Between April 2nd and April 24th, MCEA members will elect colleagues to serve on the MCEA Board of Directors. Positions up for election include: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, 1 Elementary School Director, 1 Middle School Director and 1 High School Director.

Those elected will serve from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2018. The election will be conducted online. You will be sent a secure link and must vote by 5:00 p.m. on April 24th.

If you do not receive an online ballot, contact Kiwana Hall at khall@mceanea.org before April 24th. Statements from all declared candidates are included on the following pages. All members vote for candidates in all races.

Meet the Candidates!

- Brian Donlon
- Karen Frye
- Misty Heelan
- Heather Hunter
- Betsy Johnson
- Jennifer Jones
- Rainer Kulenkampff
- Christopher Lloyd
- Susan Loftus
- Jennifer Martin
- Patrick McCann
- Lauren Moskowitz
- David Nicholson
- Dionna Ricks
- Amy Watkins
- Anzer “Nikki” Woodward
CHRISTOPHER LLOYD
President

The past six years as MCEA Vice President have made me even more resolute that the voices of educators and those who support them need to be honored and respected in the work we do each and every day. From teaching and learning, to professional growth, school climate, effective leadership, equity, school funding and teacher evaluation, we must harness our collective voice for the benefit of education and our profession.

These are indeed challenging times for public education and for public employees and their unions. Our challenge as a local union is to educate, organize and be active to support and stand strong for our beliefs and values. To do this, we must distribute leadership through our association, and use our strong relationships to effectively lead our schools and our system.

If I serve as President, I will continue to teach each day at Weller Road ES, to remain connected with the classroom, students, and the soulful work of teaching. Those who work in schools and those who support schools have tremendous untapped potential, and together we must work to find better ways to amplify our voices.

MCEA is not officers – it’s not staff – it’s not some hierarchical political machine. MCEA is an association of educators, who together can deliberate, debate, share ideas, and give voice to what we know is best for the students we teach. As President, I will continue to listen, learn, reflect, and grow, as we seek to represent our beliefs, and transform our association.

2015 MCEA BOARD OF DIRECTOR NOMINEES AT-A-GLANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Current Assignment</th>
<th>Current School/Worksite</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christopher Lloyd</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>Teacher-PGS Coordinator/Technology Teacher</td>
<td>MCEA/Weller Road ES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brian Donlon</td>
<td>VP</td>
<td>Social Studies Teacher</td>
<td>R. Montgomery HS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Martin</td>
<td>VP</td>
<td>English Teacher</td>
<td>Wootton HS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patrick McCann</td>
<td>VP</td>
<td>English Teacher</td>
<td>Northwood HS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Nicholson</td>
<td>VP</td>
<td>English Teacher</td>
<td>Springbrook HS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amy Watkins</td>
<td>VP</td>
<td>Math Teacher</td>
<td>Walter Johnson HS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Jones</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Counselor</td>
<td>Lake Seneca ES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rainer Kulenkampff</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Social Studies Teacher</td>
<td>Walter Johnson HS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lauren Moskowitz</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Pre-Kindergarten Teacher</td>
<td>Harmony Hills ES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anzer ’Nikki’ Woodward</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Vision Teacher Program - Shady Grove</td>
<td>Infants &amp; Toddlers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heather Hunter</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Elementary Teacher</td>
<td>Summit Hall ES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Betsy Johnson</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Computer Science Teacher</td>
<td>Argyle MS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Susan Loftus</td>
<td>ES Director</td>
<td>Physical Education Teacher</td>
<td>Burning Tree ES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dionna Ricks</td>
<td>ES Director</td>
<td>ESOL Teacher</td>
<td>Jackson Road ES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misty Heelan</td>
<td>MS Director</td>
<td>Spanish Teacher</td>
<td>Westland MS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karen Frye</td>
<td>HS Director</td>
<td>Special Ed Transition Teacher</td>
<td>Seneca Valley HS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

© 2015 MCEA
MCEA is solely responsible for the Advocate’s content.
MCEA is an affiliate of the Maryland State Education Association (MSEA) and the National Education Association (NEA).
BRIAN DONLON
Vice-President

Qualifications
• Current member of MCEA Board of Directors
• PAR Panel Voting Member
• Member of the MCEA Contract Bargaining Committee
• Building Rep/EFR-17 Years
• Twenty-one years as an MCPS Classroom Teacher
• National Board Certified Teacher
• Parent of two boys, Sean age 5 (kindergarten-Cedar Grove E.S.) and Rory age 2.

