

2011 MSEA NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

NB-10-01—BOAST

MSEA will oppose any legislation resembling the previous BOAST voucher legislation that has been introduced and defeated in the past Maryland legislative session. When or if any BOAST legislation, or knowledge of upcoming BOAST legislation, appears before and/or during the 2012 Maryland Legislative Session, the MSEA Government Relations Team should immediately provide strategies for each local association to defeat the legislation. Further, the Government Relations Team should begin working on that strategy immediately so the campaign can be launched without delay when needed.

Submitted by: Abby Beytin, TABCO
Seconded by: TABCO and ESPBC delegations
Strategic Objective: #3 Public Agenda
Costs: Personnel

Status: Assigned to Sean Johnson, managing director, Government Relations.

February Update:

- The BOAST bill has been filed again this General Assembly session, but with a new name, the Partnership for Student Education and Community Investment Tax Credit. This is HB 1216 and SB 844.
- In advance of the legislative session, and as a part of follow through on this NBI, MSEA aggressively pushed legislators away from supporting the BOAST bill. We used the release of a BOAST workgroup report at the start of the legislative session to indicate our expectation that friends of public education would not sponsor this bill.
- While the bill is not dead this year, it is also gaining less traction than in years past, as the House Bill only has one sponsor, and the Senate Bill has seven sponsors.
- The bill has passed the Senate in previous years, but has always died in the House. That is our likely and hopeful path again in the 2012 legislative session.

NB-11-05—Report on the Dismissal Practices of Veteran School Employees

MSEA investigate the dismissal practices of each of Maryland's 23 school systems to determine if there is a pattern of targeting and dismissing veteran school employees (with 20 or more years of service and report back to the RA in October 2012).

Submitted By: Randy Changuris, MCEA
Seconded By: Robert Lee, MCEA
Strategic Objective: #2 Member Well Being
Cost: Personnel

Status: Kathie Hiatt, managing director, Membership.

February Update: None.

NB-11-09—Equitable Performing Arts Programs

MSEA will conduct an online survey of elementary and secondary performing arts teachers in all counties to determine where there are inequities in offerings of performing arts programs and classes across the state. MSEA will include current performing arts teachers when developing the survey questions. The results of this survey will be used to illuminate the deep holes that exist in performing arts education in Maryland and will serve as justification for minimum performing arts course offerings at the elementary, middle, and high school levels.

Submitted By: Jessica Fitzwater, FCTA

Seconded By: Heather Dapsauski, FCTA

Strategic Objective: #1 School Quality

Cost: \$500 or less

Status: Assigned to Pat Alexander, managing director, School Quality.

February Update: None.

NB-11-11— MSEA Funded Candidate Accountability

MSEA will annually provide a report to the Representative Assembly that will include who received MSEA PAC funds and MSEA's legislative scorecard for priority issues during the past year.

Submitted by: William Hay, PGCEA

Seconded by: James Woods, PGCEA

Strategic Objective: #3 Public Agenda

Cost: Personnel

Status: Assigned to Sean Johnson.

February Update:

- We have an itemized report of PAC contributions through December 31, 2011.
 - To fulfill this NBI, we will report on contributions from the 2011 RA to the 2012 RA and separately share the 2012 legislative scorecard.
 - The 2012 scorecard will not be created until after the General Assembly session and approved by the Board of Directors for a May/June release in ActionLine.
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NB-11-12— Revision of Guidelines for Recognition of PAC Donors

The MSEA Fund for Children and Public Education Steering Committee will develop and implement a method for recognizing total annual contributions by individual delegates to the MSEA Fund for Children and Public Education.

Submitted by: Joseph Webb, PGCEA

Seconded by: Mark Sandy, PGCEA

Strategic Objective: #3 Public Agenda

Cost: Personnel

Status: Sean Johnson, managing director, Government Relations.

February Update:

- The MSEA Fund for Children and Public Education's Steering Committee met in January 2012 and discussed plans for the year ahead, including implementation of this NBI.
 - No other progress has been made on this NBI at this time.
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NBI-11-16—Support of Marriage Equality Act

MSEA will support passage of the Marriage Equality Act during the 2012 legislative session.

Submitted by: Doug Prouty, MCEA, and Cheryl Bost, TBCO

Seconded by: Paul Lemle, HowCEA

Strategic Objective: #3 Public Agenda

Cost: Personnel

Status: Assigned to Sean Johnson, managing director, Government Relations.

February Update:

- MSEA has worked in partnership with legislators and other allies in support of passing the Marriage Equality Act this session.
 - The bill is sponsored by Governor O'Malley and is HB 438 and SB 241, the Civil Marriage Protection Act.
 - MSEA organized testimony in support of the bill in committee hearings in the House and Senate, in conjunction with MCEA President Doug Prouty and HowCEA President Paul Lemle.
 - As of this update, the House of Delegates has passed HB 438 with a few amendments. The bill passed the Senate.
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NBI 11-17—Articles for Change

MSEA will produce an op-ed article or letter to the editor for local associations to submit to their local newspapers. These articles will advance the agenda of MSEA and its local affiliates. They should be produced at least quarterly.

Submitted by: David Nicholson, MCEA

Seconded by: Jeffrey Wolf, MCEA

Strategic Objective: #3 Public Agenda

Cost: Personnel

Status: Assigned to Adam Mendelson, managing director, Communications.

February Update:

MSEA emailed a Swiss cheese op-ed/letter to the editor with accompanying materials to all local presidents, local executive directors, and field staff on January 30. The article focused on fixing maintenance of effort and preventing a pension shift, highlighting the local impacts of each. We are continuing work on future pieces.