

MEA-Retired at a glance: Who are we, and what do we do?

Guess we are STILL relevant and important!

*In a report presented by MEA President Paula Herbart at the October 4, 2019 meeting of the MEA Board of Directors, the **number one concern of new members is having a pension.***

We're the "daytime face of MEA," with members able to accomplish some tasks during the day when our active members are working.

Membership includes over 37,000 fully-paid members throughout the state.

Over three dozen local chapters have been established, and two are forming in Kalamazoo and Port Huron.

Interesting Facts:

We have a group of members trained to be lobbyists; they go to Lansing and talk with legislators.

Large groups of MEA-Retired members will visit the Capitol on relatively short notice to do the same.

We are one of the largest NEA-Retired affiliates in the country; we sent 37 delegates to the NEA-Retired Annual Meeting and the NEA Representative Assembly in Houston last summer.

Members of our state affiliate have important roles at the national level

- ✓ NEA-Retired Secretary Dan Rudd
- ✓ NEA Board of Directors member Barb Schram
- ✓ NEA Resolutions Committee member Sid Kardon

Who runs the show?

Delegates to the MEA-Retired Annual Meeting elect three officers—President, Vice President and Secretary-Treasurer for a three-year term. Over 200 delegates from throughout the state represent their chapters and regions at the event.

Board of Directors comprised of one director from each of 17 regions, the Immediate Past President and liaisons from the following categories:

- ✓ Educational Support Professionals, or ESP
- ✓ Michigan Association of Higher Education, or MAHE
- ✓ Minority (representing ethnic minorities)
- ✓ NEA-Retired member of the NEA Board of Directors (if one happens to be from Michigan)

The MEA-Retired Executive Board is made up of the three officers and three Board members who are elected for two-year terms on the EB.

All three groups meet four times a year (September, October, January and March) on consecutive days at MEA HQ in East Lansing to conduct the business of the association.

The organization has several committees that help accomplish the goals of MEA-Retired.

What constitutes the business of the association?

Typical Board meeting agenda items:

- ✓ Reports from officers, committee chairs and other individuals
- ✓ Presentations from MEA officers and staff
- ✓ Discussion of legislative issues that affect both current and retired public school employees
- ✓ Discussion of various business items, which may include items as varied as changing financial institutions, commitment to an issue, information about an upcoming event that members may attend
- ✓ Nomination of individuals for various offices

What can YOU do to be an active member of MEA-Retired?

- ✓ Be or become a lifetime MEA/NEA member
- ✓ Join your local chapter and participate in the activities offered
- ✓ Read the publications provided via both snail mail and online
- ✓ Lend your talents and voice to help protect what you earned

**VOTE in the MEA-Retired
annual election
in February
and support candidates
for statewide office!**

MEA-Retired: The Commitment Continues!