



November 2018 Newsletter

October HOD Meeting Highlights:

- The WREA House of Delegates unanimously passed a resolution asking the state for full funding of public education.
- Delegates voted unanimously to present a proposed Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to the district, as relates to Article 14 of our contract. The MOA would insert the language of the district's recommended class size policy into the WREA contract and would require that the superintendent periodically report to the school committee, the numbers of classes exceeding recommended limits. Preschool class size limits will be added to the list of recommendations.

'EARLY CAREER' EDUCATORS CONFERENCE



(Formerly known as the Just For New Teachers Conference)



A conference for educators in their early years of practice, and prospective teachers. (enrolled in their final year of an educator preparation program.)

23 workshops on a large variety of topics, such as: classroom management, special ed., classroom technology, working with ELL's, responsive classroom & how to engage students, to name a few.

There is no charge for MTA and SEAM members. Morning refreshments and lunch will be provided.

To see the full list of offerings, google: Early Career Educators Conference 2018 and click on Agenda.

Saturday, November 17, 2018
Worcester Technical High School
8 – 9 a.m. Registration
9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Workshops

Prior Registration Required
www.massteacher.org/earlycareeredcon

Division of Training and Professional Learning | 617.878.8150
[| www.massteacher.org](http://www.massteacher.org)

What's new in the MTA?

At the October MTA All Presidents' Meeting, a statewide education campaign was unveiled. The goal of **Fund Our Future: Invest in the Schools and Colleges Our Communities Deserve** is "...to unleash member power to pass legislation that would increase state aid to public schools by more than \$1 billion a year and to public higher education by more than \$500 million annually." Merrie Najimy, President, Learn more at: <https://massteacher.org/current-initiatives/education-funding>

DON'T FORGET to VOTE on Tuesday, November, 2018!

The MTA Board of Directors has recommended candidate, Jay Gonzalez, for MA Governor. Gonzalez is a strong supporter of public schools and education funding!

Upcoming Meeting Dates:

11/1/18 MTA Regional Member Forum Central EAW Worcester 4:30-6:15 pm

11/1/18 MTA Regional President Meeting Central EAW Worcester 6:30-8pm

11/5/18 WREA HOD Meeting, Mountview Middle School room 123, 4pm

11/5/18 WRSD School Committee Meeting, WRHS Media Center, 7pm

11/8/18 Wachusett FY20 Budget Roundtable, Holden Senior Center, 6:30 pm

CONTRACT CORNER

Reviewing our contract one article at a time, to educate members about the language of our collectively bargained agreement.

ARTICLE 19.B.3 - Sick Bank

What it says: Bargaining unit members' unused personal days shall be converted to unused sick days and be added to the members' total sick day accrual at the end of the school year. Bargaining unit members may carryover one (1) unused personal day per year with a cap of four (4) personal days allowed.

What it means: you can't lose any of your personal days at the end of each school year. One personal day will be rolled over into a personal day for the next year and the rest will roll over into sick days for the next year (unless you have more than 180 sick days).

ARTICLE 13.D.a - Workday (Prep Time)

What it says: Grades (PreK-8): Bargaining unit members will have one (1) duty-free preparation period of not less than forty-five (45) minutes each workday.

If a school site is unable to schedule one forty-five (45) minute period per workday the members of that site will have a total of four hundred seventy (470) minutes of duty-free preparation time per ten consecutive workdays. The majority of this time will consist of periods of not less than forty-five (45) minutes and the remainder of this time will consist of periods of not less than thirty (30) minutes per workday. The preparation period is exclusive of a duty-free lunch period.

What it means: Members in Grades PreK-8 **must** be given a 45 minute prep time everyday. If your school is not able to schedule a 45 minute prep period everyday, you **must receive a minimum of 30 minutes daily** (this DOES NOT include your 30 minute lunch time). If your school is not able to accommodate 45 minutes of prep daily, you must be given a total of 470 minutes of prep time over a 10-day period. ***Your 30 minute duty-free lunch period DOES NOT count towards prep time minutes.***

Where to Find It:

Dues Payroll Deductions

Dues deductions began the week of Oct 19. Please check for accuracy of your deduction listed as LTU DUES. The full-time amount (.51 or more) is \$83.42 per payroll, and the part time amount (.50 or less) is \$42.86 per payroll, taken over 10 consecutive payrolls.

If your deductions did not start the week of 10/19, the deductions will be extended accordingly on the other end. This will affect the year end (tax) amount.

If you have ideas for or would like to contribute to the WREA Newsletter, please contact:
staceyduffywrea@gmail.com

If you do not know who, on the WREA Board, to contact for questions or concerns, send an email to WREABoard@gmail.com, and we will direct your inquiry to the appropriate board member!

Educator Evaluation

The latest ***Educator Evaluation*** document can be found on the main page of the Wachusett Regional School District by clicking on the link ***of the same name*** in the far left column.

MTA/WREA Website:

<https://wachusett.massteacher.org>

WREA Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/WachusettIREA/>

I Am Wachusett Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/IAmWachusettInAction/>

MTA News:

<https://massteacher.org/>

<https://massteacher.org/news>

<http://Facebook.com/massteacher>

<https://www.instagram.com/massteacher/>