

# MEA MONITOR

Moline Education Association

November/December 2018

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## President's Report - Susan Hafner

Hello Everyone-

It is November and this month is going to go quickly. Next week, we will be off on Monday to honor Veterans Day, and beginning the 19th, we will have the entire week to enjoy our families and the Thanksgiving holiday. Before we know it, December will be here and we will be busier than ever--getting ready for music programs, decorating our rooms and homes, celebrating with colleagues and friends, and, of course, shopping for those perfect presents.

With the change in the weather and our very busy schedules, we may find ourselves or our family members getting sick at a time that doesn't seem to allow us to be so. To help, I want to encourage you to try the Virtual Visit on our Blue Cross Blue Shield site. I recently tried it when two of my children had some health issues. My first virtual visit was for my son who had an earache, probably caused by swimmer's ear. I logged on and entered his information on the MDLIVE website and heard back from the doctor within 30 minutes. The doctor called and asked for his symptoms and then prescribed drops to help. He also said that he wasn't to swim for four days and needed to wear ear plugs for the week after that. For my other son, he had a skin condition, so I had to upload a picture. The doctor spoke to us online and looked at it live as well. He also called in a prescription to help with the healing process. I loved that I did not have to leave my home for either visit, and the bonus is that there is no co-pay for virtual visits. For minor issues, I highly recommend trying this new option. I will admit that I was very skeptical at first, but after my experiences, I will continue to use the virtual visits in the future. The steps for a virtual visit are:

1. Log on to the Blue Cross Blue Shield website
2. Click on Virtual Visits
3. Click on Visit MDLIVE Website

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4. You will see “Who needs help today?” and your name should be listed
    - a. If the visit is for a family member, you will need to enter his or her information
    - b. After entering the information, click on the person who the doctor needs to “see”

On a different note, I was disappointed in our most recent professional development on Wednesday, October 31st. The focus was supposed to be safety, rather than taking care of yourself, and many people wanted to hear from the police officers, who only had around twenty minutes to speak. Also, reading a thirty slide powerpoint is never a good idea, for adults or students. I voiced my disappointment to administration and pointed out that if a teacher did a lesson like that, he or she would have scored very low on the Danielson model. The expectations for an engaging presentation--or lesson--should not be different for teachers and administrators.

During this month, the superintendent search firm will be narrowing down the applicants to the final three. The names of the final three will be released to the public, along with bios for each one. The board will be conducting the final interviews in December and the new superintendent will be announced in January if everything goes as planned.

This is such an interesting time of year--we are busier than ever, but it is also a great time of fun, family, and friends. I hope all of you enjoy these next few weeks and take some time to relax during the hectic holiday season. For me, I look forward to Christmas shopping without my children--I don't want them to see what they are getting under the tree. It is amazing how therapeutic a little adult time can be--that is definitely my way of “taking care of myself.” 😊

Have a great beginning to the holidays-  
Susie

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## AR Secretary's Report - Emily Roberts

Moline Education Association  
Association Representatives Meeting  
Thursday, October 11th, 2018

The MEA Association Representatives met Thursday, October 11th, 2018, at the IEA office, Moline. President Susie Hafner called the meeting to order at 3:45pm. There were 20 ARs and 8 Executive Board members in attendance; no quorum was present.

In the absence of Treasurer Steve Sundberg, President Hafner reported balances in all accounts. It was voted (January 2015) to not publish the dollar amounts in the MEA budget in neither the minutes nor the Monitor. Members with questions regarding the MEA account balances are asked to contact Treasurer Steve Sundberg.

### Committee Chair Reports:

**Membership** – in the absence of Chair Heidi Norcross, President Hafner reported membership stands at 441.

**Elections** – Lori Wesemann reported that nominations for candidates to the IEA RA convention open October 24th. MEA is allowed five candidates; members interested should call the IEA office, Lori Wesemann, or President Hafner, to have their names placed on the ballot. Nominations close November 12th. The convention is April 11-13th, 2019, at the Hyatt Regency in Chicago.

**Legislative** – Raegan Jones reminded the ARs that IEA supports gubernatorial candidate JB Pritzker. Members interested in helping with the campaign are encouraged to go to Pritzker's local office, 3814 27th Street, Moline.

**Region 18** – Lori Wesemann informed ARs that members may receive two free magazine subscriptions from IEA. Subscriptions may also be "gifted" to another person. Forms are available at [www.NEAMB.com/ILGet2](http://www.NEAMB.com/ILGet2).

**Public Relations** – Kim Anderson reported that the AR list was updated on the MEA website, and asked members to send her good news articles and pictures for the blog.

**Social** – no report.

**Grievance/Negotiations** – no report.



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Old Business:

President Hafner informed ARs that a survey would be sent regarding the October 10th EdCamp in-service. The October 31st in-service might include safety and ALICE training.

The new hires for Moline School District were listed in the Monitor; pictures are being included in the Monitor.

President Hafner reported that the Superintendent search is on-going.

New Business:

President Hafner has talked with Superintendent McGuire about creating a better plan for students with behavior issues who do not need the ED room. Members were reminded to bring a student to the Problem Solving Team as soon as possible.


President Hafner shared the technology survey results with Superintendent McGuire.

A.R. Concerns:

- It was voted (2010-2011) to not publish AR concerns in the Monitor. ARs were reminded to communicate concerns discussed at the meeting with the other MEA members they represent. President Hafner will discuss most issues in the "President's Corner" section of the Monitor or send superintendent's responses directly to the ARs for dissemination to members.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:27pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Emily Roberts  
MEA Secretary



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## Meet Our New Teachers!!!!!!



Kassie Cabage, 1st grade at Jane Addams



Melissa Howard joins the Special Education Department at MHS.



Carol Harpole returns to MHS in the English Department.

## MEA Member News

### Condolences to:

- Tammy Ruthey (Bicentennial) on the death of her father-in-law