayman: Condo available. Slps 9, on the water and excellent snorkeling/diving. 301-983-1721.

Mexico: Mayan Palaae Resorts Timeshare rental. 1br/1ba w/full kitchen, slps 6. Locations include Puerto Vallarta, Nuvo, Vallarta, Acapulco, and Cancun.

Mazatalan only, 2br/2ba slps 8 with full kitchen; wkly rental \$1,500 all amenities. Not available during the week of Christmas or Easter. Call 301-916-1113 for rates and availability.

Corolla NC: Four br house, slps 10. Available July 29 thru August, Sat to Sat rental. Ocean view, tennis, community pools and hot tub. Call Twiddy @ 866045701190 and ask for "P124" or go online at Twiddy.com.

Myrtle Beach SC: Oceanfront 3br/2ba condo on Myrtle Beach's "golden mile" available in August @\$1600. Spacious LR/DR and upscale kitchen; 3rd floor unit and balcony overlooks pool and scenic ocean view. Call 301-963-4305 for further details.

Virginia Beach: (Sandbridge) Oceanfront condo. 2br/2ba, slps 9; many amenities. MCEA special pricing. Call for schedule/rates 301-675-7984.

Jackson Hole WY: 3 br furnished cabin at the foot of the Tetons. Sleeps 9 w/3 ba. For rates/availability call evenings @ 301-983-1721.

FOR RENT

Roommate: Female N/S to share 3 br house w/2 teachers in Silver Spring. 11 mos beginning 09/01 ending 07/31/07. Master br w/bal, share bathroom. \$700/mo + 1/3 utilities + one month's rent security deposit. Jen @ 301-221-3920.

Roommate: Vacancy in sgle family home in Mt Airy asking \$600/mo plus 1/2 utilities. Close to I-70, call 301-237-6299.

Roommates: 1 or 2 N/S, M/F, N/P to share sgle family home in West Laurel \$600/\$650/mo+1/3 utilities. 301-598-0279.

House: Rockville, 3 br, 1.5 ba; LR, DR, Kit, FR, 1 yr lease w/option to buy. Large backyard. \$1700/mo + utilities. Immediate occupancy. Security plus first month rent. Walk to Twinbrook Metro. Call: 816-931-2278 or 816-721-5340 or 816-931-2278.

House: In Poolesville, partially furnished, 4 br/2.5 ba. Large backyard, eat-in kitchen, LR, DR, den w/fireplace. Walking distance to community schools. Commuter bus to Shady Grove Metro. \$2000/mo+ utilities. Call Sandy @ 301-928-3273 or 703-644-0879.

House: Silver Spring, walk to Metro, great location. 3 br/1.5 ba, finished rec room. Large backyard. A/C, W/D gas appliances. Available now, \$1,600/mo+utilities. Sale \$405,000. Call John @ 301-774-7774 or 240-676-8044.

House: Kensington/Chevy Chase View, 5br, 3.5ba, 1st floor family room. Close to NIH, Metro, Beltway I-270. Just steps to Ride On bus. Maximum one year lease \$3,495/mo. Contact Mindy Burke @ 301-949-3185 or halmin@starpower.net.

Efficiency: Nice efficiency in Bethesda, Walt Whitman School District. Rent \$975/mo utilities included except phone. Bedroom, kitchen stove/oven, full size refrigerator, full bath. One year lease. One month's security deposit. Super location, bus at end of block. N/S female. Contact Maria @ 301-229-2425 or 301-801-8087.

Apartment: Private walk-out basement apartment in Rockville. Private kitchenette, ba, br, den. Separate entrance, laundry privileges, N/S. \$630/mo utilities included. Call 301-838-2842.

Apartment: Available 9/1 to share in Washington DC with one roommate. Rent is \$800/mo+ utilities. 2 br, 1 ba apartment in the Kalorama neighborhood (near Adams Morgan, Dupont Circle). Contact Kelly @ 202-997-3028.

Apartment: 1 br, fully equipped kitchen w/table space for eating, bathroom w/tub/shower combo, LR, w/d and separate heat/ac. Apt. is in a single family home in Monrovia MD. Would prefer female;

N/S, N/P, \$850/mo+ electricity. Phone and Cable/Internet not included, but available, call 1-301-253-5965.

Apartment: Large newly renovated walk-out basement apartment Silver Spring/Layhill Road area with full ba, use of kitchen amenities and w/d. \$675/mo+1/3 utilities. Call 240-475-3741 after 4:00 pm.

Apartment: Private ground floor, separate entrance, kitchen, full bath, laundry, and phone line. Lots of storage. Reserved parking, N/S, safe location, all utilities, except phone. Satellite TV and maintenance included. \$800/mo. Call 301-977-6090.

Condo: One br, one ba 14th flr University Towers in Silver Spring, new wall to wall carpet, w/d facility located at the G level, security 24/7, tennis court, pool, easy parking, walking distance to shopping, bus stop at bldg. \$1000/mo, incl. utilities. Call 204-505-0971 or 240-731-0820 (Spyro) Available 8-1-06.

Condo: 2br/2ba condo on 2nd fl in the Kentlands. \$1600/mo+utilities. Call 301-977-1095.

Condo: 2br/2ba \$1600/mo water included. Silver Spring near 29 and Briggs Chaney, w/w carpet, fireplace, heat/AC, W/D, DW, pool and small gym. Call Iris @ 301-613-1378 or: eyesdc@yahoo.com.

