# TAAAC ACTION REPORT

Your Professional Organization

Vol. 51, Number 1

Teachers Association of Anne Arundel County, An MSEA/NEA Affiliate

September 2018

# 2018 Celebrate Educators Picnic

There may have been a few sprinkles on the last day of summer break, but the temperature could not have been better on Wednesday, August 22 for TAAAC's 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Celebrate Educators event at Sandy Point State Park. We had about 300 TAAAC members, vendors and guests to help kick off the new school year. Everyone enjoyed the outdoors, food, refreshments, prizes, games, and beach for the better part of the day.

It was a wonderful time for all of us to gather before the pressures of the school year to socialize with like-minded friends and colleagues. As one member put it, "This is great to see some people I only get to see at this event every year."

Franko's Catering did a bang up job with BBQ chicken, sweet corn on the cob, hot dogs, hamburgers, sausages and sides. The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Cornhole Tournament sponsored by the Maryland Residential Experts Team was a hit with all participants. The prize raffle was also a big hit with over 20 giveaways to lucky members. Families and friends tapped into their festive and playful side at the photo booth provided by Stella Crase from On Site Photography. Kids were treated to face painting by TAAAC member Carly Kreiwald, while kids of all ages enjoyed a treat from Kona Ice. Members found their way to the beach as well with their beach chairs and umbrellas.

The event raised over \$3,500 for the TAAAC Foundation which focuses on three areas of need within our TA-AAC/AACPS family. The children's fund helps provide glasses, coats, hats, and gloves for needy students. The scholarship fund helps AACPS graduating seniors offset some of their college costs. The Grants in Need Fund is a one-time grant to members who find themselves in difficult financial circumstances.

We received generous donations from businesses around the county. Our \$1000 Gold Sponsors included Clear Shark H2O and Hartford & Aflac Employee Plans Services, and our \$500 Bronze sponsor was Grand Canyon University. Additionally, we received \$250 donations from Horace Mann and Chesapeake Telephone Systems; \$200 donations from ACSIA Partners in Long Term Care and TAAAC-R; and \$100 donation from Long & Foster Real Estate, Inc.

The other businesses who donated in-kind items for giveaway bags and the raffle are highlighted elsewhere in this issue.

Thank you to all those who participated, and a special thanks to the Special Events Committee and all those who volunteered to create a great event. We would love to see some of your photos from the day.







Russell Leone

Welcome back to a year that has so much potential. As I must always begin, I can't thank you enough for everything you do for the students in Anne Arundel County. For the last 20 years, I have had the absolute joy to be a classroom teacher. In those years, I have worked with some truly inspiring teachers who put children's needs first. I look forward to meeting and working with many more of you who are the backbone of our schools.

I am excited to step into the role of your TAAAC President. While my tenure here at AACPS has been on the elementary level, I understand there are significant differences in working with older students. I have also had the good fortune to work in schools in varied locations. I have seen that not all schools are equal. That is why during my bid for this presidency, I ran under the slogan, "Diverse Needs, Collective Ideas, Unified Voice." In our county, the needs of schools, and therefore the needs of teachers, are not always the same. We must recognize that when our colleagues in another location are in need, whether it be class size, workload, or resources.

## Commentary

it is essential for all of us to rise together in the call for change. To be clear, there are many general issues that transcend and affect all of us, but how we address them is the key to meeting those needs.

"... it is essential for all of us to rise together in the call for change."

I see this year as the year that we can make greater gains. The landscape we face is filled with so many opportunities for us to impact change in our profession. Maryland is a strong labor state. However, we cannot assume that we are immune to attacks. So many of our union brothers and sisters who came before us fought to secure and guarantee many of the rights we enjoy today. Some of those rights include a duty-free lunch, guaranteed planning time, and set work hours. If we do not stay united and strong, these same rights could easily be rolled back and overturned. We are in the midst of a critical election cycle. We, as educators, must hold those who seek to make decisions that affect our schools, our classrooms, and our students accountable to address our needs. I have already spoken with many of those candidates to express that the county we love is letting our teachers down. Lack of increased salaries is impacting our

it is essential for all of us to rise ability to provide for our families, together in the call for change. To live in the county, and focus on our be clear, there are many general is
primary job.

