



# MEA UPDATE

**Millard Education Association**

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## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Hello everyone!! I hope that this finds everyone well. I also hope that you have recovered from Halloween and indoor parades. I helped at Ezra with the parade and never have I so much wished it would be nice outside. We had a wonderful Halloween night at our house. Ellie was a horse (which was actually a unicorn but no one will ever tell her that and be correct!) Ben was a skeleton. Ellie walked a little more than a block and told us that she was done. She had enough candy and wanted to go home. Ben also walked the entire time. You would think that this, and the fact that he is now one, would have helped his sleeping difficulties. It did not. Perhaps he was just bitter that we did not let him get any candy.

I have very much enjoyed coming to see everyone in your buildings. I am done with all the buildings except for the MLC, which I will visit when they are at Horizon in January. It has been so nice to formally meet so many wonderful teachers. A very sincere thank you to all the buildings for making me feel so welcome. I mentioned this wherever I went but to show that I am serious I will say it again. If any of you need an extra set of hands in your classroom please do not hesitate to ask. I am a teacher first and I would love to come help!

## CRYSTAL APPLE AWARD

Congratulations to our first quarter winner Lynette Dergan. Lynette is the Media Specialist at Andersen Middle School. We will be presenting her with the award on November 10<sup>th</sup> at Andersen.

Nominations are needed for second quarter. This award is given once a quarter to an outstanding MEA member in Millard. The winner receives a Crystal Apple and a small token of thanks from the MEA. To nominate a teacher in your building please click on the link below, then on Crystal Apple Award Nomination Form. Deadline for the second quarter award is December 4<sup>th</sup>.

<http://www.millardmea.org/>

## MEA SCHOLARSHIP

The MEA has four (4) \$500 scholarships available for the spring semester. Two of these will be allocated for teachers with 5 years or less experience. Two will be allocated for teachers with 6+ years experience. To apply for this scholarship please click on the link below for the application and more details. Applications for spring semester are due to the office no later than November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

[http://www.millardmea.org/media/MEA\\_Teacher\\_Scholarship.PDF](http://www.millardmea.org/media/MEA_Teacher_Scholarship.PDF)

## **WRLC/NCUEA**

Becky Scherbring will be representing MEA at the National Council of Urban Educators Association (NCUEA) Fall Conference in Nashville, TN in December. Tom Whisinnand, Paul Schulte, and Paul Markley will be representing the MEA at the Western Region Leadership Conference (WRLC) in Pheonix, AZ in January.

## **RETIREMENT UPDATE**

Thank you to everyone who attended the retirement workshops offered by Vintage Financial and NSEA-R. If you still have further questions please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Don't forget to complete the early retirement forms by December 1<sup>st</sup> for the \$500 stipend if this applies to you.

## **ACCESS CARD**

Your new 2009-10 NSEA Membership Card will arrive in your mailbox on or around Dec. 1. Your membership card is a gateway to savings - giving you the opportunity to save much more than the cost of membership each year at local, regional and national merchants.

NSEA's Membership Card is also a discount card. It works at thousands of merchant sites across the country. Whether you're shopping for shoes, clothing, pizza, golf-outings or hotel rooms, your membership card can save you money.

To start saving, members must activate their card once it arrives. It's easy to do! Just log on to the NSEA Web site at:

[www.nsea.org](http://www.nsea.org)

## **PASSPORT CARD**

The passport card is available to MEA Members for a discounted rate. The Passport Card offers discounts (mainly buy one meal receive the second meal free) at many restaurants in Omaha. Please click on the link below for more details.

<http://millardmea.org/media/Passport0910.pdf>

## **LEARNING COMMUNITY UPDATE**

The Millard School Board has voted to approve the Poverty Plan for Millard. This will now go on to be read at the Learning Community District 4 meeting, which will take place at Central Middle School at 1:30 on November 12<sup>th</sup>. There will be more information pertaining to this meeting in the next Update.

Other districts are having this approved as well. Other things that school boards are looking at are their enrollment programs, as option enrollment programs could be affected by the open enrollment in the Learning Community.