



Albert Barnes

Position: Teacher

Local Association: PGCEA

Member: MSEA 4 years/NEA 19 years

As a former member of the Georgia Association of Educators, Board of Directors, I am an experienced NEA Delegate since 2006. While serving in several positions within the Georgia Association of Educators, and actively participating in debate at NEA RA's, I have written, presented, and subsequently gotten two NEA Legislative Amendments passed on RA floor. My experience in working with the NEA Board of Directors, elected Administration, and many NEA Committee and Staff members is hard to match when it comes to accomplishing any task. The NEA Director is a direct representative of the State of Maryland and, should keep the focus of what will best help Maryland while finding common ground to help the Educators of the United States of America. As the NEA Director, I would always look to steer NEA's Business and Legislative issues to finding solutions that benefit both Maryland and the Nation. Most importantly, I would actively listen and note ideas that others have, sharing these ideas with the MSEA Board. My experience, pleasant personality, and tenacity, enables me to be the perfect NEA Director for the State of Maryland. I ask your support and opportunity to serve in this capacity. Thank You.



Michele Clarke

Position: Teacher

Local Association: PGCEA

Member: MSEA 19 years/NEA 19 years

I have been an active member of the union during my 20 years as an educator in both Prince George's and Howard Counties. I have served as a Member-at-Large of the PGCEA Board of Directors, and as a Building Representative or Member of the FAC. In addition, I have represented PGCEA as a Delegate at the MSEA Convention 12 times and as a Delegate to the NEA Convention for 6 years. I am in my first year teaching Early Childhood Special Education, have previously taught Prekindergarten and taught 1st Grade in PGCPs, and was an instructional assistant for 5 and ½ years in Howard County. Over the past several years I have been actively involved in a variety of PGCEA and MSEA lobbying efforts, have attended the past several lobbying events and rallies in Annapolis, and have lobbied my representatives to ask for their support in promoting the MSEA Legislative Agenda. As a member of the MSEA GO Team I regularly lobby local, state and national officials. As a PGCEA Board Member I have testified at the County Council, Public Hearings, Listening Sessions, and the Board of Education. Please consider my experience and vote Michele Clarke for NEA Director.



Theresa Dudley

Position: Teacher

Local Association: PGCEA

Member: MSEA 20 years/NEA 20 years

Please elect Theresa Mitchell Dudley for NEA Director. It is important that state and local affiliates are informed of best practices and programming from NEA. We need strong leadership on the national level. Thank you for your vote.



Shane Hynson

Position: ESP

Local Association: CCEA(Caroline)

Member: MSEA 10 years/NEA 10 years

Greetings! My name is Shane Hynson and I'm currently running for a seat for a three-year term for NEA Director. I serve as the Vice President of ESP with the Caroline County Educators' Association. My current job position is at Lockerman Middle School in Denton, MD as the Enrollment Registrar and Homeless Liaison. I've served as a building representative, member of the Membership and Social committee and also the Bargaining and Negotiations teams. I'm a proud graduate of the NEA Leaders for Tomorrow program, class of 2015. This is my third year serving on the NEA Resolutions Committee as well as the Convention Arrangements committee with MSEA. Education is and has been my passion since I was a little child. I believe in OUR students and I'm a strong advocate for public education and I wholeheartedly believe that I would be an ideal candidate to not only represent the state of Maryland but also the Eastern Shore. "Education is most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." -Nelson Mandela



Tanya Martin

Position: Teacher

Local Association: HCEA(Howard)

Member: MSEA 23 years/NEA 23 years

As a veteran teacher, I am very interested in getting involved at the national level on issues and items which are presently impacting education. During this divisive time in America, it is critical to ensure that equity and diversity are at the center of what takes place in our educational system.



