

## **Insurance Proposal**

### **Insurance Issues**

Many of you have contacted the MEA with insurance questions and concerns especially around prescriptions being denied or requiring alternative brands of medicine. The MEA cannot argue out or fight for these with your insurance company. They will not and cannot discuss individual claims with the MEA due to confidentiality. The MEA has discussed your concerns with the district and the proper procedure is to have members contact the insurance company directly. Please let the MEA know of your concerns and issues so that we can voice them with the district.

Mayor Gatsas has recently met with the leaders of the various city unions to propose major changes and increased employee contributions. C.O.P.E., The coalition of public employees representing all city unions met to discuss this proposal. A sub-committee has been formed to look at the increased cost of health care, possible savings and alternatives to the Mayor's proposal. The Mayor was very clear with that all city employees need to accept his proposal or 150 school employees and 150 city employees will be laid off. All city unions will continue to meet and develop a strategy to deal with the mayor's demands. There is no intention on the part of the MEA to enter into negotiations or open our existing three year collective bargaining agreement.

### **Important Dates**

#### **Intent to Retire Notification - December 31, 2010:**

If you intend to retire in June, 2011 and you are eligible for the retirement bonus, your letter stating your intent to retire must be received by the district by December 31, 2010. The letter should be hand-delivered and date-stamped by the secretary/ receptionist at the district office front desk. If your notice of intent to retire is not received by the district by the deadline, you will forfeit your retirement bonus (if eligible). You should also request a receipt when you deliver your letter so you have proof you delivered it by the deadline. Please Cc Scott McGilvray, MEA President, and send a copy to the MEA office to keep on file.

#### **Transfers - March 4, 2011:**

Any teacher is eligible to request a transfer to another school, grade level or subject (for which you hold current certification). A written request should be hand-delivered and date-stamped by the secretary/ receptionist at the district office. You should also ask for a receipt. In the transfer request, you need to be specific as to the school and/or grade level/subject that you would like. If you are not specific, then the transfer could be to a position or school that you do not want to be in. Transfers within your current school do not need a transfer letter and are up to the building principal and not subject to the grievance process. If you want a transfer within your current school you should speak to your building principal directly. Keep in mind this is a request to transfer and the district does not have to grant such a request.

#### **Seniority Transfers - May 4, 2011:**

Those teachers with 11 or more years of teaching service in the Manchester School District are eligible to request a Seniority Transfer. A written request should be hand-delivered and date-stamped by the secretary/receptionist at the district office. You should also ask for a receipt. The district is required to post a list of all anticipated openings for next school year by April 20, 2011 and these are the only positions for which a Seniority Transfer request can be made.

Manchester Education Association

1750 Elm Street Suite 603

Manchester NH 03104

(603) 296-0140

Office hours of MEA and NEA-NH

M-F 8am to 5pm

Please call ahead in case we are at a meeting.

**Scott McGilvray, President**

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**Ben Dick, Vice-President**

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## *Get Out and Vote*

5 reasons to vote in the upcoming election

- 1. NCLB:** No Child Left Behind will be reauthorized by the new US House and Senate
- 2. MONEY:** Congress passed an education jobs bill that will bring \$41 million to retain existing teachers or bring back teachers who were laid off in New Hampshire.
- 3. COLLEGE AFFORDABILITY:** Congress will be looking to add additional funding for Pell Grants and federal student loan programs.
- 4. YOUR RETIREMENT:** Our retirement benefits are constantly under attack and it is a real possibility that your accrued sick days and retirement severance could be taken away in the final calculation of your retirement.
- 5. UNION POWER** It is more important now than ever that unions work together to elect pro-education and pro-labor candidates into office. They will work to protect our collective bargaining agreements, retirement and to stop the attacks on public schools and educators.

### AMOSKEAG, SOUHEGAN AND SOUTHEAST REGIONS 2010 FALL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

**Location: MEA Office 1750 Elm St. Suite 603** A light meal will be served from 4:15 pm to 4:45 pm

All sessions will begin in the designated rooms promptly at 5:00 pm

**For instant registration (payment by credit card), go to [www.neanh.org](http://www.neanh.org) and click on the Amoskeag, Souhegan, and Southeast Workshops. *Online registration will remain open up to two days prior to each session as space allows.***

**- Working It Out: Effectively Solving Conflicts and Solving Problems Peer to Peer NEW!**

PRESENTER: RICHARD DUFRESNE, MSW, LICSW, ALLIANCE CONSULTING HRD, PETERBOROUGH, NH **Monday October 25, 2010 5- 7:30**

**- MsM's Baker's Dozen – 13 Hands-On Activities to Teach Basic Math Skills NEW!**

PRESENTER: KAREN MAITLAND, BEDFORD EA, **Tuesday, October 26, 2010, 5-8 pm**

**- Classroom Management Refresher/Tune-Up, Part 2 NEW!**

PRESENTER: LOUISE FORSEZE, PEAK EDUCATION PERFORMANCE **Thursday October 28, 2010 5-7 PM**

**- Motivating Reluctant Readers and Writers NEW!**

PRESENTER: DONNA CIOCCA, AUTHOR AND EDUCATOR **Wednesday November 3, 2010 5-7 PM**

**- Dealing With Difficult Adults (Parents and Colleagues): Are They Bullies? NEW!**

PRESENTER: MAXINE MOSLEY, MANCHESTER EA **Monday, November 8, 2010, 5-7 pm**

**- Legal Liability and Advocacy for School Staff: Supervision of Students with Disabilities NEW!**

PRESENTERS: DONNA CHRISTMAN, NEA-NH UNISERV DIRECTOR AND JIM ALLMENDINGER, NEA-NH ATTORNEY **Wednesday, November 17, 2010, 5-7:30 pm**