



Dear Colleague—

I hope this finds you well. Your Association is diligently working on your behalf in a number of important areas. The main goals for the fall were improving the rates we pay for health insurance, protecting planning time, and advocating for a middle school schedule that truly benefits students.

We skipped the Uncle Sam poster for this issue of HCEA Works, but make no mistake—we still need you to get involved. Our political work in 2012 will begin with the candidate endorse-

ment process (we're rewriting every questionnaire), continue with advocacy during the session in Annapolis, and conclude with elections in the fall. Elected officials need to hear from you, and we will give you lots of opportunities.

Today, we have a classic "bystander" problem. There are a lot of us, but we assume someone else is going to do the dirty work. HCEA receives member feedback in email, letters, and phone calls, but we probably only have 50 activists out of our 5000-some members. It's simply not enough. Public opinion polls show that people trust you (educators) far more than they trust me (unions). At HCEA, we'll do everything we can to advance your salary and working conditions, but the best way to move our agenda is to mobilize YOU.

And you are busy right now! Education is complicated. We're not making widgets in factories. We're building the collective future in every student, each with a different level of ability and experience. Every classroom is a thousand small events per hour, every school millions of words voiced,

written, typed, texted and tweeted. Every educator is on that tightrope perched between art and science, working creatively but also with rigorous self-examination and devotion to observable progress. We use artistry and science every day to teach students who are victims of poverty, crime, abuse and neglect, location, and broken families; at the same time we teach students with every imaginable advantage.

There is no better advocate than a great educator. Your political credibility springs from your selflessness and dedication. You will also find that union activism makes you a stronger educator—it gives you professional opportunities, a new venue for collaboration, and a shared sense of purpose. Please consider this an invitation—you can go directly from armchair quarterback to the field—just let us know you are willing.

Sincerely,



Paul Lemle
President, HCEA

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HCEA Legislative Breakfast

The HCEA Government Relations Committee has been in full swing raising money for the Fund for Children and Public Education and preparing for the upcoming 2012 elections. In addition, they are preparing for the next session of the Maryland General Assembly. You are invited to attend our Legislative Breakfast on Saturday, January 21st at 8:30AM at the Homewood School.

To RSVP contact Jessica Bernhardt at jbernhardt@mseane.org or call 410-997-3440.



BJ's Discount for HCEA Members

Are you a BJ's member? BJ's Wholesale club offers HCEA members a discount for renewing your membership or signing up new. Discounts are offered during the months of June, September, December and March. Get \$10 off the \$50 annual membership fee or get \$20 off the \$90 Rewards membership fee. Each membership includes a FREE household card (so you get two cards) and 3 months FREE for a total of 15 months.

The best news-BJ's will donate \$5 to Help-A-Child for every application submitted for renewing or new memberships! If you would like to take advantage of this opportunity, contact HCEA at 410-997-3440 to have instructions and an application sent to you.



2012 HCEA ELECTIONS SCHEDULE

Tuesday, January 10, 2012	Nominations open at Rep Council
Friday, January 20, 2012	Nominations close (Due to HCEA by 4:00 pm)
Tuesday, February 14, 2012	Candidates remarks at Rep Council (Candidates' option)
Friday, February 24, 2012	Ballots in school
Monday, February 27, 2012 to Friday, March 16, 2012	Reps conduct elections
Friday, March 16, 2012	All ballots due at HCEA office by 4:00 pm. No ballots will be accepted after this time
Monday, March 19, 2012	Ballots counted and winners notified ASAP
Friday, March 23, 2012	Run-off ballots in schools
Monday, March 26 to Friday, April 13, 2012	Reps conduct run-off elections
Friday, April 13, 2012	Run-off ballots due to HCEA by 4:00pm. No ballots will be accepted after this time
Monday, April 16, 2012	Run-off ballots counted and winners notified
Tuesday, April 17, 2012	Results of election and/or runoff election announced at Rep Council meeting



The HCEA Government Relations Committee met with Howard County Executive Ken Ulman to discuss a variety of topics including school board elections, shifting pension costs and maintenance of effort. Pictured from left are HCEA President Paul Lemle, Triadelphia Ridge Elementary teacher and HCEA Director Laura Mynaugh, County Executive Ken Ulman, Atholton Elementary teacher Nina Martin and Atholton High teacher Stephan Hise.

Help-A-Child Needs Your Help



The Help-A-Child Fund has processed 275 requests so far this school year. **Coat and glove season** is upon us and we need your help to keep our kids warm!

The Help-A-Child fund is a project of the Howard County Education Association and HCPSS Pupil Personnel Workers.