Linda McLaughlin

Position: Teacher

Local Association: EACC

Member: MSEA 13 years/NEA 31 years

As an NEA Director, I will be part of the collective voice that advocates for all; for students, educators and our profession. ALL our students and educators, regardless of race, sex, religion, age, sexual preference or gender identification, must be regarded and treated justly and fairly. My experience includes local Building Rep, Government Relations chair, Vice President and currently President. I am an MSEA Emerging Leaders graduate, have been on several state-level committees and the MSEA Elections co-chair at NEA. As local President, I have been integral in creating an active Early Career Educator team, to include securing grant money for the program. I believe it is crucial that we support our early career educators. The philosophy of Restorative Justice Practices is being infused into my local school system because of my advocacy. I will bring the voice of Maryland forward; we are an amazing state with great potential. I am an engaged and determined leader. As your NEA Director, I would listen intently, engage and advocate resolutely, and actively agitate as part of the movement to take back our profession and engender respect for all students, educators and for public education. I ask for your support and your vote.



Cynthia Poper

Position: ESP

Local Association: HCESC

Member: MSEA 11 years/NEA 11 years

As a special education para-educator, I see the effects of under-funding at the federal, state and local levels in our schools. Programs are cut, staffing rates are at all-time highs, unacceptable class sizes, and ESP staff that are stretched to the limit. The casualties of this situation are the children. As an NEA Director, one of my priorities will be to influence lawmakers in Washington, to step up to their responsibilities, and fully fund the federal mandated IDEA requirements. One of my other priorities will be salaries. Teachers are paid 23% less than equally educated workers in other fields. This is just wrong. And ESP's, we all know their plight, a living wage is a necessity. If necessary, starting with improving the federal minimum wage, that has not been adjusted since 2007. Finally, ESSA implementation. State implementation plans are being reviewed, but we need to make sure that the plan, and the recommendations made, are the best they can be for Maryland. I will work hard to represent you at the National level, as well as the state level. I have a drive and passion for our work that makes me an unstoppable force, even when faced with immovable objects.



Sheena Washington

Position: Teacher

Local Association: PGCEA

Member: MSEA 7 years/NEA 7 years

My students have taught me what my textbooks could not. My students taught me what it means to be an advocate. I learned how to advocate for the social emotional needs of my students in IEP meetings. I learned how to push for student services and programs. I understood in those early years, that as educators, we have the power to transform lives. The union, at the National, State, and Local levels, became the vehicle for my growth in leadership and advocacy. I began stepping up, speaking out, and organizing around issues of inequity that I witnessed around discipline policies for students of color and the overrepresentation of students of color

referred for Special Education services. You've seen me speak at NEA and MSEA Conventions fighting for equity in Special Education, Restorative Justice, and teacher leadership within our schools. I'm grateful for all of the experiences that I've had within our association. In my various positions, I've discovered that leadership is a journey; it's the courage to continue standing for truth and justice in the face of so much inequity and injustice. Integrity, responsibility, and humility are values that describe my core; I ask for your support.



Irene Williams

Position: Teacher

Local Association: HCEA(Howard)

Member: MSEA 17 years/NEA 17 years



Anzer (Nikki) Woodward

Position: Teacher

Local Association: MCEA

Member: MSEA 12 years/NEA 15 years

As an educator working with children with special needs, I am an assertive and emphatic advocate for ALL students, families, and educators. We are on the frontline and understand the needs of our schools. Our voices matter! In our association, we all have an essential role in ensuring the continued respect and professionalism of our profession and the success of public education in Maryland and across the country. I recognize this responsibility and want to serve as our next NEA Director. Educators, we are the experts and must have voices present that represent as such. I believe in targeted and transparent communication at all levels and commit to serving you with this model as my focus. I have enjoyed being an active member with MSEA. I have participated in many calls to actions to include marches, phone banks, and a host of essential campaigns at the local, state, and national level. I have served as a delegate to MSEA & NEA, PAC captain, MCEA Board of Director, chair of the MCEA Political Action & Community Engagement committee, and the MSEA Go Teams. I want to serve on your behalf; please consider me for NEA Director.
