

2012 PGCEA GENERAL ELECTION GUIDE

On the following pages, you'll find names, brief biographical information, and statements from candidates for PGCEA Treasurer (1 seat available) and PGCEA Board of Directors-at-Large (4 seats available). Each serves a 2 year term (2012-2014).

Also included are five (5) proposed By-law amendments.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The PGCEA Board of Directors is composed of three (3) elected officers (president, vice president, and treasurer) plus eight (8) at-large members.

The board is responsible for the fiscal affairs and general management of the Association, the interpretation of policies, the preparation of the proposed budget, and much more. The PGCEA Board of Directors sets the course for PGCEA and decides how to use its staff and resources.

Candidates whose bios and photos were submitted on time appear in these pages. Candidates are listed in alphabetical order but will appear on the ballot in the order as determined by a random drawing conducted by the Nominations, Elections and Credentials Commission (NECC). All materials are presented as written by the candidates.

BY-LAWS

The PGCEA By-Laws are the governing documents of the Association. They may only be changed



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once a year by a super majority of 66% of those casting a ballot.

There are five (5) proposed By-law amendments on the ballot. Each proposed amendment is in [**bracketed and bold text**], and a rationale for each proposed amendment is also offered. On your ballot you will vote either “**yes**” or “**no**” for the proposed amendments.

Make a difference—vote!

Faculty Representatives will hold the election during the week of March 5-9. If the site has no PGCEA Faculty Representative the Nominations, Elections and Credentials Commission (NECC) will mail the ballots to the members' home. Ballots are also automatically mailed to members if their assigned site is an office and/or special center, unless specified by the Faculty Representative. Only PGCEA/MSEA/NEA members may sign for and cast a ballot.

∞ 2011-2012 ∞

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
THE BY-LAWS
APPROVED FOR THE MARCH
2012 BALLOT**

ARTICLE VI – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 5. Faculty Representatives Election,
Term of Office, and Qualifications.

Vacancies on the Board of Directors in any other office except the offices of President, Vice President, and Treasurer shall be filled through an election at the Representative Council [**within 60 days of the announcement of the vacancy**]. The Nominations, Elections, and Credentials Commission will declare the vacancy. Nominations may be taken in advance or the first fifteen (15) minutes of the council where the election will be held.

Rationale: Because there is currently no time frame, an open board seat could go vacant for several months. This is not beneficial to the organization.

PGCEA Board of Directors: Recommends approval.

ARTICLE VII – REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

Section 2. Powers and Duties

The powers and duties of the Representative Council shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a) Amend or adopt the Standing Rules of the Representative Council at the second [first] regular meeting of each school year.

Rationale: From the parliamentary point of view, **Standing Rules** do not exist until they are adopted. **Standing Rules** being simple to suspend or change, when needed, it makes more sense to adopt them at the first meeting of the year. (**Standing Rules** can be suspended, or amended, by a simple majority of the Representative Council at any regular meeting.)

PGCEA Board of Directors: Recommends approval.

PGCEA Representative Council: Recommends approval.

Section 3. Faculty Representatives Election, Term of Office, and Qualifications

Delegates to the Representative Council shall be known as Faculty Representatives. The term of a Faculty Representative shall be for one year and shall be elected annually. To serve as a Faculty Representative or alternate, the member ~~must~~ **[should]** be at least in the second year of Association membership. The Nominations, Elections, and Credentials Commission may waive this rule for cause upon any individual request. The Nominations, Elections, and Credentials Commission shall call for the election of Faculty Representatives at the May Representative Council meeting and the election shall take place during the first four (4) duty weeks of the school year, but no later than ~~October 1~~ **[September 15]**. New Faculty Representatives take office immediately following the election and continue in office until the election in the beginning of the following school year. Each school or educational center shall elect one (1) Faculty Representative and one (1) alternate for every twenty-five (25) Association members or fraction thereof and report the election results to the Association on a form provided by the Nominations, Elections, and Credentials Commission. Only regular members in good standing shall be permitted to vote. Where there is more than one (1) Faculty Representative from a school or center, one (1) shall be designated ~~chairperson~~ **[Chair of the Faculty Delegation by a majority vote of the Faculty Advisory Council in that school or center. Members may not self-appoint to the position of Faculty Representative, nor may anyone appoint a Unit 1 member to the position of Faculty Representative, absent a vote of the membership at that site.]**

Rationale: The By-laws do not give any guidance on the selection of the Chair of the Faculty delegation (*sometimes referred to as Lead Rep*). The date change serves to align our founding documents with current practice as stipulated in the Negotiated Agreement.

