

Marion County Education Association
ACTION NEWSLETTER
September, 2006

"How Sweet It Is to be a Member of the MCEA"

Faculty Reps. ... Thank you for the great attendance at the kick-off luncheon on August 23 at Westchester Village and thank you for taking on the awesome responsibility for being a building rep. If you did not turn in your membership information at the September 5th meeting, do so by the end of that week (September 8th.) Thanks. And any new employees (or old ones) still may join at anytime. ***So keep working on membership! Need help? Call B. Joe at 363-0767.***

"What has WVEA/MCEA done for 'me'?"

You may have heard this question lately, especially from those too young to know. So, show them the following:

Duty free lunch daily (minimum 30 minutes)

Planning period daily (one class period but no less than 30 minutes)

Personal leave without cause (3 days per year accumulation up to 5 days) in addition to those used for illness

Extra-curricular contracts for extra-curricular duties separate from teaching contracts

Posting of jobs

Fair evaluations

Seniority protection

Class size law in grades K-6

Personal Illness Bank

Tuition reimbursement

Professional leave to attend WVEA/NEA conferences including protecting other professional leave

Representation/ training in using Grievance Procedure to protect teacher rights

Input on county policies and procedures including job descriptions, evaluations and lesson planning (to name a few!)

Input on county excess levy to provide Dental/Optical Benefits, increases in extra-curricular pay and \$500 stipend

Watchdog for every policy, regulation, and mandate that has impacted teachers at the county, state and national level

Representative for every member who requests assistance...without fail!

And the list continues to grow...

The Association sticks its neck out for its members. And its our members that make us strong!

January 15 is the Day!

Statewide Lobby Day in Charleston, WV. Buses will be chartered. WVEA is leading the way requesting a **6% across-the-board raise** for teachers!

It's l o n g overdue!

Plan to join us for this rally. We hope to have at least **5,000** teachers there!

Mark your calendar now. More details later!

**Mark your calendar...
OCTOBER 3RD MEETING**

**will be held at Westchester Village (dinner provided)
5:00 p.m.**

**for a BATS (Building Advocacy Teams) training
As well as training Faculty Reps. on how to handle grievances...the DO'S and
DON'T'S!**

**And remember, MCEA represents its members...and does it well! And we plan to
help our Faculty Reps. feel more comfortable about their jobs! Help is on the way!**

REMEMBER:

- *Every educational decision is a political one! Please register to vote if you have not done so already.*
- *Help is only a phone call away: WVEA HelpCenter 1-866-568-WVEA*
- *Want a building visit from the MCEA President or WVEA staff? Call Brenda Joe at 363-0767.*
- *Board of Education regular meetings are the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month at the Barnes Learning Center at 6:00 p.m.*

FOOD FOR THOUGHT...Apathy vs. ACTION

These days, it seems, **apathy** has a lot going for it. It's easy to catch and is painless. You can ignore it and nothing happens. The stronger it gets the less you need to do about it. It becomes most noticeable when it begins to spread over a large area. When it does, the individual usually feels it belongs to someone else.

Apathy has a lot going for it, but **ACTION** is more fun. It must be! Have you ever heard someone say:

**"Let's go where the APATHY is?"
Where do you stand on this issue?**

Have a possible grievance or question? E-mail Professional Rights and Responsibilities' Chairperson Kathy Jacquez at

kjacquez@ma.rr.com