Priorities
• Protect negotiated steps/colas and health care cost sharing formulas
• Advocate for 21st Century Paid Family Leave Policies
• Partner with MCPS to create high quality childcare centers for the children of MCPS employees
• Work with the Board of Education and the Superintendent on protecting the core elements of our nationally recognized PAR System
• Renewed vigilance on time and workload issues
• Advocate for increased support, release time, and training to deal with the increased demands of curriculum 2.0 and Common Core/PARCC
• Greater Support, Advocacy, and Recognition for Building Reps.

JENNIFER MARTIN
Vice-President

If you elect me, I will be a Vice President who—
• Listens carefully to members
• Speaks convincingly on your behalf
• Acts strategically to promote your interests
• Serves with integrity to achieve our goals

My two driving passions—
• Achieving respect and recognition for our work
• Improving our children’s access to a bright future

I will continue to fight for pay, benefits & conditions of work that—
• Meet our financial needs—now and in retirement
• Honor our professionalism
• Support us in meeting the challenges of our work and family life

I will continue to fight for our Professional Growth System—
• Central to our success as a school system
• A model for the nation.

I will continue to fight for improvements in our schools—
• Sensible testing and standards that do not set us or our students up for failure
• Resources throughout MCPS to meet our schools’ diverse needs
• Support for educators to provide high quality learning to all students
• Equitable opportunity and fair treatment — for both educators and students

Experience—
• English teacher 14 years—all grades, all ability levels, 6-12
• At-Large MCEA Director 2013-present
• MCEA Political and Legislative Support Committee Co-Chair 2013-present
• EFR and Building Representative 2011-present.

Married to retired 43-year MCPS teacher (and current substitute teacher), George Martin.
PATRICK MCCANN  
Vice-President

Educators in Montgomery County work too hard! Our kindness is used for weakness. Many who've never taught neglect to listen to the wise advice that comes from our experience. We MUST amplify our voice in support of educators and students!

Defending teachers from administrators who refuse to support their staff is critical. Some schools have serious issues with teacher-unfriendly leadership. I experienced this at my last school, which earned the lowest climate survey result of all high schools in 2012/13. As head building rep, I aggressively defended colleagues, building a team of more building reps (10) than any school in the county. That aggressive defense led to an involuntarily transfer, due to the principal 'creatively managing' staffing levels. Make teacher feedback part of the principal evaluation process!

Equity is equally critical. Schools in working-class communities have serious issues with resources. Though happy with leadership at my new school, I am not happy to 'float'. I've never seen a school where so many teachers float! Why? It was renovated when it should have been rebuilt. To add injury to injury, renovation removed the school from the list of schools to be rebuilt. The fight for school construction dollars will be a difficult, but necessary, campaign. Meanwhile, our U.S. military has more money than they need for war!

The answer to these critical issues is to ORGANIZE! We must reach deeper into our ranks and motivate educators to become activists for REAL change! Si se puede!

DAVID NICHOLSON  
Vice-President

Fifteen years of MCEA membership has taught me that persistence is key. I have led and called for change when change has been needed as a member of the MCEA Board of Directors, IPD and PALS committees, and head building representative at Springbrook High School. My top priorities continue to be administrator accountability, increasing member involvement, childcare needs of our members, and equity.

During MSEA conventions, I have questioned SLOs, the validity of standardized tests, and added to our legislative agenda, attendance and truancy issues. Teachers should not be held accountable for students we don’t see.

As a delegate and member of the NBI and Resolutions committees at NEA conventions, I continue to shine a light on corporate and governmental interests that seem intent on destroying public education.

I am a former English Resource Teacher, hired and promoted by then Principal Mike Durso, who now sits on our own MCPS Board of Education. This afforded me the perspective to see issues from both sides, allowing me the opportunity to help lead a school, while my thirteen years as head rep has allowed me to be a voice for the faculty.

