

MAEO NEWSLETTER



MICHIGAN ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION ORGANIZATION

WINTER 2018

President's Message

I know it's a little late to say welcome back, but still want to convey the message that MAEO is glad to have you as a member, working hard to meet the needs of alternative students in the new school year. Our 2017 – 2018 MAEO Board has been pursuing the goals we set this summer and recording our progress. Please keep up with us by following us on Facebook, Twitter or by visiting our website, www.maeo.org.

MAEO STARS is up and running! The first event of the new school year was held at the 2/42 Church in Okemos on Tuesday, November 14. Over one hundred students and advisors attended the event which included team building activities, a panel of alternative high school graduates, election of a Leadership Council to advise the STARS Chairs in planning Legislative Day and the MAEO STARS College and Career Competition at Delta College in May 2018 as well as speaker Todd Bradley on the power of positive thinking and substance abuse prevention.

If you have not done so already, please mark your calendars with the **deadlines for MAEO Scholarship applications and MAEO Service Award nominations coming up soon Friday, February 2, 2018** and the Spring Professional Conference to be held at the Comfort Inn in Mt. Pleasant May 3 & 4.

WE NEED YOUR HELP! One of the board goals this year is to increase our membership as well as expand ways our members can communicate with each other. We will be sending a survey shortly and hope that you will fill it out. Please inform us as to how we can improve what we offer to members, and ways to get answers to our members when they have a question or concern.

Thank you for your dedication to students around our state who need "Another Chance, Another Choice".

Respectfully,

Deb

Deb Baughman
2017–2018 MAEO President

Important Links and Dates

Service Award Nomination— DUE FEB. 2, 2018

<http://www.maeo.org/service-awards.html>

Scholarship Application—DUE FEB. 2, 2018

<http://www.maeo.org/maeo-scholarships.html>

Shania Rowden, one of the 2016 scholarship winners, has completed her 1.5 year program in Diesel Mechanics at Baker College and is starting her internship at a local bus garage.

Additional Scholarship Information:

<http://www.maeo.org/news-and-popular-links.html>

MAEO STARS Legislative Day: March 21, 2018

Spring Conference: May 3-4, 2018

Legislative Update

In December 2017, the Michigan Supreme Court unanimously ruled to return more than a half billion dollars illegally taken from school employees in the long-running 3% case. This was the conclusion to a nearly 8-year-long legal battle, the Court ruled 6-0 to uphold lower court rulings that found the withholding to be illegal on a variety of constitutional grounds. The refunds will be processed through the local districts. Make sure the district you were employed by during that time has your accurate contact information.

Resources for Educators

Please check out the MAEO website if you haven't recently. It is full of information and resources that will help you serve your students and professional learning communities including:

- Scholarship Opportunities
- Conference Information
- STARS Event Updates
- Discussion Forum—collaborate with other Alternative Education professionals! <http://www.maeo.org/discussion-forum.html#/>