TH: Rooms to share near Rocky Hill MS. Two (2) 10'x10' br w/closets and private bath in a large, 4 br, 3.5 ba TH. Shared living spaces and kitchen. Walk to Rocky Hills MS. Other occupants are 2 males and 1 dog. \$900 incl. utilities. Call Chris: 301-613-0404.

TH: 3br/2.5 ba, end unit in New Market (Frederick), MD. Finished basement with storage room, large deck, gas fireplace, all appliances including w/d, ideal home for 2-3 people to share. N/S, N/P, \$1680/mo. Call 301-865—3349.

TH: 3br end unit in Montgomery Village; garage, wood floor in kitchen, gas fireplace, deck, soaking tub in master br. Close to Ride On bus, \$1750/mo. Call Maria @ 240-8916.

Roommate: Share Germantown TH on lake, long/short term, furnished or unfurnished basement br and private bath, w/d, min from 270, \$500/mo incl. utilities. laurajstanley@gmail.com.

Roommate: F, NS, to share spacious TH in Montgomery Village, private room and full bath. \$900 incl. utilities & garage space. Call 301-926-4959.

Roommate: 1 unfurnished br with private bath in Gaithersburg. Fully furnished shared living areas with full size 1/d, updated kitchen, patio, parking, pool. \$650/mo+1/3 utilities. Call Jen @ 301-704-7426

Roommate: House in Silver Spring, NS early 20's or 30's, \$500/mo+ utilities, call 301-526-3414.

Roommate: Room for rent in 3 br Germantown TH, \$550. Access to community pool and tennis courts, close to 270/355 and shopping. Rec room w/ fireplace, exercise equipment, W/D and storage. Contact Amy @ 301-661-7209.

Roommate: Share 4 br house with two other people. Private br, private ba, cable, internet access, w/d. Within walking distance of Forest Glen Metro. Five minutes to 495/Georgia Ave. \$500 +1/3 utilities. Call 301-768-9929 or 301-768-9962.

Roommate: Spacious br w/private ba on a separate floor of a single family home. \$650/mo includes utilities. Full kitchen privileges. Call Kathy @ 301-926-4122.

Roommate: NS female to share 4 br/2.5 ba with 2 roomies in Silver Spring, 10

minute drive from metro. \$600/mo+1/3 utilities for private br/ba. No pets. Call Lisa @ 301-325-7575.

Roommate: Private br, private ba in attractive 3-level TH in Germantown. Within 5 minutes of I-270 & 355. N/S Female. \$500/mo+1/2 utilities. Call 240-372-7899 or Maxwellscooterdog@yahoo.com.

Roommate: Looking for tidy, responsible roommate to share single family home in North Bethesda/White Flint area. Close to Grosvenor/Strathmore Metro. One year lease, beginning August 1st, rent \$680/mo+ utilities. stephanie.mccoy@gmail.com.

Roommate: Share fully-furnished TH in Silver Spring near White Oak. Private parkland, laundry center, health club membership, many extras. N/S, N/P environment. \$775/mo+1/4 utilities. Contact DJ @ 301-633-8153.

Roommate: Master br w/private ba, fully furnished, in Montgomery Village MD, walk-in closet; kitchen and laundry privileges, swimming pool, tennis court and parking \$600/mo. Cable and utilities included except phone. Call Susan @ 301-926-8238.

Roommate: Furnished room with private entrance in single family home in Mt. Airy MD \$400/mo includes all utilities. Call Leslie @ 301-482-0391.

Roommate: N/S to share 4 br/2.5 ba home in Rockville. \$750/mo+1/4 utilities. Call 240-305-5553.

Roommate: Female to share 2 br/2 ba condo in Germantown \$700/mo+ 1/2 utilities. Safe neighborhood, parking, w/d, patio. Call Vicki @ 240-418-1476.

Roommate: One or two professionals, N/S, M/F, to share large single family house with one male teacher in West Laurel. \$600/\$650/mo+1/3 utilities. All amenities included call 301-598-0279.

Roommate: Share br w/private ba/shower available in Silver Spring near Glenmont Metro. Single family home in nice neighborhood. Rent \$600/mo+1/2 utilities. Room for storage available. Use of kitchen amenities & W/D. Call Clint: 301-942-5051 or clintTBF@aim.com.

Roommate: N/S, 2br/2ba share condo in Kentlands area. Private ba \$575/mo includes utilities. Call 301-330-4844.

Roommate: Share Germantown TH. N/S, N/P, master sized BR, walk-in closet, patio, FB, \$600/m+1/2 utilities. Call Kirk @ 240-271-2698.

Roommate: Silver Spring, classic, brick TH, large sunny basement apartment with separate full bath, share kitchen, walk out to tree-lined backyard, wall-to-wall carpeting, \$700/mo+utilities. Contact AJ @ 202-257-4853.

Roommate: Share TH in Damascus for \$400/mo including utilities. Use of exercise room, kitchen, and W/D. If necessary br furniture and attic storage is available. NS preferred. Call Maribel @ 301-253-6176.

Housing Ads Sought

Have a spare room, apartment or home you would be willing to rent to new teachers? Send your ad in to *Tradewinds* so we can publicize it to the 1,000+ new hires joining MCPS this fall.