Continuing to build strong relationships is crucial to our success. It is essential for us to be in the room with decision-makers. I have already coordinated with Dr. Arlotto and Dr. McMahon, to schedule monthly meetings. This will provide me time to use my voice to highlight the needs of our teachers around the county. We will also continue the work we have done through the ASI/TAAAC workgroup to address curriculum and instruction. Additionally, I have accompanied Dr. Arlotto on several school visits.

I'm sure you have heard someone you work with ask a question that starts, "What is TAAAC doing about...?" If you received this newsletter, then you are TAAAC. I challenge you to ask yourself, "What am I doing about ... ?" The answer to this question does not have to require all of your time. There will be many opportunities this year to stand up and use your voice. It may be as simple as making a phone call to a representative or handing out Apple Ballots on election day. It could be joining colleagues at a Board of Education or County Council meeting. We are over 6,000 strong. We must stand together for the public and our representatives to see our value. WE ARE TAAAC! As a unified voice, we will make this a great year!

#### **TAAAC Action Report**

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Board of Directors

Bill Jones, Executive Director and Managing Editor Roxanne L. Beach, Editor

Editors

# **From Contentia this month . . .** What does it mean to have a non-paid, duty-free lunch?

The Negotiated Agreement states that each school shall provide a duty-free lunch period of no less than 25 minutes for each Unit I member.

Maryland State Statute backs up the Negotiated agreement, stating the duty-free lunch period shall be for at least 30 minutes, unless the regular student lunch period is shorter.

It is clear, therefore, that a Unit I member's lunch must be at least 25 minutes, but would be required to be at least 30 minutes, or maybe more, in certain circumstances.

## When can your administration schedule your lunch?

While neither the Negotiated Agreement nor Maryland State Statute is clear on this issue, the resolution of several 1992 AACPS grievance disputes clarifies the issue.

## A Grievance Ruling for Lunch for Teachers explicitly states:

"The assignment of a teacher to duties during the lunch time must provide a duty-free lunch period during the normal student lunch time designated in your school. Lunch at 8:30, 9:30 or 1:30 – before or after the cafeteria is open to students – is not an acceptable time for a duty-free lunch period . . . Therefore, please schedule Unit I persons with a duty-free lunch during the normal student hours for lunch at your site." Kenneth E. Nichols, Administrative Assistant Superintendent for Instruction – Grievance Ruling – December 23, 1992

If your lunch period is otherwise scheduled, and you are unhappy with this situation, please call your MSEA UniServ Director immediately. This violation of your negotiated rights is grieveable!

Furthermore, you are not paid for the time your lunch is scheduled; your lunch time is not included in your week work of 37 ½ hours. You are not required to meet during this time, not required to supervise students, and not required to deliver students to the cafeteria nor to march them back to your classroom.

## **TAAAC** Foundation Donates Backpacks



Each year, the TAAAC Foundation joins with many other local community organizations and businesses to provide school supplies for students in our county. The TAAAC Community Outreach Committee assembled 50 backpacks filled with necessary supplies, such as paper, glue, pencils, folders, and notebooks for 5th grade

students at Monarch Academy Annapolis. Fifth grade teachers Teresa Mc-Cloud and Marcella Hess were on hand to receive the donation. Making sure students have what they need at the start of the year is just one way to support students' success in school and TAAAC is honored to play a small part in that. To find out more about the TAAAC Foundation, visit taaaconline.org and follow the tab "Who We Are" to "Philanthropy." If you are interested in working with the Community Outreach Committee, contact the TAAAC office.



New TAAAC member Jennifer Jackson from Meade High won the cash prize at New Teacher Onboarding.

**TAAAC Action Report** 

#### NOMINATIONS OPEN

The TAAAC Nominating Committee is accepting nominations for **Sick Leave Bank Approval Committee** for a 2 year term.

Nominations will be accepted until Wednesday, October 10, 2018 ARC meeting.

