

March 2009

Dear Educators and Friends of Public Education,

YOU ARE INVITED... to submit a proposal to present at the MEA's annual Instruction and Professional Development Conference, scheduled for December 3–5, 2009, in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

This year's theme is: **What Works and How to Make It Happen**

Never before have there been so many demands on our teachers and support staff. The requirements of "No Child Left Behind" and "Education, YES!" require the education team to think and act in new ways to assure that all children are learning to their full capacity. But new skills may be needed to meet these demands. We are seeking presenters who can give participants new ideas and strategies they can use "on the job" to help all students do better work. For example:

- Cognitive Coaching/Mentoring
- Leadership Development for School Improvement
- New Teacher Support
- Professional Learning Communities
- Data: Now What?
- Looking Beyond Test Scores
- Examining Evidence
- Para - Teacher Teams
- Meeting AYP Challenges
- Reshaping High Schools
- Classroom Management / Safe Schools
- Cultural Competency Skills
- Support Staff Needs and Issues
- Higher Education Needs and Issues
- Differentiated Instruction/Response to Intervention
- Generational Issues
- Social Networking and the New Technologies
- Strategies for Teaching in Various Subject Areas

We want presenters to include "how to" instructions and templates for participants to use in their classrooms and work sites and also ways to differentiate strategies for student differences. In addition, we want presenters who are willing to provide ongoing ideas and support to the teachers and support staff who were in their sessions. We want practical ideas to put into practice. Our goal is to provide tools to support learning, impact student achievement, and enhance the skills of the whole education team.

We look forward to receiving your proposal by Monday, May 18, 2009, for this premier event. Reviewers will consider applications according to criteria in the enclosed Request for Proposals.

As a conference presenter, you will share your knowledge, expertise and practical applications with other education colleagues representing all areas of pre-K-16 public education.

For no more than two presenters per session, MEA will provide: conference registration; round-trip mileage at the current IRS rate; and one night's lodging at the Radisson Hotel in Kalamazoo, the site of the conference.

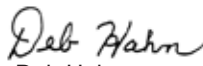
This is a professional learning conference for ALL categories of education employees – and we hope that you will join us in meeting the varied needs of educators who come from all educational settings.

For ongoing information about the conference, check our Web site at www.mea.org.

And, we look forward to reviewing your proposal to present at IPD!

Sincerely,


Bob Harris
IPD Conference Coordinator


Deb Hahn
IPD Conference Assistant