May 10, 2017

TO: MSEA Local Presidents

FR: Beth Ramey, MSEA Organizational Specialist

RE: Summer Leadership Conference – July 18-21, 2017 – Salisbury University

Educators Lead, MSEA’s 2017 Summer Leadership Conference (SLC), will be held at Salisbury University on July 18-21. This memorandum outlines the registration process and general information that you will need to know in order to recruit participants.

**Registration**

[Click here to go to the registration link on MSEA’s website](http://marylandeducators.org/2016SLC). Your local can register all of your participants or you may forward the registration link to each of your members to register themselves. Regardless of who registers your participants, you will receive updates outlining your registered members. Each individual who registers will receive an email indicating that approval of their registration will be finalized by their local. At the conclusion of the registration period, your local will be invoiced for your enrolled members.

**Registration Fee**

The costs for SLC this year are:

$100 – Commuter, including lunch only

$160 – Commuter, including all meals

$225 – Double occupancy, including all meals

$475 – Single occupancy, including all meals (ONLY IF AVAILABLE—MEDICAL ACCOMMODATIONS)

$280 – Quad (4 lockable bedrooms/4 private bathrooms) at University Park. *First-come, first-served*

$275 – Quad (4 lockable bedrooms/2 shared bathrooms) at University Park. *First-come, first-served*

The fee includes lodging for July 18, 19, and 20 (checkout is on July 21). Meals included are Tuesday dinner; Wednesday and Thursday breakfast, lunch, and dinner; and Friday breakfast and lunch.

**Schools**

There are nine schools at SLC this year:

1. Advocacy
2. GO Team
3. Education Support Professionals
4. Professional Issues
5. Leadership
6. Conflict Resolution
7. Organizing
8. Emerging Leaders Academy
9. Bargaining

Your members must make a first, second, and third choice of the school that they wish to attend. Selections will be honored on a first-come, first-served basis. We will try to accommodate everyone’s first choice, if at all possible. Seats will fill up fast.

**Member Information**

It is critical to have your members’ home email address so we may correspond with them about additional details of their attendance at SLC. All details will be communicated via email during summer break.

**Salisbury University Smoking Policy**

Please note and help us to reinforce Salisbury University’s zero tolerance for smoking outside of designated smoking areas. Failure to comply with the University’s policy will result in an immediate ban from campus for a period of one year.

**Cancellation Policy**

Participants who cancel after June 7 are subject to pay costs incurred by MSEA as a result of cancellation or being a no-show.

**Questions**

Please contact Beth Ramey, SLC@mseanea.org or Erin Sakalas esakalas@mseanea.org for additional information.

*We look forward to seeing you in July!*

**2017 SLC School Descriptions**

**ADVOCACY SCHOOL - Site Advocacy and Problem-Solving Skill for Association Activists**

Advocates will become familiar with a variety of advocacy types at the local, state, and national levels, but will specifically focus on site advocacy around local member issues at their work sites. Attendees will practice researching, interpreting, and applying contract language. Using contemporary examples from MSEA locals, advocates will learn and practice appropriate techniques and strategies to (1) identify potential conflicts, problems, and contract violations in the workplace, (2) conduct member meetings to hear concerns and obtain needed information, (3) investigate the concerns, the contract, and the past practice, (4) seek informal conflict resolutions and solutions at the lowest level, and (5) in consultation with the cognizant UniServ Director, assess the merits of the complaint and determine next steps. Attendees will be required to bring a hard copy of their local negotiated agreement.

**CONFLICT RESOLUTION SCHOOL**

As changes occur in roles at schools and in the association, conflict is inevitable. The emotional, and in some cases, financial cost created by conflict exhausts the energies of all parties involved. Participants will learn skills to develop and strengthen communication techniques, identify causes of conflict, and apply problem-solving skills to sustain trustworthy relationships. In this school you will learn how to:

* Understand the conflict resolution process
* Apply skills and knowledge to intervene in any conflict situation
* Identify situations that would be amenable to using the conflict resolution process

**EDUCATION SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS (ESP) SCHOOL - Empowering ESPs to Advocate & Lead**

This workshop, developed exclusively for ESPs, will provide interactive training on skills that are needed to successfully navigate within your organizations like leading a successful organizing initiative through advocacy, communication, and leadership. With a focus on issues that are unique to support professionals,

participants will learn how to confidently deliver talking points, have one-on-one meetings with colleagues and policymakers, communicate during negotiations, and build stronger leadership skills.

**EMERGING LEADERS ACADEMY SCHOOL**

***If you hold a leadership position in your local this course is not for you.***

The longstanding Emerging Leaders Academy (ELA) trains members who are new leaders and those who are starting to pursue leadership roles in the association. Graduates have gone on to become local presidents, members of MSEA’s Board of Directors, and hold other leadership positions. Participants will join a training session at SLC and a second training session the following spring with a graduation. This school is open to participants who are new to an elected leadership role, but not an elected officer or newly active member. Examples of ELA candidates are SPARKS graduates, new building representatives, or new committee chair/members. If you are interested, please talk to your local president.

**(NEW) GO TEAM - (By invitation only)**

Please select this session as your 1st choice if you received an invitation to participate on your local GO Team.

**LEADERSHIP SCHOOL - THE LEADER WITHIN: Examining Yourself, the People You Serve, and Moving** **Forward Together**

Become a true leader in your building and local after attending this stimulating workshop. Use your individual gifts and combine them with our strategies to create a new culture of activism and community. After this training, you will emerge energized and ready to improve your organization in exciting new ways. In this class you will learn how to:

* Use your own strengths to become an effective leader in your building and local
* Create a culture where you assist your team and don’t feel like you have to do everything
* Build relationships so you can achieve your goals and not burn bridges
* Organize your building so the administration comes to you!

**ORGANIZING SCHOOL**

Organizing is the key to the success of a strong union that is capable of bringing about social, economic, and political change. MSEA’s Organizing School will teach you: the foundation of relational organizing to increase membership and the relevancy of your association; how to use both internal and external relationships to build power; and how to wield power to bring about the change you wish to see through real, actionable planning. Join us for an experience, and leave with excitement!

**PROFESSIONAL ISSUES SCHOOL - Restorative Practices Interventions**

This course focuses on strategies and skills needed to effectively build a safe learning community that fosters an environment of trust, support, motivation and engagement. Restorative practices provides the educator with a framework in which challenging behavior can be addressed, in an authentic manner, to bring understanding and make things right. Participants will receive resources and tools on exploring how to do both proactive and restorative circles in their classrooms.

**(NEW) INTRODUCTION TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING IN MARYLAND**

This course explores bargaining from a macro level. You will learn about Maryland's bargaining law as it relates to education, bargaining preparation, the process, and engaging members from beginning to end.