Name		
Address		
School		
Phone (C)	(W)	
Personal Email		

I would like to place my name in nomination for the following position(s):

Sick Leave Bank Approval Committee (2-year Term)

## **TAAAC Events Calendar**

## September 2018

- 5 TAAAC BOD 5:00 PM @ TAAAC Office
- 10 Sick Leave Bank @ TAAAC Office
- 12 Daytime Board of Education Meeting 10:00 AM @ BOE
- 12 ARC 5:00 PM @ Severna Park Middle
- 12 Middle School Concerns Committee Following ARC
- 18 Elementary Concerns 4:45 PM @ George Cromwell Elementary
- TBD High School Concerns 3:40 PM @ TAAAC Office
- TBD TAAAC Executive Team @ TAAAC Office
- 20 TAAAC ASI @ TAAAC Office
- 24 Sick Leave Bank @ TAAAC Office
- 26 Evening Board of Education Meeting 7:00 PM @ BOE

Visit www.taaaconline.org;

Pay Days 12th & 26th

# A Teacher Dress Code?

The issue of appropriate teacher attire is raised each and every school year. Conversations generally focus on the appropriateness of jeans, but leggings, flip flops, and various other articles of clothing have also worked their way into these discussions. As administrators around the county begin to address teacher attire, keep the following in mind:

- Unit I employees have a lawfully selected collective bargaining agent to represent them in salaries, wages, hours, and other conditions of employment. That agent is TAAAC.
- A dress code, including the question of whether or not one exists, is a topic for negotiations.
- The topic of dress code was brought to the bargaining table multiple times, the last being well over a decade ago. The result was that there was to be no mandatory dress code.

Except for teachers assigned to the central and satellite offices, there is no countywide dress code for school-based teachers. If there is to be one, it would be standardized and would be determined by the parties to the Negotiated Agreement, TAAAC and the Board. A principal, well-intended though he or she may be, is without authority to unilaterally determine and enforce a school-wide dress code.

Teachers in any school who would like to wear jeans or leggings but are being prohibited should contact TAAAC. The TAAAC staff would be happy to assist with an appropriate grievance or other action.

# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS (as of 8/17/18)

Martin Abegly Thomas Abel Christen Able Andrea Adegbesan Negar Adib Kathryn Adkins Tatiana Alvarado Nelson Alvarez Gabrielle Amaro Nancy Anderson Kaitlyn Anna Kelly Arnett Francis Arockiasamy Ashely Arscott Christopher Au Dawn Austin Courtney Awalt Colleen Ayala Marcie Balderson Leah Banks Tiffani Barb Jennifer Barbee Barbara Barrett Katharine Barry Ryan Basile Crystal Bassingthwaise Jennifer Bautista Nicholas Bazemore Adley Beairsto Steven Bellizzi Jenny-Lin Bennett Krystina Bennett Rapael A. Bernabe Stephanie Bernhalz Renee Beron Sharnice Berry Star Bey Christine Bickel Donald Black Kyle Blackiston Stephanie Bledsoe Banitta Blesson Victoria Blewitt Lindsey Blick Julie Blumstein Alyson Boersma Mary Boettinger Lisa Boggis Iennifer Bojazi Patricia Boliek Erik Booker Melissa Boone Michelle Bowker Aaron Brace Lauren Breem Joseph Brennan

Christopher Briles Nanci Brilliant **Emily Brown** Faith Brown Serena Brown Kevin Bryant Cynthia Bryl Peter Buck Andrew Bunker Bryan Burns Corey Burrell Shelby Burton Laura Butler Tina Butler Samantha Buxenstein Leanne Byron Erin Callahan Angelica Calloway Molly Calvert Cindi Camela Elizabeth Campagnone Autumn Campbell Kaythynn Capasso Courtney Carr Sarah Carr Johnny Carter, Jr. Courney Casey Phyllis Cephas Karyn Chandler Joes Chapman Paul Chedda Kimberly Chiang Kelsey Christensen Todd Christopher Thomas Chroniger Andrew Cizek Stephanie Claar Sarah Clark Elizabeth Coburn Gabrielle Conley Samantha Connastser **Iillian Conto** Matthew Cornelius Lauren Costa Clair Cozad Dylan Craig Allison Crean Glenna Cuevas Kristen Cullen Kaitlyn Curley Matthew Curran Marissa D'Angelo Heather Dalik Juliann Davidson Courney Dawson Brittany Debelius

