





## Frustrated With...

- ◆ NCLB? State mandates? DIFI?
- ◆ Top-down "reform" dictates, "mandatory" vocabulary lists, electronic grading programs?
- ◆ Scripted curriculum programs?
- ◆ Large class sizes?
- ◆ Next to no planning time?

If so, there is an opportunity to speak out on deteriorating conditions of teaching and learning.

**When:** 4:15 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 17

**Where:** Lincoln Middle School of the Arts,  
820 East Knapp St - Library, 2nd Floor

Come and share your concerns - and ideas for **future organizing** with other educators. This event is co-sponsored by the MTEA and the Educators' Network for Social Justice and the MTEA.

## Tailgate Party and Brewers Game

All MPS employees and retirees, as well as guests, are invited to the Twelfth Annual Tailgate Party/Brewer Game on Friday, **May 9**, at Miller Park. The tailgate party starts at 4:00 p.m. The Milwaukee Brewers will play the St. Louis Cardinals at 7:05 p.m.

The \$11 cost of the tailgate party includes: beer, wine, and soda; hamburgers, brats, hot dogs; potato salad; chips/snacks; and cookies.

The package cost for the tailgate party and Brewers game (half-price tickets) is \$20 for loge bleacher seats (with contoured backs) and \$20.50 for terrace box seats.

### Form Due April 25

To join in the fun, please return the form below with your check to Sue Dean at Marshall High School (4141 North 64th St. 53216) by **April 25**. You will receive confirmation, via e-mail if possible.

Game tickets will be distributed at the tailgate party. If this is not convenient, please call Sue Dean at 393-2370 or e-mail her at sdean3@wi.rr.com to arrange to pick up your tickets. Seats are limited, so sign up now!

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### Twelfth Annual MPS Employee/Retiree Tailgate Party and Brewer Game

Name \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach your check, **made payable to Sue Dean**, and note how many packages (or tailgates-only) you are purchasing:

\_\_\_\_ Tailgate/Loge Bleachers (\$20)

(No game tickets are available without tailgate participation.)

\_\_\_\_ Tailgate/Terrace Box (\$20.50)

\_\_\_\_ Tailgate ONLY (\$11) **Send form and check to Sue Dean at Marshall High by April 25.**



## Legislative Breakfast - April 26

Milwaukee legislators have been invited to meet with educators at the MTEA's Legislative Breakfast on Saturday, April 26. We plan to have roundtable discussions that will enable members to explain what should be done to improve the lives of educators and the students and families we serve. It's a great opportunity to hear from legislators.

### Sign Up to Speak Up

The breakfast buffet/registration will start at 8:00 a.m. The program begins at 9:00 a.m. and ends by 11:30 a.m. The event is being held at the Radisson Hotel, 2303 North Mayfair Road.

To pre-register, please go to [mtea.org](http://mtea.org) (Events) or call us at 259-1990. The sign-up deadline is Wednesday, April 23.

## MTEA Legislative Priorities

Noted below are a number of MTEA-specific priorities. While each item falls neatly under the umbrella of the WEAC Legislative Agenda, these issues have particular significance for Milwaukee, and therefore are stated explicitly.

In brief, MTEA priorities for the 2009-2010 legislative session are:

1. Comprehensive school finance reform will address the following topics, focusing on the extra cost to provide services to children living in poverty and those needing bilingual and special education services:
  - a. Repeal of revenue caps
  - b. SAGE funding
  - c. Special education aid
  - d. Bilingual/Bicultural aid
  - e. Certified specialists in every school
2. Prohibition of residency requirements for education employees
3. Mandatory K5
4. Collective bargaining rights, with an emphasis on:
  - a. Repeal of the QEO
  - b. Preparation time as a mandatory subject of bargaining
5. Voucher accountability
6. Recognition and support for the professionalism of teachers and education employees
  - a. Categorical aid funding for implementation of PI 34, the new system for teacher preparation and licensure. Funding for mentoring programs should be devoted to effective mentoring models.
  - b. Strengthen the charter license law to require that teachers are licensed in the subject they teach.
  - c. Create a loan forgiveness program for teaching certain subjects in high-poverty districts





## **Superintendent's Position on Snow Day Make-Up**

MPS has never required school staff to work on the emergency make-up day in the negotiated calendar.

But Superintendent Andrekopoulos unilaterally took the position detailed in the letter reprinted below and sent it to DPI - without even the courtesy of prior notice to our union.

The Superintendent did provide us with a copy of his April 1 letter late in the day on Friday, April 4.

When questioned, he stated he really doesn't want a student attendance day on Monday, June 16. He actually wants that Monday to be the record day - with students in class on Friday, June 13.

**We will inform you of developments on the make-up issue as soon as we can.**