

MOUNDS VIEW EDUCATION
ASSOCIATION
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From the President's Desk—Stacey Vanderport

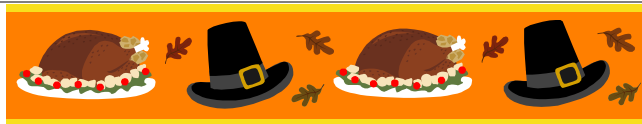
We are InspirED! As educators we are constantly seeing wonderful and inspiring examples of teaching excellence by our colleagues. Creativity and innovation are happening every day in our schools and programs. The MVEA would like to recognize our educators for the great things they do for students and staff. That is why we have created InspirED. We want to take the opportunity to *shine the light* on the terrific work our educators do both at their schools and in the community.

Each month educators across our system will be able to nominate a colleague for the InspirED educator of the month. All nominees will be recognized for the work they do on the MVEA website located at <http://mvea.mn.aft.org>, Facebook page, Twitter and newsletter. It is easy to nominate. Just fill out the InspirED google form attached and submit.

[Click for nomination form](#)

2015-2017 Negotiations Team: On November 5, 2014 the MVEA conducted interviews for the 2015-2017 Negotiations Team. The 2015-2017 Negotiations team members are: Barb Kettering (VH), April Berthiaume (CH), Scott Wiens (ID/MV), Andy Wait (SS), Lisa Borg (BA), Eric Johnson (EW), and Stacey Vanderport (MVEA). They will come together in December for a planning meeting. A big thanks to Jacki Sawyer, John Fischer, Mark Trampf, Jill Hallenberger, and Nancy Boyer-Kellermann for being part of the interview committee.

Joint Policy: A Joint Policy meeting was held November 12, 2014. The purpose of this meeting was to meet and confer regarding the 2015-2016 School Calendar. MVEA members Barb Kettering (VH), Julie Connolly (IL), Jacki Sawyer (CH), Mary Sande (ID), EmaKate Brohman (MV) and Stacey Vanderport (MVEA) attended this meeting along with school board and district leadership representation. **The 2015-2016 school calendar was approved by the school board November 18, 2014.** The staff 2015-2016 calendar can be found on Staffnet.



November



Investment/Pre-Retirement Planning Workshop—Monday, December 8 @ 4:30 p.m.: Mounds View Education Association and Education Minnesota ESI invite you to an investment/pre-retirement workshop specifically organized for MVEA members. The workshop will take place on **Monday, December 8th from 4:30—6:00 p.m.** at the **MVEA office, 900 Long Lake Road, Suite #110, New Brighton.** Pizza will be provided. If you plan to attend, please RSVP by calling 651.483.0613 or email to barb.palma@edmn.org.

ESI financial, retirement planning workshops to be held in metro area: Education Minnesota ESI Member Benefits is holding Financial and Retirement Planning Essentials workshops throughout the Twin Cities metro area in November and December. The workshops will take place: Nov. 20—Vadnais Heights, Dec. 2—Minnetonka, Dec. 4—Maple Grove.

Workshop topics include pensions, social security, 403(b) match and protecting your financial assets. Seating is limited and registration is required. For a full listing of workshop locations or to register, go to www.educationminnesota.org/member-benefits/financial-retirement-planning/workshops.

RC 2015 Update: It's time to start thinking about the 2015 Education Minnesota Representative Convention! The theme in 2015 is "ED Power! EnergizED and OrganizED for Student Success!" The 2015 Representative Convention is scheduled for Friday, April 17, through Saturday, April 18, at the Hilton Minneapolis, 1001 Marquette Ave., Minneapolis. The convention will begin at 7 p.m. on Friday and end on Saturday when all business of the convention has concluded.



