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A full color electronic version of this newsletter can be found on our website.

June 2025

The



# Advocate

## President's Message >>>

## Welcome new ACEA Members!

### Unit 1

Jennifer Arbogast	BE
Jaymee Gilmore	WA
Rachel Winebrenner	GC

### Unit 4

Katherine Crosten	WM
Keri Harvey	MR
Misty Rollman	BE

Last Day for ACPS Students:  
Tuesday, June 10  
Last Day for ACPS 10-month Educators:  
Wednesday, June 11  
But who's counting?!?

## "The Rain Rain Rain Came Down Down Down..."

I was recently watching *The Many Adventures of Winnie the Pooh* with my grandchildren when the segment played about the flooding of The Hundred Acres Woods. My mind immediately returned to the traumatic events experienced by our colleagues, students, and community on May 13. While Pooh and his friends are obviously fictional, there are several parallels that can still be made.

Most importantly, like the safe rescue of Pooh and Piglet, ALL were safely rescued by the many emergency personnel who came from near and far to assist. As a first action, the ACEA Board of Directors authorized a donation in the amount of \$500.00 to honor and thank Potomac Fire Co. Number 2 and to help continue their ongoing and essential work.

We have also been advocating at the local, state and federal level for any economic flood relief for those members who lost vehicles and sharing resources as available. Like Pooh and Piglets friends, you can help offset this loss by contributing to several funds which have been established and can be found on our website at: <https://aceamsea.org/home/donate-to-assist-our-westernport-elementary-colleagues/> or via the QR code below. It is our understanding that this the GoFundMe opportunity is scheduled to close on June 14, so don't delay!

Finally, we are scheduling multiple opportunities to meet with our ACEA members at Westernport to determine short and long term needs. Stay tuned for additional opportunities to help our colleagues this summer as requested, and let them know how proud we are of them!



Kim

Kimberly Sloane

ACEA President

[ksloane@mseanea.org](mailto:ksloane@mseanea.org)

Congratulations to these ACEA Members and Class of 2025 Retirees: Karen McCabe, Lynn Muir, Scott Van Vlack, Kathryn Anderson, Teresa Mathews, and Teresa Largent.

# The 2025 **ACEA** ESP of the Year



## Congratulations to Stephanie Scaletta,

Instructional Assistant at South Penn Elementary School, for being selected as the **2025 ACEA Educational Support Professional of the Year!** Stephanie was nominated by her colleague, Susan Sommers, an Instructional Assistant who also works at South Penn, and was selected by our committee of retired educators.

In her nomination, Susan shared: *If there is a situation that requires patience, Stephanie is called upon. If there is a situation where someone needs assistance with an unhappy student, Stephanie is there. In any given school year, Stephanie will have moved job responsibilities multiple times. In each situation she does phenomenally. Stephanie has a true heart for the students. She attempt to give every student the best day each day. She can often be heard saying "it's a clean slate. That was before – let's start over."*

A well-deserved honor indeed!

## Contemplations by Cresta

As we close out this school year, I am full of gratitude. I am grateful for the safety of our staff, students, and communities during the flooding. I am grateful for the way our friends and neighbors support one another. Thankful for the participation of ACEA members in the events and programs held by our local. And grateful for the opportunities that are present as we look forward to next year.

In 2025/2026, we have a fully open contract, which will provide us with an opportunity to advocate for items that were raised as priorities in the survey completed by 40% of the membership. Contract negotiations are a time when solidarity is vital because ACEA represents a wide variety of jobs that are integral to our school communities. As Henry Ford said, "Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success." Be on the lookout for ways you can further your involvement with ACEA's negotiations and support the work being done for all members of the local association!

As we have seen this year, when we support one another in big and small ways, incredible things happen. I look forward to the coming year and what awaits the membership of ACEA. I hope you find time to enjoy what brings you peace and joy over the coming weeks—have a relaxing, restorative summer!

## Join us in Hagerstown!

Summertime is your best time to take advantage of learning opportunities **free** from MSEA and ACEA. For this reason, we have planned a regional opportunity for our members in the west. If you plan to attend and would like to carpool with other members, just email Kim [ksloane@mseanea.org](mailto:ksloane@mseanea.org) and let her know so she can coordinate our travel. Among the workshops being offered include topics on discipline, retirement, conflict resolution, trauma, and more...



REGISTER NOW

[marylandeducators.org/western-maryland-education-practices-summit-2025/](https://marylandeducators.org/western-maryland-education-practices-summit-2025/)

**WESTERN MARYLAND  
ED PRACTICES SUMMIT**  
HEALTHY &  
EMPOWERED SCHOOLS:  
Reclaiming and Reframing  
Public Education

Location - Washington County Public Safety Training Center  
18350 Public Safety Place, Hagerstown, MD 21740  
(Easy access from Interstate 70; take the Sharpsburg Pike exit.)



- Sessions for Educational Support Professionals, Teachers, and A&S Staff
- Lunch & Early Bird Registration Incentive Provided by **Marathon Health**

Drive In for the Day & Drive Home By Dark



OR

Stay for a **Fireworks Friday** Baseball Game w/the Boxcars! First **50 registrants** will receive a free ticket to the game, compliments of **Marathon Health**.

Planned by & for MSEA Members in

Allegany, Carroll, Frederick, Garrett, and Washington Counties



## NEW\$ THAT PAY\$

### AUGUST 27th PAY!

August 2025 is a 3-pay month for deductions. Therefore, the August 27, 2025, pay will have optional deductions turned off, and they will start on the pays in September. This is also the first pay of the fiscal year for 10-month employees. Click for the [2025-2026 ACPS Pay Schedule](#) on our website.

### NEA Member Benefits

ACEA Members have used their NEA Benefits to purchase new tires, new computers, to book a trip, and rent a car at the best rates! To find out more and save, go to

<https://www.neamb.com/>