



### *From the President...*

I am happy to report that HCEA won our Use of Facilities grievance. This important victory will prevent HCPS from forcing HCEA Representatives, UniServ, HCEA staff and myself from completing Use of Facilities forms when we schedule building level meetings within schools. No HCEA representative should complete these forms for building level meetings. If you are asked by your principal to complete a Use of Facilities form please contact HCEA.

I am also pleased to report that The MSEA RA voted to support local efforts to advocate for paid child rearing and family medical leave. HCEA will begin advocating both locally and statewide for this important benefit for workers. No one should be forced to sacrifice their financial security due to illness or child birth. MSEA and HCEA have lead on many other civil and workers rights issues. We will lead on this as well.

The fight against standardized testing is taking off. Parents, legislators and teachers alike are advocating for reductions in testing and elimination of pointless standardized tests. This week, initial results for the PARCC were released. The Baltimore Sun reported that more than half of students Maryland were below expectations. [Click here to read the article.](#) Assessment 101 teaches that a test which over half the students fail is a flawed test. We must fight to change or end PARCC testing. A day after the PARCC results were released, NEAP results were also released. The NEAP showed declines in both Reading and Math scores. [Click here to read the article.](#) Could it be that the lack of materials and planning time which teachers have been struggling to overcome is having a negative effect?

In response to legislation spearheaded by MSEA, Governor Hogan has appoint a panel to examine over-testing in Maryland. We are fortunate to have one of our members on the panel. Laura Potter, Harford County Teacher of the Year, will serve as one of the appointees examining testing in Maryland. I am hopeful that this panel will make recommendations which reduce the ridiculous amount of time teachers are spending on pointless, redundant and inane assessments.

According to a [2014 Baltimore Sun article](#), HCPS requires among the most locally mandated testing in Maryland. To help in the fight to end over-testing, HCEA has formed a Time to Learn, Time to Teach and Time to Play Committee. If we can reign in all the pointless assessment, just think how much more time our kids could spend on meaningful learning activities . Perhaps we could even bring fun back to our schools by increasing recess and playful learning with our schools. We need your help to make this happen. Contact [rurbey@mseanea.org](mailto:rurbey@mseanea.org) to volunteer.

HCEA and MSEA are leading movements to improve workers rights, improve our profession and improve public education. Will you join us?

**Get Involved. Stand Strong With HCEA.**

#### HCEA Board of Directors

##### President:

**Ryan Burbey**  
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### Upcoming Events

- 11/9,11/16 & 12/7 [Harford County Board of Education Meeting](#)  
6:30 PM HCPS A.A. Roberty Bldg.
- 11/19 HCEA Representative Assembly  
4:30 PM Paterson Mill Cafeteria
- 11/3 HCEA Board of Directors Meeting  
4:30 HCEA Office
- 11/3 **Aberdeen & Bel Air Municipal Elections**
- 11/12 Youth Forum on Race and Law Enforcement  
Aberdeen Boys & Girls Club  
100 East Bel Air Ave  
Aberdeen MD 21001



# less testing more learning



Standardized testing takes far too much time away from learning, preventing students from developing well-rounded skills and a love for learning. We need less testing and more learning in our schools.

**Have you had enough testing? Are you ready for less testing and more learning?** In cooperation with our state affiliate, HCEA is launching a campaign to give our teachers time to teach and give our students time to learn and play by reducing the massive burden of over-testing. Please take some time to visit <http://lesstestingmorelearning.com> to join our movement. You can join our Time to Learn, Time to Teach and Time to Play Committee by simply emailing [rburbey@mseanea.org](mailto:rburbey@mseanea.org). **Help us improve the lives and education of our students by ending the practice of over testing.**

October 2015

## Speak & Be Heard

### YOUTH FORUM ON RACE & LAW ENFORCEMENT

Join us at this open forum planned BY YOUTH FOR YOUTH to speak freely on the topic of race relations and law enforcement.

Thursday, November 12, 2015 • 4:00-5:30 PM • Aberdeen Boys & Girls Club • 100 E. Bel Air Ave.

#### Who will be listening?

- ⇒ Harford County Sheriff, Jeffrey Gahler, and other law enforcement officials
- ⇒ Citizens of Harford County seeking to deepen trust & build stronger, safer communities
- ⇒ Civic Leaders ready to learn and respond with next steps

YOUTH  
SPEAK  
OUT



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS  
OF HARFORD COUNTY

## Constitution Day Contest

\$1500 in Cash Prizes!

Harford County Students Submit Today!



Submission Deadline: November 1, 2015

Open to all Harford County Students.

Submissions will be read and a winner will be chosen by a non-partisan review board.



## Vote For Hunter Smith

November 3rd 2015

Lifelong Harford County Resident  
Current University of Maryland Student  
A Fresh Face in This Race

Aberdeen and Bel Air Municipal Elections  
Tuesday November 3rd

# Vote

# Golden Apple Plus



Earn Your **\$100** New  
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A program designed exclusively for Harford  
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## 2016 MSEA ELECTIONS

This year MSEA will elect:

- Two (2) NEA directors
- At-large delegates to the NEA Representative Assembly
- Regional delegates to the NEA Representative

**Nominations are due by November 20, 2015 at 5PM**

[Click here for the nomination form for all positions.](#)

## HCEA SPONSORED LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE

- Offering discounted **long-term care insurance** to HCEA members and their spouses/partners.
- Helping members protect their hard-earned assets.
- Giving members a way to remain in control of their healthcare choices.
- Providing members with peace-of-mind.

**For a no obligation consult and quote, contact:**

**Michael Markowitz**

• **410-455-0680**

[Mike.Markowitz@acsiapartners.com](mailto:Mike.Markowitz@acsiapartners.com)



## Know Your Contract

**8.10 Planning Periods.** Teachers in secondary schools shall receive not less than 225 minutes of unassigned planning time on a weekly basis and shall be scheduled for one unassigned planning period per day of not less than forty-five (45) consecutive minutes. Neither this provision, nor 8.8 below will apply during times when the normal school schedule must be adjusted during emergencies; or in cases when an individual teacher has requested in writing to teach more than the usual number of periods for teachers in that subject in that school, or in the case of a teacher who volunteers for other school activities during the scheduled unassigned planning period.

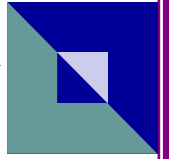
**8.11** The unassigned planning time provided on a weekly basis for elementary teachers shall not be less than 225 minutes. Classroom and special education teachers in elementary schools shall be scheduled for unassigned planning time during the regular day for students in increments of not less than forty five (45) consecutive minutes per day. All other elementary teachers shall be scheduled for unassigned planning time during the duty day in increments not less than forty five (45) consecutive minutes per day.

**Questions?**

**Contact HCEA (410) 838-0800**

[Click to View the](#)  
[2015-16](#)  
[Teacher Evaluation](#)  
[Model](#)

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