



Michelle Alexander

Position: Teacher

School: Richard Montgomery HS

Local Association: MCEA

Member: MSEA 25 years /NEA 25 years

I am Michelle Alexander, a Library Media Specialist and Building Rep at Richard Montgomery HS running for MSEA Board of Directors. As the daughter of educators who marched and fought for teachers' rights, I am not afraid to speak out on your behalf. We face challenges like withholding funds for public education but funding vouchers and private schools. There is always food in my library, because hungry students can't learn. I know when to be assertive, when to listen and how to negotiate to get results. I will support all locals' needs for greater union support and increased funding. I will speak out for fair evaluations that we have developed like Peer Assistance and Review, keeping inequitable test results out of the evaluation process. When we negotiate for benefits, wages, calendar control and less testing, more learning I will be your voice. I'm experienced in coalition building as a member of the NEA Black, Hispanic, Native and Asian American Caucuses and as a member of the MCEA 100, educators who came together to build community and set the direction of our unions future action. Let me use that experience to help all of Maryland's Educators. Please vote for Michelle Alexander.



Robin Beers

Position: Teacher

School: Benfield ES

Local Association: TAAAC

Member: MSEA 9 years /NEA 9 years

My journey as a union activist started during my first year teaching when I stood up to bullying from administration with support from my local. Since that time, I have learned so much about the immeasurable value of a strong union. By serving on the TAAAC Board of Directors as well as various local committees, I feel I have developed the leadership and advocacy skills to effectively and confidently represent my colleagues around the state as a member of the MSEA Board of Directors.

This summer, I was fortunate to serve as an MSEA Educators in Residence. Our team investigated current policies and programs that support early career educators, a topic particularly important to me having had five different teaching assignments in my nine year career. If elected to the Board, I would continue this important work and ensure that the voices of early career educators are heard. I am also a passionate advocate for special educators, related service professionals and ESPs. I have experience lobbying elected officials to affect positive changes for both students and educators. I have the time to give, the motivation to learn and a willingness to ask tough questions. Thank you for your support!



Leigh Bondrole

Position: Teacher

School: Edgewood HS

Local Association: HCEA(Harford)

Member: MSEA 1.5 years /NEA 14 years

Although my work with MSEA as only just begun, I have been active through my local union for over 10 years. In Arizona I moved from building representative to regional director for my local. Additionally I was afforded the opportunity to be part of the teacher leadership initiative in its first round. I moved to Maryland last year from Arizona, and I am passionate about helping advocate for quality public education for all students. I would like an opportunity to serve this community on the MSEA board of directors, as I feel I bring a unique perspective from a state which has faced much of the same issues in different ways.



Donna Christy

Position: Teacher

School: Psychological Services

Local Association: PGCEA

Member: MSEA 11 years /NEA 11 years

I have been an educator for 18 years and this is my second year as a member of the PGCEA Board of Directors. As a member of my local BOD, I understand that the guiding principle of all public educators is that it is more than a job. Together we create an environment that unleashes our enormous amounts of energy, dedication, and power. If elected, I will work to protect the value of our organization as a disciplined force on behalf of our members. My involvement within PGCEA, MSEA, and NEA has included the election or appointment to many different leadership positions. These include both MSEA and NEA Delegate, PGCEA Board of Directors, NEA Resolutions Committee, MSEA Building Strong Locals Workgroup, MSEA Bylaws and Rules Committee and, at the local level; Restorative Practices, Government Relations, and By-Laws Committees. Through my leadership experience, I would bring the extensive knowledge and skills to the MSEA Board of Directors. My experience has afforded me the opportunity to support a wide variety of our members and I have a firm understanding of the concerns of our membership. I look forward to your support and vote for Donna Christy for the MSEA Board of Directors.



Linda Firman

Position: Education Support Professional

School: Cradlerock Elementary

Local Association: HCEA(Howard)

Member: MSEA 14 years /NEA 14 years

As an active member of our Local and State Committee I will continue to represent all educators to ensure that Every Student Succeed Act (ESSA) brings you and I as stakeholders to the table.



Shane Hynson

Position: Education Support Professional

School: Lockerman MS

Local Association: CCEA(Caroline)

Member: MSEA 9 years /NEA 9 years

I am currently serving my second two-year term as the ESP Vice President for Caroline County Educators' Association. I've been at Lockerman Middle School for the past 12 years and my duties have been the Technology Facilitator and I'm currently serving as the Enrollment/Guidance Registrar and Homeless Liaison. I'm a proud 2015 graduate of the NEA Leaders for Tomorrow program. I serve on several committees within my local and state and I've recently been appointed to the NEA Resolutions Committee.



Linda McLaughlin

Position: Teacher

School: Local President

Local Association: EACC

Member: MSEA 11 years /NEA 21 years

I am currently serving as the local president of Charles County. I wish to be on the MSEA Board of Directors to speak for all members, and to be the voice from a smaller county and Southern Maryland at the state level. I am a passionate educator, and I want to support and speak for members from across the state. I have worked as a local PAC chair, as a local GR chair, as a delegate to MSEA and NEA, as co-chair of the MSEA elections committee at NEA – but no matter what job I am doing, I am an educator and an advocate. I am an advocate for my students, for all educators, and for what is right in my profession. I want educators' voices to have an impact in how Maryland views and treats education, educators and support staff. If you are asking yourself what impact one voice from one small county can have, ask yourself instead what kind of impact one small rock can have on a windshield? I want to be that voice, that rock, that impact that makes a difference. I am asking for your support and your vote for MSEA Board of Directors.