Important Dates

- November 17—MVEA
Ex. Bd. Mtg.**
- November 17-21—
American Education
Week**
- November 27—
Thanksgiving**
- December 1—MVEA BR
Mtg.**
- December 4—Metro
Area Council Mtg.**
- December 6—
Relicensure Seminar**
- December 15—MVEA
Ex. Bd. Mtg.**
- December 17—
Hanukkah**
- December 21—First Day
of Winter**
- December 24—
Christmas Eve**
- December 25—
Christmas**
- December 26—
Kwanzaa**

American Education Week classroom materials available online: NEA is offering a toolkit to go along with American Education Week November 16-22. Each day of the week will spotlight a different aspect of school life. Nov. 17 is Kickoff Day, Nov. 18 is Parents Day, Nov. 19 is Education Support Professionals Day, Nov. 20 is Educator for a Day and Nov. 21 is Substitute Educators Day. The toolkit includes sample artwork and web banners, activity ideas, promotional materials and media tips. For more information on American Education Week and each spotlight day, go to www.nea.org/grants/19823.htm.

Foundation Classroom, National Board grant applications due December 12: The deadline for applications for Classroom and National Board Certification grants from the Education Minnesota Foundation for Excellence in Teaching and Learning is December 12. Classroom Grants are intended for Education Minnesota members who are licensed personnel working with students and wish to improve their practice and student achievement. This includes classroom teachers, guidance counselors and others who require a license to carry out their work with students.

You may request between \$500 and \$3,000 to purchase materials and services for use with students if those materials are part of projects you design now and implement in the 2015-16 school year.

Education Minnesota members who are licensed to teach and have three years of teaching/counseling experience are eligible to apply for a scholarship to help offset the costs to become a National Board Certified Teacher (NBCT). The Foundation will grant at least six scholarships up to \$1,000. Grants will be awarded in February 2015 and must be spent by the end of July 2016.

For application materials and information, visit www.educationminnesota.org/resources/grants/foundation.

AFT-sponsored student video contest promotes social justice engagement: "Speak Truth to Power" is a video contest that encourages middle and high school students to become engaged in social justice. AFT is a collaboration with the Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights and its curriculum on human-rights defenders. Students are to create a three-to-six minute video on such topics as voting rights, child labor, freedom of expression, bullying, reconciliation, labor rights and domestic violence. All videos must be submitted by February 14. For more information on the contest, including submission details, prizes and a look at past winners, go to www.Speaktruthvideo.com.

NEA offer members an online holiday shopping planning center: NEA Member Benefits wants to help members with resources to get through the holiday season. Visit www.neamb.com/holiday to get helpful tips and advice on:

- * Holiday shopping: Seven tips to wrap up your gift list quickly, how to cash in with customer rewards during the holidays
- * Holiday travel: Know your rights when holiday travel goes wrong, 10 steps to hassle-free holiday hosting and how to bring your family home for the holidays
- * Holiday health and wellness: Eight no-diet tips to keep holiday weight gain at bay, how to enjoy holiday buffets without regret and ways to move your workout indoors
- * Holiday finances and budget: How to maximize your holiday budget, ways to avoid wasting money during the holidays and six smart money moves to make before year-end

Follow Education Minnesota on Pinterest for education resources: Join other members as a follower of Education Minnesota's Pinterest page for professional development, union life, classroom resources and subject-area collaborations.

Find out what's happening for educators at www.pinterest.com/educationmn.

Save on cable, dish TV services through PerksConnect: PerksConnect, the discount program for Education Minnesota members, offers ways to save on dish and cable TV. Members can save up to \$40 a month off for one year through Dish Network, up to \$300 back on bundling TV, internet and phone through Comcast, \$10 of a month from DirectTV, up to \$200 for new customers of Charter Communications and \$10 off a month through Time Warner Cable. Go to www.member.perksconnect.com. If you have not registered, click on Register Now, use Group Code EDMN12 and enter your profile information.

Never too early to purchase Christmas gifts: How about a few AMC or Carmike movie tickets to wrap up for under the tree or stick a few in their stockings as a nice surprise!

- ⇒ AMC Silver—\$6.50 (restrictions); AMC Gold—\$8.00 (no restrictions)
- ⇒ Carmike—\$7.50 (no restrictions)

Stop by the MVEA office to purchase tickets or send request via district mail with check payable to MVEA.