Together, we must be a strong association giving a voice to professionals who work much harder than what our paychecks reveal.

You need someone who has never been afraid to stand up for our rights.

I want to be your next vice-president. Please vote for the candidate who has your back.
AMY WATKINS
Vice-President

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to represent you for the past 9 years on the MCEA Board of Directors- 6 years as Secretary and 3 years as an ES & MS Director. I have the breadth and depth of experience to help me understand your work- I have taught for 10 years at all 3 levels: Jackson Road ES, Loiederman and Lee MS, and Walter Johnson HS. I’ve also advocated on statewide issues for 3 years on the MSEA BOD.

Simon Sinek said, “Leadership is not a rank or a position, but a choice.” I’ve chosen to be engaged in MCEA to help move our profession forward. One of my goals is to engage you in our union and give you more opportunities to lead.

I believe we need to work with parents and other community groups to combat over testing.

I believe that we have the responsibility to lead on issues of equity and race for our students. I completed the MCEA/McDaniel Equity certificate program and worked to have MCEA call for more diversity in hiring and retaining excellent teachers in MCPS.

I believe we need to protect our evaluation system. Serving on the PAR Panel has allowed me to better understand the need to uphold the integrity of our evaluation system. We need to prevent the implementation of a percentage based evaluation system with an overemphasis on standardized tests.

Please support me for Vice President to make a difference for our students and our profession!
JENNIFER JONES
Secretary

I have been committed to representing educators and their concerns to meet student needs for many years. As Secretary of MCEA, I would continue to demonstrate to colleagues they can trust me to represent them and their concerns as we continue to find solutions together.

- Experienced with pre-K, K-12, undergraduate, and graduate students and staff.
- MCPS employee 23 years: substitute teacher, teacher, and counselor.
- Previous member MCEA groups: Council for Teaching and Learning (CTL), Political Action & Legislative Support (PALS) Committee, Budget Task Force, Reduced Allocation Work Group (positions cut to .5).
- Recently appointed MCCPTA delegate and MCEA Collaboration Committee member.
- Ph.D. in Public Administration and Public Policy—focus: engage stakeholders to create solutions.
- Regular and ongoing contact with Board of Education, County Council, County Executive, and State legislators to advocate for issues important to MCEA members.
- Experienced Board of Director member and Officer for several associations, including Secretary—responsibilities: taking minutes, creating agendas, coordinating and scheduling meetings, communicating with constituents, distributing information, and gathering input/feedback.

I would like to help ensure we address member concerns including equitable staffing ratios, quality benefits, retirement savings options, salary steps, adequate planning time, smaller class sizes, data collection, curriculum implementation, grading and reporting, reduce standardized testing, and utilize a fair evaluation system among other issues.

RAINER KULENKAMPFF
Secretary

“Vote here to support the profession of teaching. I am attuned to the needs of teachers in the classroom and have represented my school in the professional association since my second month teaching.

Thanks to the support of many of you, over the past five years I have committed my life to the goal of mastering the profession.

I have a creative, solutions driven mindset, with a get stuff done attitude. I started teaching as a long term substitute at Cabin John Middle School and Wootton High School. I now teach students to love learning, and in my classes, that is about government. I sponsor the SGA, MUN, am an EFR, and know many other MCPS acronyms.

If you’re like me, I know you want strong leadership and someone who can produce results. Please vote here so that I can represent your interests.

What we have
- Less and less opportunity for kids
- Some states have 50% decrease in enrolment for new teachers
- Since 2010, the achievement gap between high- and low-poverty high schools has widened”—County Council’s Office of Legislative Oversight.

My platform
- Reduce dependence on standardized tests
- Close the achievement gap.
- Develop a stronger professional association.

@MrKulenkampff for more information
LAUREN MOSKOWITZ  
Secretary  
Lauren has been a PK teacher at Harmony Hills ES for 10 years. She is committed to fighting for the equity of all students and all educators. She has been on the past three negotiation teams, specifically working on the teleworking addition. She has attended both NEA and MSEA for the past 4 years. Lauren currently sits on the Board of Directors as an Elementary Chair, as well on the Councils of Teaching and Learning representing PK/HS educators. She also serves on the Early Childhood Advisory Council representing MCPS educators. She is excited to have the opportunity to continue serving all 12,000 MCEA members.