PGCEA Board of Directors: Recommends approval.
PGCEA Representative Council: Recommends approval.

ARTICLE X – GENERAL ELECTIONS

Section 1. Date and Voter Eligibility.

General Association elections for officers and members of the Board of Directors includes delegates to the Maryland State Education Association and the National Education Association Representative Assemblies shall be conducted by the Nominations, Elections, and Credentials Commission during ~~five (5)~~ **[ten (10)]** consecutive school days. Only regular members in good standing shall be permitted to vote.

Rationale: This intent of this proposed change to the By-laws is to facilitate the elections process and increase member participation, particularly in the large sites. In large buildings, the Faculty Representative may need to seek out well more than a 100 members, collecting and accounting for the ballots according to the rules established by the NECC, and delivering them to the U.S. Postal Service in a timely fashion.

PGCEA Board of Directors: Recommends approval.
PGCEA Representative Council: Recommends approval.

ARTICLE XI – QUALIFICATIONS FOR ASSOCIATION OFFICES

Section 1. Other Association Office Holders.

Unless otherwise stated in these By-laws, any member seeking any Association office, including delegates to MSEA and NEA Conventions ~~and the Coordinator for the Fund for Children and Public Education~~, must be a regular member of the Association at the time of the election.

Rationale: This is the only mention made of the Coordinator for the Fund for Children and Public Education in our By-laws. Historically, this position was a presidential appointment on the level of Committee Chair with approval by the Board of Directors. MSEA legal has confirmed that there is no requirement that this position be elected.

PGCEA Board of Directors: Recommends approval.
PGCEA Representative Council: Recommends approval.

CANDIDATES FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Laura J. Dinu

My name is Laura Dinu and I am asking for your vote to re-elect me to the PGCEA Board of Directors. Previ-

ously, I have been a member at large and have to listened to the numerous concerns of our members and tried to resolve problems and address issues. I am committed to working with our President, Vice President, Treasurer and other Board members to continue to make PGCEA a strong organization with a strong voice.

When I chose the teaching profession back in 1977 I never thought that I would not only dedicate my life to teaching children, but that I would dedicate much time and energy to advocating for teacher rights. I have been fighting for higher pay, fighting for a better pension system, fighting for respect for the teaching profession, fighting for a safe and orderly atmosphere in which to teach, fighting for lower class size, and fighting for equitable planning time.

Public Education has been targeted. We are being asked to teach like robots and we are losing our academic freedom. Who wants to teach in Prince George's County any more with the limited incentives available? No pay raise, rules and regulations that are unreasonable and the lack of respect on the part of students and administrators are prevalent. The system is unable to retain good teachers. I want to be a voice as we fight to save our profession.

We as educators work hard, we deserve better and we must demand more.

Please vote to re-Elect Laura Dinu PGCEA Board of Directors.

Present and former activities:

- PGCEA Board of Directors. PGCEA Treasurer
- Chair of Rep Council
- MSTA Delegate
- NEA Delegate
- Budget Committee
- Head Building Rep
- FAC Member and Chair
- Chaired PGCEA Workshops
- Numerous PGCEA Committees

Theresa Mitchell Dudley

No information submitted.

Everett Hayes

No information submitted.

Darla Heinz

No information submitted.

Dr. Lanora M. James

No information submitted.

Veronique Kent-Clark

No information submitted.

Tawana R. Lane

No information submitted.

Linda Shackelford

No information submitted.

Sallie M. Smith

No information submitted.

Marilyn D. Miles Thomas

No information submitted.



Dr. Joseph Webb

Dear Colleagues:

A stanza excerpted from one of my original poems proclaims,

"I have too much left undone
To leave this world just now.
On this slave plantation we call 'LIFE'
I still have fields to plow."

As I complete my second term as PGCEA Treasurer, I seek your support in my quest to be elected as a Member At-Large of the PGCEA Board of Directors. It is with earnest humility (and without a trace of egotism or self-aggrandizement) that I unassumingly pursue election to this position. I vocalize one irrevocable, unequivocal, and

unconditional promise: "I ALWAYS WILL DO THE RIGHT THING." Each time I have sought an office in PGCEA, you have both honored and humbled me with your overwhelming support. I consistently endeavor to compensate your vote of confidence by ensuring that your investment in me continues to accrue escalating returns.