The fund provides emergency assistance with coats, clothing, shoes, eye exam/glasses and school supplies for children in the Howard County Public School System. **100% of your donation reaches a student in need.** All time and materials are donated.

Referrals have increased dramatically in the last few years - donations have not kept pace.

Please consider a donation to help the children in our school system.

**Please send checks payable to "Help-A-Child" to HCEA via the "pony" or mail to HCEA,
5082 Dorsey Hall Drive, Suite 102
Ellicott City, MD 21042**

For more information call 410-997-3440.

HCEA Help-A-Child Fund Payroll Deduction Authorization

Name: _____

School: _____

\$ _____ per pay (for 20 pays)

Signed: _____

HELP-A-CHILD
delivers emergency help
to HCPSS students
when no other help is
available. Contributions
are tax-deductible.

A DOLLAR A PAY GOES A LONG WAY

HCEA Marketplace

General Services

Home Mortgages/Refinancing: Interest rates and home prices are the lowest in years. Presidential is a Maryland based bank with offices in Columbia. No application fees or appraisal fees for HCEA members. First time home buyer programs. Contact Mitch Lax at 443-812-9319 or by email mitchlax@presidential.com to discuss your mortgage options.

Looking for a realtor? Licensed in MD, special incentive available for HCEA members. First-time homebuyers are welcome! For more information, please contact Jay Kim with Coldwell Banker at 443-538-4806 or by e-mail jay.kim@cbmove.com to discuss your real estate needs.

Columbia- In-Home Licensed Day Care: Small intimate group, 1-on-1 attention. For infants and toddlers. Lic. #13-113166. Call Debby at 410-730-1828.

Longaberger!! To find out how to purchase our baskets, host a home show, have a fundraising event for your school or organization or become part of the growing Longaberger family contact Melissa Ronnenberg, at 410-719-2214 or melissa21228@gmail.com.



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Help Your Body, Help Yourself: Looking for a natural stress reliever? Want to enjoy a deep state of relaxation? Consider a Reiki treatment at a convenient Howard Co. location. For more information or to make an appointment, contact Certified Usui Reiki Master Janet at 410-925-5053. HCEA members receive \$10 off your first session. Receive 10% off your next visit when you refer a friend.

Experienced Dog Walker/Pet Sitter available. My name is Eric A. Syversen and I have 15+ years working with animals. I have been a Mammal Keeper at the Baltimore Zoo (we walked goats, sheep, horses, ponies, donkeys and mules) as well as managed the Specialty Department at Pet Smart for a year. I also spent 3+ years dog training for retail stores and private, local businesses. References are available upon request. Contact 443-878-5514 or LLAussiePuppy@gmail.com.

DRD Pool Management, Inc. is accepting resumes for summer job openings as swimming pool field supervisors and swimming pool managers (full or part time). No experience necessary. for more information, email David Watts at dwatts@drdpools.com.

Tutorrific! Tutor in homes throughout Howard County. You make your own schedule! Please send an email or your resume to Deborah Markowitz at tutorrific@comcast.net.

Vacation Rentals

Condo—Outer Banks, NC: For rent last week in July and first week in August (7/22-7/29 and 7/29-8/5). Condo is located right on the beach in the town of Kill Devil Hills. Sleeps four. Full kitchen, cable TV, phone, Jacuzzi, etc. One bedroom, sleeper couch, linens and towels included. Condo amenities-outdoor pool, indoor pool, game room, etc. \$950 per week. Call Marius at 410-997-3440.

Deep Creek Lake: 5 BR log cabin chalet; fully furnished; all amenities included; minutes from WISP Ski resort; 30% discount to HCEA members; weekend or weekly rental. Call Dan at 410-465-5190.

To advertise in HCEA Marketplace visit the Publications page on the HCEA website at www.hceanea.org or email ad to editor_marketplace@hceanea.org.

Inclusion in Marketplace does not express or imply endorsement by HCEA or HCEA responsibility for price or quality. HCEA assumes no liability for nor makes any warranty as the condition of any article advertised in Marketplace. Priority is given to HCEA Members.

Dates to Remember:
Call HCEA to register for events.

HCEA Nominations Open at Rep Council Meeting

Tuesday, January 10
4PM
Homewood Center

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Monday, January 16

HCEA Legislative Breakfast

Saturday, January 21
8:30AM-11:00AM
Homewood Center

Mid-Atlantic Regional Leadership Conference

January 27-29
Arlington, VA

HCPSS Staff Appreciation Week

February 6-10

Presidents' Day
Monday, February 20