ANZER N. WOODWARD  
Secretary  
Anzer N. Woodward, known as Nikki, has worked as a special educator for fourteen years. Advocating for all educators to have the respect, support, & resources needed to provide the best education available.  
Nikki has worked in MCPS for the past nine years; as an itinerant teacher of the visually impaired and currently as an Early Interventionist with Montgomery County Infant and Toddler Program (MCITP). Some of the work she is most proud of is serving on the African American Student Achievement Action Group to combat the disparity and eradicate achievement gaps found in so many of our schools. 
Nikki has a wealth of experience working at MCEA. As a SPARKS graduate and currently as the co-chair of the Political and Legislative Support committee (PALS). In this capacity she has had the opportunity to advocate with board of education members, county council, state legislators, Maryland State Department of Education, as well as with our federal legislators to keep them informed of the importance of policies and funding that allow teachers the time and resources to teach. At the state level she served as the Maryland PAC co-chair at the National Educators Association conference. 
Nikki loves teaching but also learning. Having attained her BA from Converse College, a double MA from University of Northern Colorado, & professional degrees from George Washington & Gallaudet; and currently enrolled in a doctoral program at Johns Hopkins. 
Nikki pursues this position to continue serving and uniting teachers across MCPS.
HEATHER HUNTER
Treasurer

I am an elementary school teacher with 17 years experience in MCPS. I’m committed to inverting the organizational triangle by empowering teacher-leaders to become active participants in school related decisions.

I’ve had great success organizing teachers and look forward to having an opportunity to continue to grow teacher-leaders countywide. As a result of attending the MCEA Leadership Institute, I learned the importance of collaborative problem-solving and becoming active in politics. I became an Organizing Captain in the last election to assemble and empower teachers to raise their voices and work toward electing candidates that support education. My leadership resulted in a dramatic increase in the number of PAC donors in my building, and increased the number of staff that participated in phone banking, canvassing, and passing out Apple Ballots. Most recently, I assembled a group of teachers to lobby in Annapolis to advocate for our students and schools. My proven success in organizing teachers led to an invitation to be an Ambassador for the Montgomery Institute: Leading to Organize program in conjunction with NEA. As an Ambassador, I shared my success story of organizing staff to teacher-leaders from across the country, to encourage them to use similar strategies in their local jurisdictions. Additionally, I joined the Membership Organizing Committee at MSEA to organize leaders at the state and local level.

My prior experiences as Treasurer and President in a local community organization will be beneficial if elected. I look forward to the opportunity to continue growing teacher-leaders in the county.

BETSY JOHNSON
Treasurer

Betsy Johnson, mother, teacher, mentor, collective negotiator, captain of pals, chairperson of community outreach MCEA, Treasurer of MCEA, NEA-GPS Network, STPP, facilitator, (school to prison pipeline), community activist, MCEA delegate, State delegate, African American Advisory Committee – County Council, Middle School Board of Directors, MCEA, Chairperson Student Achievement Committee, African American Student Achievement Gap, Leader in STEM achievements – Received 1st place at Johns Hopkins Robotic Surgical Unit, 1st place Game Maker competition and host to many robotic competitions.

I am seeking re-election to the office of Treasurer for the Montgomery County Education Association. I am seeking re-election to complete the work that needs to be done for our teachers, student and administrators. I believe in the achievement of all our students in MCPS. Teachers and students need strong representation, big and bold, to know that they have a fighter with their best interest at heart. When Doug, Chris or Tom call an emergency meeting you can count on Betsy Johnson being there. My school, Argyle, is largely represented at the RA each month with new faces full of activism which is needed in our union. I believe in the recruitment to make our union strong. During my reign, Argyle has maintained 100% attendance representation at the RA each month. Students and teachers need to know who is going to be there when the call comes in at night. Most likely, that would be me.

In Solidarity
SUSAN LOFTUS  
Elementary School Director

When I first came to MCPS 17 years ago, I worked as a teacher leader focusing on physical education and wellness (e.g., P.E. Resource Teacher at Takoma Park MS and Einstein HS, P.E. Curriculum writer and P.E. Curriculum Advisory Committee member, Elementary CTL P.E. representative, collaboration with MCC-PTA Wellness Committee.)