David Nicholson

Position: Teacher

School: Springbrook HS

Local Association: MCEA

Member: MSEA 24 years /NEA 24 years

In light of the recent election and climate here in Maryland, I have chosen to run for reelection to the MSEA Board of Directors (BoD).

Educators have continued to compromise and bargain in good faith because that is what we do. I'm tired of being taken advantage of because of our good natures. I believe this is the time to fight for what we value. I've been saying for years that public education is under attack. We need a BoD that will stand up for what is right for our members. This is a critical time, and I will have your back. I have taught in both Baltimore and Montgomery Counties, and our jobs are not getting any easier. Policy makers are rarely listening to what those of us in the classrooms, offices, and streets see every day. We must do a better job to make ourselves heard in ways that those in power cannot ignore. I have seen what this board is capable of doing in two years I have served. I will be your voice. Please vote for me, David Nicholson, to support your ideals and values.



Bill Reamy

Position: Teacher

School: Mitchell ES

Local Association: EACC

Member: MSEA 22 years /NEA 22 years

I wish to be a member of the MSEA BOD in order to give a renewed direction to MSEA in the following areas: 1) enhanced pension and health benefits, 2) equity in funding and resources throughout the state, 3) effective management of the MSEA and report back to members how their dollars are being spent.



Meddo Swaby

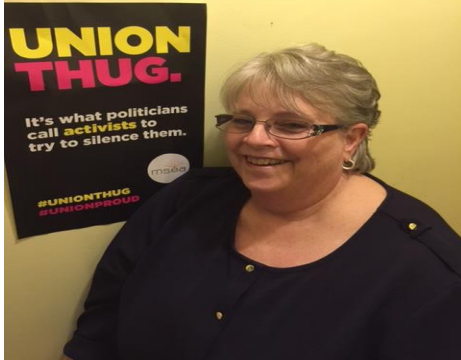
Position: Teacher

School: Fairlead Academy

Local Association: EASMC

Member: MSEA 8 years /NEA 8 years

My dear colleagues: I am seeking election to the MSEA Board of Directors and as a Delegate to the NEA Annual Meeting. From the very beginning, I have served EASMC, MSEA and NEA. I have joined hands with you, and thousands of teachers across the nation, to work towards great public schools and the éclat that we want for our students and teachers. I have served faithfully in the following ways: Member - EASMC: Vice- President Elect; Member- Board of Directors, Minority Affairs Chair (current), Building Representative; Member- NEA: Elected Delegate to the Representative Assembly; Participant- NEA Joint Conference on the Concerns of Minorities and Women; Member - MSEA: Appointed Member- MSEA Instruction and Professional Development Committee; Elected Delegate to the MSEA Representative Assembly; Appointed Member – Women’s Concerns Committee I graciously accept your vote with the promise to honor your confidence in me, to work tirelessly on your behalf as a member of the MSEA Board of Directors and to represent your interests at the Annual Meeting. Your valuable vote will help me to continue to serve my students and their families, as well as you, my colleagues, as we stride into the future together. Thank you!!! Faithfully, Meddo Swaby.



Robin Szymanski

Position: Teacher

School: South Carroll HS

Local Association: CCEA(Carroll)

Member: MSEA 20 years /NEA 20 years

In the past 10 years, as education has evolved, I found I could not silent. My desire to support educators goes beyond my certification of special educator. Institutional racism exists in our schools. Students who would benefit from restorative conferences, are instead, metaphorically sent to their bedrooms for punishment (in-school time out and suspension). We have raced to the top but the race had no clearly defined goal; there was no winner. While attempting to meet the demands of the “race,” we left behind many students, and lost many good educators. I want to be your voice, and work to ensure we no longer attempt to win a race. The process of educating students should never be a race. Races create divides. Some win, and many more lose. Our students don’t need races that can’t be won. I’ve served as a local Board member, chaired the MSEA Special Education Task Force, and been on other MSEA Committees. I want to support and represent all state members. Please elect me to the Executive Board of MSEA so that I can speak for you and our students to walk to become leaders, not run to win a race!



Nathaniel Wallace

Position: Teacher

School: Imagine Lincoln Public Charter School

Local Association: PGCEA

Member: MSEA 4 years /NEA 4 years

I have 10-years of experience in the field of education, 9 as an ESP and 1 as a Teacher.

Current member of NEA Black, Democratic, and Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender

Caucuses; MSEA Convention Planning and Arrangements Committee. I am 2015

participants of the NEA's Minority & Womens Leadership Training Program; NEA RA

Delegate 2014 & 2015. My former leadership

experience: Vice President, Human Services Division –SEIU Local 500; Building Rep;

Chair of Next Wave (working with millennial members); Chair- Consultation Committee;

Assistant Chair- Central Office Chapter all with ACE-AFSCME Local 2250. My community

involvement: Court Appointed Special

Advocate- Prince George's County; Mental

Habilitation Advocate- The Superior Court of the District of Columbia; Travelers Aid –

Region National Airport. “The challenge of leadership is to be strong, but not rude; be kind,

but not weak; be bold, but not bully; be

thoughtful, but not lazy; be humble, but not

timid; be proud, but not arrogant; have humor,

but without folly.” — Jim Rohn