John Deltenzel

Dorothy Delucchi Casey Desrosiers Catherine Devillez Lindsey Dewey Princess Dickens Michele Diekelman Dana Digiorgio Chelsea Divenanzio Elizabeht Dixon David Doane Raneeka Doharty Pamela Dotson Malachi Drummer Stefanie Dubose Erin Dudley Amy Duffy Lilly Duncan Mary Duncan Carol Durell Kimberly Dykstra Mary Dzambo Austin Eagle Tiffani Easterday Stacy Eckels Somgogoko Kysha Egongbemi Tema Encarnacion Jacqueline Erney Lauren Eusanio Dawn Feibel Madonna Fick Nicole Fielder Brianna Figueiras Nathan Fincher Diana Fino Anthony Fiore Stefanie Fisher Howard Fletcher Hannah Floyd Sara Ford Anna Foster Lori Fowler Jamie Frank Laura Fryer Kristie Garrett Ashley Gates Caroline Geoghegan Sameel Gheba Leslie Gibson Michael Glick Jodi Glienke Rachel Glorioso Lindsey Goodrich Jasmine Goodwyn Caitlin Gorecki Jeffrey Goss Talisa Goss Jennifer Graham

Susanna Brightwell

# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS (Continued)

Tymeerah Grandy Mollie Grantham Tina Gray Sarah Greaney Natalie Green Andrew Greenbaum Alexandra Griffin Kerry Guglielmini Laura Guidinetti Gilbert Gutierrez Celeste Hairston Kathaline Hall Andrew Hallman Tory Harbach Micheyla Haro Caitlin Harrington Bryan Harris Ethan Hart Mikayla Heckler Amanda Hedges Jonathan Helman Analisa Hennessey Patricia Hertzler Tyrone Hines Derek Hocker Rebecca Hodder Tracy Hodges Karen Hodges Melissa Holdren Radgiria Hopkins Sarah Horn Amal Houck Ashley Howard Alexander Howell Lvnn Howell Leah Huddleston Leah Humphries Stephanie Hunter Selene Hurely Lauren Hutchison Caroline Isaacs Jennifer Jackson Jhonabell Jackson Vittoria Jackson Jennie James Margaret James Leah Jenkins Allison Johnson Colleen Johnson Elizabeth Johnson Nikki Johnson Jaime Jones Lulu Jones Rebecca Keating Stephanie Kelley Meghan Kelly Andrew Kennedy

Sarah Kerno Carolyn Kiah Stephanie Kiefer Patrick Kiley **Eunice Kim** Hyo Kim **Emily Kivi** William Klotz, Jr. Sydney Knoover Sarah Kolodziej Gladys Kondracki Mary Krizek Timothy Kurtzberg Erika Ladd Topaze Lake Sydney Lamarsh Carolyn Landis Chad Lane Jessica Lang Benjamin Lasher Breia Lassiter Ashely Lawson Deidra Lazard Melissa Leccese Casey Lee (Wayson) Karama Lee Brooke Lefevre Juliana Lefort Sarah Leming Theresa Liddy Melissa Lindsay Teresa Linehan Chelsea Logsdon Christopher Lombardi Lauren Longacre Shannon Lopata Catherine Lopez Megan Louder Rebecca Loveday Kristen Lowder Rachel Lowrie Jordan Lumpkin **Emily Lynham** Jessica Macrae Melissa Mahoney Rebecca Maier-Summers Erin Malley Eugene Malloy Athena Maloney Meghan Mang Jonathan Martin Kathryn Martin Paige Martin Rachel Martin

Deanna Masters Ariana Matthews Carleen Mazaika Meghan McArdle Laura McCarter Teresa McCloud Erin McElyea Nakia McKinky Molly McKone Jennifer McLeran Kerry McMillan Lauren McQuinn Hannah McVey Carolyn Mercer Danielle Merrill Stephen Metzger Jessica Michaels Kelly Miguelez Lucybeth Gutierrrez Miguilena Madison Mildenberger Melissa Mildenberger Denise Miles Casey Miller Hayley Miller William Miller Daquan Mincy Rosalia Misuraca Alexander Molster Cameron Moltz Manuel Navaro Montew Michele Monnig Gabriella Moraniec Jordan Moore Krista Moraniec Kelcey Morlan Erin Morris Rachel Morris Jonathan Morrone **Emily Morrow** Perry Moskowitz Meloney Mosley Theresa Mudd Kelly Mulka Margaret Murray Christina Myrie Megan Nappi Christina Narducci Sarah Neas Lauren Nelson Amanda Newswanger Catherine Noppenberger Emily Odell Kimberly Ogden Shannon O'Neil Douglas O'Neill Jessica Owens Sabrina Padgett