More recently, I have been passionately involved in the political process. Beyond working to elect politicians, my work is ongoing, advocating for the best interests of our members and students. Whether in Annapolis (e.g., pension protection), County Council (e.g., school funding), or the Board of Education (e.g., Time to Teach/Time to Learn), I speak up and take action. Over the years I have developed relationships with some BOE and County Council members. This provides opportunities for frank, candid discussions about the needs of our schools.

Platform
- Advocate for reasonableness regarding student assessments. Teachers need time to teach. Students need time to learn.
- Support and advocate for Social Justice and Democracy in Education.
- Support and improve existing avenues for educators to have a strong and respected voice regarding teaching and learning.
- Advocate for timely and adequate resources necessary for implementing Curriculum 2.0 and Common Core within the teacher work day.
- Protect the core elements of our professional growth and evaluation system.

After serving one term on the Board of Directors, I ask for your vote to allow me to continue to this work. Re-elect Susan Loftus, Elementary Director.

DIONNA RICKS  
Elementary School Director

Through Servant Leadership, my goal will be to have a positive IMPACT on my constituents and community by:
- Increasing involvement at all levels of OUR association. (MCEA, MSEA and NEA)
- Maintaining open lines of communication with constituents.
- Promoting Education as the greatest profession on earth!!
- Advocating for MCEA members and against issues that take away from what matters most-STUDENTS!!
- Collaborating with stakeholders to promote excellence in the workplace and taking Action to end the attack on public schools and unions.

Association Involvement

Local
- Elected Faculty Representative
- Building Representative
- Apple Ballot Volunteer
- Minority Affairs Committee (MAC) Chairperson
- MCPS Ambassador Workforce Diversity Initiative

State
- Minority Affairs Committee (MAC)
- Presenter at MSEA-MLTP
- Co-Chair MSEA Elections Committee
- Delegate at RA
- Introduced passing NBI
- Taxation, Economic Development and Funding (TEF) Workgroup

National
- Introduced 2 passing NBIs
- Minority Leadership Training Program (MLTP) Trainer
- Social Justice/Cultural Competence Trainer
- Authored “Educating Boys for Success”
- Contributor to “Restorative Practices Guide”
MISTY HEELAN
Middle School Director

I have been teaching for 8 years, 7 of which have been in MCPS teaching middle school. I teach Spanish at Westland Middle School where I am also a 6th Grade Team Leader and ESOL Resource Teacher. I currently serve as a World Language Representative for Councils on Teaching and Learning. I am a member of the Middle School Exam Workgroup and Career Lattice Project Panel Team. I also serve as the MSEA teacher representative on the Governor’s Task Force to Improve Middle School Achievement. In the past I have been a Building Rep and sat on the Board of Directors of MCEA for Middle School. I collaborated with parents, principals, students and other educators on the Social Emotional Learning aspect of the MCPS Strategic Plan: Our Call to Action. In addition, I am a SPARK alumna. I share all of this because I know that I will be a great asset to the Board of Directors and serving MCPS middle schools. I plan to bring an open mind to the Board and to share my knowledge and concerns as it will be my responsibility to advocate for middle school teachers and students. I believe it is our time as teachers to take a stand for our profession and make our voices heard.

KAREN FRYE
High School Director

I am offering to serve as High School Director on the Board of MCEA. I listen to people and try and help them with their goals. I pay attention to detail and I care.

I’ve been working on the HS CTL for a year and a half now as the Special Education Representative. I was selected to be one of the MCEA Leadership Institute Facilitators. I served on the Suspension Implementation Team last year to assist with the transition of the discipline policy. Currently I am working with the money people to preserve teaching positions in light of the budget dilemma. I am an advocate for emotionally safe schools. I have been recognized as a leader for educators using technology to improve performance of students (e-tips). I have studied with the equity initiatives unit to promote culturally sensitive teaching and learning. My position as Transition Support Teacher focuses on work which drives education planning and implementation to foster realistic and meaningful outcomes for students with disabilities. I believe in lifelong learning and working collaboratively for the best possible outcomes.