

## REPORT CARD

### *Status of New Business Items Passed or Referred at the 2025 Representative Assembly*

#### **New Business Item #1, Protecting Educators from Violence in the Workplace**

The MEA RA directs its leadership to create a task force to advocate for and support legislation at the state and federal level that protects educators from physical violence in the workplace, as law enforcement and medical personnel already have. This includes working with lobbyists to encourage legislative measures that:

1. Establish clear policies and consequences for violence perpetrated against educators, including incidents involving students with special needs, while ensuring appropriate interventions and supports;
2. Ensure school districts provide comprehensive training for educators on de-escalation techniques, behavioral intervention strategies, and working with students who may have violent outbursts,
3. Provide resources and support for preventing and responding to incidents of violence;
4. Secure funding for ongoing training, resources, and support;
5. Require schools to report incidents of violence against educators and implement transparent accountability measures;
6. Address the impact of violent outbursts on classroom environments;
7. Uphold educators' rights to a safe working environment without fear of retaliation for reporting violent incidents. Furthermore, the MEA will collaborate with stakeholders, including educators, policymakers, and community organizations, to develop solutions that balance student needs with educator safety.
8. Ensure that students are placed in their least restrictive environment with appropriate support professionals provided and that class sizes reflect the complex needs of students within classes.

The task force will, at minimum, provide a report, in writing or otherwise, to the Spring RA each year.

**Result:** Adopted.

**Status:** This task force has been created, with the goal of this group of 12 members – 3 per Zone – working with a pre-existing MEA staff task force to bring greater attention to student behavior and school violence issues, develop strategies to address problems (including both legislative and locally-bargained approaches), and advocate for adoption of those solutions. MEA has engaged in messaging and policy research throughout the year to support this work, along with efforts to raise member concerns about disruptive/dangerous student behavior and school employee workplace safety through lobbying and public relations outreach. A full report of activities and planned next steps will be presented to the RA in April.

### **New Business Item #3, Hotel Funding**

The MEA RA directs the MEA Board of Directors to review the reimbursement policy for hotel reimbursement for the spring RA from 50% to 100% effective for the 2026 spring RA.

**Result:** Adopted.

**Status:** Implemented as directed for the 2026 Spring RA.

### **New Business Item #4, Learning from the Past**

The RA directs the MEA to create a statewide educational campaign for MEA membership highlighting the devastating impact Governor Snyder's administration and anti-education elected leaders had on public education and union rights before the next governor's election using all available communication and resources.

**Result:** Adopted.

**Status:** Efforts around this NBI have been underway throughout the school year in the context of Election 2026 preparations. Understanding that a significant group of MEA members have begun working as educators since 2012, many do not fully understand the impact of Snyder-era changes, nor the gains made over the past 8 years to fix these issues. To focus our education and mobilization efforts, MEA has engaged in member and public research on these topics, then completed a series of "Fact v Fallacy" *MEA Voice* stories about testing, funding and policy churn (to be published in April) as well as several conference training sessions. Plans to incorporate this into Election 2026 efforts will be further outlined in a report to the RA in April.