

MSEA NEW BUSINESS ITEMS 2021

NBI 21-01 Lobby MSDE for Authentic Teaching of Black/African History

The MSEA President shall write to the Maryland State Department of Education encouraging them to set curriculum standards that teach authentic Black/African history.

Submitted by: Everett Hayes – Prince George’s County Educators’ Association
Seconded by: Donna Hayes – Prince George’s County Educators’ Association
Strategic Priority: Leading the Professions
Contact information for submitter: hayesgarry15@yahoo.com

Cost: \$-0-
Staff Cost: \$721.00

Rationale: The rationale behind this motion is first Black history is America’s history and is being left out of American history.

NBI 21-02 Fine and Performing Arts Classes that Fulfill ESSA

MSEA will request from MSDE information on staffing levels and length of instructional time at all grade levels in fine and performing arts classes to fulfill what the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) defines as a well-rounded curriculum. MSEA, partnering with Arts advocacy groups, such as, but not limited to the Maryland Arts Education Association (MAEA), Maryland Music Educators Association (MMEA), and Maryland Thespians, will use information collected to collectively advocate at the local and state level to best support the fine and performing arts within Maryland Public Schools.

Submitted by: Peter Ullmann – Education Association of Charles County
Seconded by: Sean Heyl – Education Association of Charles County
Strategic Priority: Leading the Professions
Contact information for submitter: bodhisattvaspath@gmail.com or 847-830-7997

Cost: \$-0-
Staff Cost: \$72,037.70

Rationale: As the recent pandemic has demonstrated, the arts are essential to our very being. Students overwhelmingly turned to the arts when our school buildings closed in order to provide emotional comfort, physical activity, and a sense of normalcy. Since the 2015 reauthorization of ESSA, the arts and music have been included in a definition of a “well-rounded education” - a term that has replaced the current definition of “core academic subjects,” which had included the “arts.”

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This goal of this NBI is to determine whether schools across Maryland are providing time and resources for instruction in fine and performing arts equal to those provided to any other subject included in a well-rounded curriculum.

NBI 21-03 Importance of Correctly Pronouncing and Spelling Student Names

MSEA shall offer its local associations material assistance to help train their members in the correct pronunciation and spelling of individual names, especially names from other countries and other cultures. This assistance will include information on known techniques and technical material. In addition to notifying local associations, MSEA will also inform MSDE that this information is available and ask them to encourage districts to make use of materials with all employees.

Submitted by: Sharon Flynn – Prince George’s County Educators’ Association

Seconded by: Jane Stern – Montgomery County Education Association

Strategic Priority: Leading the Professions

Contact information for submitter: shariesol79@gmail.com

Cost: \$-0-

Staff Cost: \$9,843.00

Rationale: Names given to students by their family members are important expressions of their family’s culture, history, and ancestral beliefs. Thus, names should be given due respect by correct pronunciation and spelling by all education professionals.

NBI 21-04 MSEA Recognition of LGBTQ+ History Month

MSEA will recognize LGBTQ+ history month beginning in October 2022 by sharing information about significant historical figures and events past and present in the work and advocacy of the LGBTQ+ community.

Submitted by: Russell C. Leone – Teachers Association of Anne Arundel County

Seconded by: George Kasnic – Harford County Education Association

Strategic Priority: Leading the Professions

Contact information for submitter: c: 240-997-6152

Cost: \$-0-

Staff Cost: \$2,841.00

Rationale: Many people are aware June is LGBTQ+ Pride month. However, fewer are aware that October is LGBTQ+ History month. This observance began in 1994

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sparked by the efforts of a Missouri high school teacher, Rodney Wilson. The selection of this month coincided with National Coming Out day (Oct. 11) and also because public schools are open across the country in October as opposed to June. LGBTQ+ History Month was endorsed by the National Education Association (NEA) in 1995. Even among our own MSEA membership, it has become evident that our members are not fully aware of the impact of LGBTQ+ citizens. We are educators and should begin educating ourselves about the people who have shaped the LGBTQ+ community of which so many of our students and colleagues are a part.