Regional stakeholder meetings to identify Missouri priorities set

Each begins at 6 p.m.  
September 6 – Bolivar  
September 7 – Kirksville  
September 8 – Fulton  
September 15 – St. Joseph  
September 19 – Salem  
September 20 – Sedalia  
September 21 – Blue Springs- KC area  
September 28 – Pattonville- STL area  
September 15 – St. Joseph  
October 4 – Cape Girardeau

Please plan to attend the regional meeting near you, and encourage others to attend. The new federal Every Student Succeeds Act requires changes to the Missouri School Improvement Program for school accountability. Missouri NEA supports a decrease in the importance of standardized test results in a new MSIP. DESE plans to develop a consolidated state plan, elements of which will be used to meet the requirements of ESSA and revise MSIP. DESE set nine regional meetings to gather information from many stakeholders to inform the consolidated plan. Each meeting will start at 6 p.m., with exact locations to be announced.

The questions asked of participants are not finalized, but here are some possibilities given:

♦ What matters most in public education?
♦ What does a good school look like?
♦ How would you measure what makes a good school?
♦ What makes a well-educated student?
♦ What makes a student well prepared for life after high school?
♦ How can the State provide local schools with the essential support needed for continuous improvement?

One board member suggested adding a question on how schools can better prepare students for high quality jobs. If you have suggestions for questions, please email them to Ann.Jarrett@mnea.org.

One board member reported only about 30% of households today include K-12 students, while several decades ago the number was 70%. Engaging those who do not currently have K-12 children in the home should increase support for public education.

To find out more about the possibilities opened by ESSA, and get ideas about engaging stakeholders in your community, join the Missouri ESSA Implementation group on NEA edCommunities at www.myNEA320.org. Or go to getESSAright.org for national information.
Board appoints educators to revise personal finance standards

The Personal Finance Standards have not been revised since 2006. State statute requires that a work group consisting of parents and educators make recommendations to modify or revise current learning standards. State statute allows the state board to appoint five of the seventeen workgroup members. Missouri NEA member Lonzo Boles, North Kansas City, was among those appointed.

Missouri Performance Assessment passing scores set for 2016-2017

All pre-service teachers must complete the Missouri Performance Assessment during student teaching. For the 2016-2017 school year, the board adopted the passing scores recommended by MACCE and MABEP: 37 of 60 points possible on the video or the non-video version of the assessment. If this passing score had been used in 2015-2016, 76% would have passed the video version, and 82% would have passed the non-video version. DESE hopes to track scores on this performance assessment and compare with the performance and retention of teachers in their first few years to see if the assessment is a predictor of teaching practice.

Directives for Fiscal Year 2018 Missouri Budget Planning Considered

A new governor and new state lawmakers will determine the FY 2018 state budget during the 2017 Missouri legislative session, but DESE must submit budget requests in October 2016. Guidance this year asks state departments to create budget requests in two parts: what is needed for the mandatory budget and what is needed to meet the responsibilities of the department to Missouri residents. This will allow DESE to submit budget requests that include things like increasing transportation funding to districts, school improvement funds to help high needs schools, expand quality early childhood programs, and support professional development. The November 8 election results will affect the level of support for education in the FY 2018 budget.

In other business, the board:

- Set scores for achievement levels on the MAP-Alternative Science Assessment administered in spring 2016. The new MAP-A is embedded in instruction and was created by Dynamic Learning Maps consortium of states, including Missouri.
- Appointed Hickman Mills superintendent Dennis Carpenter to the Missouri Advisory Board for Educator Preparation.

The next meeting of the State Board of Education will be September 13, 2016. Missouri NEA will be there! If you have any questions, contact Brent Fullington or Ann Jarrett at 800-392-0236. Details of state board agenda items can be found at http://dese.mo.gov/state-board-education/agendas-minutes.

Respectfully submitted,
Brent Fullington, MNEA vice president
Ann Jarrett, MNEA teaching and learning director

Brent.Fullington@mnea.org
Ann.Jarrett@mnea.org