

Vice-President Runoff Election

None of the candidates in the three-way race for Vice-President received a majority of the votes cast in April. A runoff election is now underway between the top two candidates:

- Rozalia Harris
- Kim Schroeder

Ballots were mailed to the homes of ELL teachers, school social workers, speech pathologists, DTs, and certain other groups of teachers on Friday, May 8.

The Building Representative in each school should have received ballots, voter lists, and a ballot box by Thursday, May 14, (along with this Sharpener).

Three-Day In-School Voting: May 18-20

MTEA Building Representatives should set the specific voting times, dates, and polling location for their school, and notify the faculty.

BRs have been urged to conduct the voting on three days - **Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday** - May 18, 19, & 20. (BRs may start the voting process as early as May 14.)

BR Serves as Election Official

For balloting, BRs serve as election officials, with duties similar to poll workers in civic elections. Your school's BR should personally hand your individually-addressed envelope to you. It contains the ballot and a reprint of information on the two candidates. The BR should check your name off your faculty's voting list as you cast your ballot.

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MTEA Leader Election Results

The results of the MTEA Officer and Senior High Representative April elections are listed below:

MTEA Officers - Two-Year Terms

For President

-Mike Langyel 2,126
 -Bonnie Brusky 1,765

For Vice-President

-Kim Schroeder 1,567
 -Rozalia Harris 1,563
 -Larry Martin 602

For Secretary

-Amy M. Johnson 2,456
 -Kelly Patschull 1,201

For Treasurer

-Debbie Karow 2,361
 -Sharon Kolade 1,233

MTEA Executive Board Member - Six-Year Term

For Senior High

-Dorothy Hancock 299
 -Christopher Fons 274

Three Executive Board positions (six-year terms) were uncontested:

For Kindergarten-Primary

-Kelly McMahon

For Intermediate

-Wanda Welch

For Middle School

-Connie Baldewicz-O'Malley

New Leaders Take Office on June 3

Newly-elected Officers and Executive Board members take office after the final BR meeting of the school year on June 3, 2009.

Contract Vote Deadline - May 16

Three items for voting to ratify the 2007-08 MBSB/MTEA Educational Assistant Contract were sent with the April 29 Team-Mate:

1. A ratification document showing the new language for all of the changes, and the schedules for the 2007 and 2008 hourly rates.
2. A ballot.
3. A specially-marked "MTEA Ballot Return" envelope.

The MEAA Executive Council and the MTEA Executive Board have voted to recommend that EA members ratify the new pact.

May 16 Deadline for Ratification Ballots

This is a final reminder to complete your ballot and return it by mail using the special ballot envelope by **May 16**.

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Please Vote Promptly

When the BR hands the ballot to you, please mark it and place it in the ballot box. If you need a minute to review the candidate information, your BR will wait.

Until you are prepared to vote, do not accept your ballot.

Special Arrangements

The BRs have a duty to provide all members with the opportunity to vote. If you are unable to vote at the designated times, you are responsible for contacting your BR to arrange a mutually convenient time.

To Honor Our Retiring Educators

The 25rd Annual MTEA Retiree Recognition Dinner takes place **Tuesday, June 2**, down town at the Italian Conference Center. MTEA members who retired during 2008-09 or plan to retire at the end of this school year will be your union's guests for dinner. A brief program will recognize their years of dedicated service to MPS students.

Invitations were mailed to this year's *known* retirees this week. Unfortunately, the invitation list included only those whose retirement had been officially reported to the school board.

If you are retiring but have not received an invitation, please e-mail Kris Collett, of the MTEA staff at collettk@weac.org or call her at 259-1990.

Survey on the Next EA Contract

In addition to three items on ratifying the 2007-08 contract, a survey on bargaining the next two-year contract, for 2009 and 2010, is enclosed. Your EA bargaining team wants to learn your priorities and concerns by **May 16** to help develop proposals to start negotiations in June on the next EA contract.

Town Hall Meeting - Final Reminder

An EA Town Hall meeting will take place this **Saturday, May 16**. We invite you to discuss contract concerns with your EA bargaining team. You will be able to explain issues in detail and give your ideas for bargaining proposals.

- ◆ **When:** 10:30 a.m. until noon on Saturday, **May 16**
- ◆ **Where:** MTEA Building, 5130 West Vliet Street
- ◆ Light refreshments and door prizes
- ◆ Childcare for children ages 3-10
- ◆ Pre-registration at 259-1990 or mtea.org (Events)

Flu Q & A for Employees

City health department directives on the so-called "swine flu" impacted a large number of students, their families, and MPS employees. The following addresses questions MTEA members have asked.

If you have other questions or concerns, please call Acquintis Chesir of the MTEA staff at 259-1990.

- Q. Are schools closed by the health department required to make up the days?**
 - A.** No. DPI counted those days toward the 180 day requirement.
- Q. Are you paid if MPS directs you not to report to work because of health department directives?**
 - A.** Yes. You are paid - and the days are **not** deducted from sick leave.
- Q. What if MPS did not direct you to stay home, but you were absent due to the flu (personal or family illness)?**
 - A.** Flu-related absences should be treated as any other personal or family illness - paid and deducted from your sick leave.
- Q. What if you do not receive the pay due to you or you are improperly deducted from sick leave?**
 - A.** You should monitor your paychecks and promptly bring any errors to your principal's attention for correction. If a problem arises, call Acquintis Chesir at 259-1990.