My campaign platform is very simple: "I STAND UPON MY RECORD OF SERVICE TO THE MEMBERS OF THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY EDUCATORS' ASSOCIATION." If I have not given superlative service, it would be preposterous for me to think you would even consider electing me to continue in a leadership role. Concomitantly, if I have served you well in the past, I have earned your vote in the present in order to safeguard the future of this Union. I invite you to contact me whenever you have any questions or if I may be of assistance to you:

e-mail: drjosephwebb@aol.com ,
telephone: (301) 735-3534.

School Year 2011—2012 must be the LAST year that any PGCPs teacher is assaulted or threatened by anybody. We must guarantee all teachers a fair, safe, and orderly working environment. Nobody will be allowed to hurt even one of us without experiencing justified retribution from all of us.

This must be the LAST year that PGCPs increases our professional duties while reducing our pay through furloughs and the removal of emoluments, stipends, and incentives.

Leadership's most sacrosanct obligation is to speak on behalf and in the best interest of the people they represent. I never shrink from this responsibility. I walk tall, and I fearlessly speak my TRUTH -- whether it is to dozens at my school's faculty meetings, to scores at the PGCEA Representative Council, to hundreds at all MSEA Conventions, or to tens of thousands at all National Education Association Conventions. I pledge that I will continue to speak to you, with you, and for you. Let me be your voice.

"I shall speak to this nation's spirit --
Unto the soul of this land;
In a loud voice so all ears can hear it;
Yet clearly, so all understand."

Agape,

Joseph Webb

Joseph Webb, Ph.D.

CANDIDATE FOR TREASURER



Yvonne N. Baicich

I consider PGCEA my extended family, and I have devoted a great deal of my time and effort, these past 25

years, towards making sure that this family is safe and thriving. We have faced many obstacles, but, always, our faith in one another is the thing which has sustained us and has brought much success. To say it in other words: our union has made us strong. I continue to believe this even in the face of our current economic problems.

Our PGCEA is currently financially sound, but as you know, we must make wise yet progressive decisions so that we may continue to be sound

and use our money in ways that will help us all secure our futures and the futures of the children we teach. You know how difficult it is to teach every day and at the end of that day become involved in our union activities. But, that is exactly what we must do in order to ensure that our profession is taken seriously by politicians and the public, and that our government adequately and fairly funds public education. All difficulties aside, we must continue to act on behalf of one another and the students we love to teach.

I am humbled by your trust in me by electing me in the past to our Board of Directors and supporting me as a candidate for MSEA office. I consider this support to be a trust that I don't ever intend to abuse. You can depend on me to guard our money, protect our profession, and help make decisions which will grow our union well into the future. Thank you for your vote.

Present and former activities:

- PGCEA Board of Directors member
- MSEA Board of Directors member
- MSEA, NEA convention delegate
- Chair, New Business Item Committee
- Government Relations Committee
- Minority Affairs Committee
- PGCEA Foundation Committee
- MSEA Human Rights Committee
- MSEA MSPAP Task Force
- Wrote and had adopted New Business Items at NEA and MSEA Conventions
- Building Rep
- Board Member PGNAACP

(Running Unopposed)

Educator

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PGCEA OFFICERS

Kenneth Haines,
President
Blair Todd,
Vice President
Dr. Joseph Webb,
Treasurer

MEMBERS AT LARGE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Yvonne Baicich
Laura Dinu
Theresa Dudley
Talaya Ferguson
Darla Heinz
Robin McNair
Myrna Roberts
Mark Sandy

PGCEA STAFF

Lewis Robinson, Executive Director
Dorothy Ray, UniServ Director
Jephta Nguherimo, UniServ Director
Jamal Miller, UniServ Director
Jimalatice Thomas-Gilbert,
UniServ Director
Vacant, UniServ Director
Annette Williams,
Director of Administration

Adrienne Parks, Executive Assistant
Shelly James, Accountant
Lynn L. James, Client Support Assistant
Linda Phillips, Administrative Assistant
Stacy Evans, Sick Leave Bank/Help Desk
Kim D. Caesar, Receptionist
Paul Nixon, System Administrator/Courier
Carl Harley, Maintenance Manager