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Aubrey Mason

Jona Ram Mason

Roeanne Mason-Sanburn

# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS (Continued)

Nirmal Pahadi Kaitlyn Palmer Christopher Papson Pooja Parkash Michael Parker Amanda Parks Mary Peake Jennifer Pecor Michael Penn Paula Perrodin Tiffany Pfeiffer Tatiana Pierre-Tilus Victoria Phillips Tracy Pietromica Irfan Piskin Candice Pledger Sarah Poling-Tharp Sarah Poole Jeffrey Postell Christina Powers Daniel Powell Norris Powell Caitlin Presley Jennifer Quinn Marissa Raimond Lauren Rakvic Monica Ramsey Megan Raup Keith Raynor Kreghan Rebstock Adam Reddan Brittany Redell Sarah Reed Daniel Reitzloff Ingrid Reyes-Leiva Heather Ricardi Olivia Richardson Carlos Rios Wilma Rios Samantha Ritis Lisa Rizzuto Xeavin Robertson Christina Robey Aquilah Robinson Esther Robinson **Iessica Robinson** Kyle Robinson Sheila Robinson Corinne Roche Rachael Roesler Elke Rogers Amy Rondeau Kaitlyn Roos Carolina Rosado Deidra Rose-Lazard Brianna Ruleman Gilbert Rupp

David Russell Claudia Salazar Victoria Salefski Nicole Sammartino Alyssa Santos **Emanuel Santos** Samantha Saunders Kristen Scalice Leanna Schindling Elizabeth Schlude Mary Schmaltz Melissa Schmidtz Alexandra Schneider Erin Schott Matthew Schriener Julie Schrumm Deanna Sebastian Victoria Sereboff Kathryn Shelton Monica Shenton Bridget Sherry **Brittany Sherwin** Courney Shreve Kylie Siegel Molly Sinnott Sarah Sinnott Jennifer Smith Katherine Smith Kayla Smith Meghan Smith Amber Snapp Ginger Snapp Chevenne Snider Diannette Soto-Barreto Melinda Souther Stephanie Spano Katherine Speicher **Emily Spicer** Patricia Squires Catelynn Spriggs Shannon Stalker Ashley Stanton Michelle Staub Elizabeth Stauffer Lark Stawas Edward Steele Nina Stein Samantha Stein Despina Stephanos Geeta Stowe Amelia Sunday Corey Swain Jessica Swearinger Matthew Swensen Samira Tanedo

**Bayley Taylor** 

Sierrah Taylor

Daniel Tebo Amanda Tepper Jamie Tettey Erin Thompson Joshua Thompson Linda Thoms Kristina Toth Lauren Toth Susan Travis Nicole Trigg Amanda Tucci Latrena Turner Jessica Tyler Alison Vannoy Mariene Vasquez Michaela Vila Molly Volk Antonia Vondiezelski Ioanne Waddell Christine Wagner Hanna Walker Rebecca Wallace Adelaide Watson Tiara Watts Deanna Webber Lauren Weicht Francis Weiss Morgan Weller Jalen Wells Shanay Wheeler Aysia White Kristine White Lindsey White Mikayla White Stephanie White Kylie Wightman Jacqueline Wiley Adrina Williams Bartel Williams Jennifer Williams Mesha Williams Michael Williams Adriana Willingham Eric Wilson Glen Wingvouc Megan Winslow Julie Witzgall Matthew Wojciechowski Lindsey Wolfe Madeleine Wood **Emily Worden** Adilah Wutoh-Baylor Charles Youngkin Rachel Yu Karen Zhao Alison Zick

(New Members as of 8/17/18)

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Michael Markowitz – 410-455-0680 Mike.Markowitz@acsiapartners.com





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FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT YOUR TAAAC COUNSELOR: Fahad Khan | Fahad.Khan@gcu.edu | 602-247-4955 | gcu.edu/udc/fahad.khan

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#### **Suzanne Herrmann**

☎ Office: (703) 795-0406 Cell: (301) 985-2020

Suzanne\_herrmann@us.aflac.com
 SA





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TAAAC would like to thank all of our Celebrate Educators Picnic Sponsors. We could not do our event without you!



















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