

Marion County Education Association
ACTION NEWSLETTER
December, 2006

RALLY ON M.L.K. DAY...WHERE WILL YOU BE?

January 15, 2007 "Step Up for Public Education"

In Charleston, WV

At the Capitol-10:00 a.m. Rally

Lobbying and meeting with legislators

Open to all professional personnel...members and non-members.

MCEA will be chartering a bus- provided enough teachers sign up and reserve a seat with a \$20 deposit to be refunded upon arrival on the bus the day of the rally.

Reservations will be made on a first-come, first-serve basis with priority given to MCEA members if space is limited. The bus will leave from the Middletown Mall at 7:30 a.m. and return around 4:30 p.m. on the 15th. Details have already been sent to every teacher in the county. See the MCEA Faculty Rep. in your building if you have questions or did not receive the information. Deadline for the bus is December 20th.

If not planning to go by bus, please carpool. Get a carload or two from your school to go to the Rally. Take your family and friends with you! You owe it to yourself! And the Legislature and Governor *owe* us at least a 6% across-the-board raise. We are *long* overdue and we're expected to do more and more with less and less! Make your voice heard and wear red that day to step up for public education!

JANUARY MCEA MEETING SCHEDULED FOR "STATE OF THE STATE" on January 10th
The MCEA meeting, originally scheduled for January 9th, has been CHANGED TO JANUARY 10th at 6:30 p.m. at Fairmont Senior High Freshman Building, Room 1. A short meeting will be held prior to watching the STATE of the STATE address by Governor Manchin on television. And pizza and sodas will be ordered when everyone arrives. Let's UNIFY that evening and see what news the Governor has for educators and education! A door prize will also be drawn!

We'll also finalize plans for the January 15th Rally and Lobby Day in Charleston. Please join us! The MCEA wants "NO TEACHER LEFT BEHIND." Spouses and family members are welcome also!

WVEA Arranges Session for National Board Certification

The WVEA has arranged to have National Board Certified Teachers facilitate certificate specific "Portfolio Entry Work Sessions" at the Regional Office in Jane Lew near Clarksburg on Saturday, January 13, 2007, from 10:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.. The registration fee is \$15 for members and includes lunch, materials and handouts.

The fee for NON-members is \$100. For further details about your specific area, and to register, contact WVEA's C and I specialist, Anita Maxwell at 1-800-642-8261, ext. 116 or e-mail at amaxwell@nea.org. Registration forms may also be downloaded from WVEA's web-site, www.wvea.org.

A Reminder...

Don't forget to use your access card (membership card) to save money on just about everything. Go to www.wvea.org, click on Member Benefits section. Log in and type in your ACCESS number. Happy hunting!

CONGRATS Mary Weikle for receiving a Blue Cross/Blue Shield "Challenge for Healthier Schools" grant totaling \$15,000 over three years! Mary is an MCEA member and a teacher at East Dale. Way to go, Mary!

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Got questions?

Call

WVEA Help Center—1-866-568-WVEA

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A Word from the President---On January 15th, we, as teachers, have an opportunity to stand up for ourselves and be heard to those who hold our livelihood in their hands As a collective group, we have become too complacent and apathetic about letting the "powers that be" know what WE want and DESERVE! It's time to open our mouths and let our legislators and our Governor know that, if we are so important and valuable, then we should be compensated for our worth! I don't know about you, but I'm tired of lip service and people telling us how important we are! Compliments and "feel good" words don't pay the bills! They're nice to hear and we enjoy being complimented, but now it's time to be COMPENSATED! Please do your part to stand up for yourself—you deserve it and shouldn't be afraid to express it! YOU ARE NOT ALONE! We're all in this together. Where will you be on January 15, 2007?

Brenda Joe, MCEA President

HAPPY HOLIDAYS