MTA Endorses the Recommendations of the Massachusetts Legislative School Library Commission (NEW) 4/23/18 10:45 am

Claudia Palframan Chicopee Education Association
Delegate Making the Motion

Maya Bery Carlisle Teachers Association
Delegate Seconding the Motion

According to the MTA Standing RULE 6: Order of Business and Debate, Section 13:
With the exception of items on the agenda, all substantive motions shall be submitted in writing to the Presiding Officer.

MOVED

MOTION

The MTA endorses the recommendations of the Special Commission on School Library Services in Massachusetts and will help to promote its report and recommendations through established MTA digital and print channels. The president of the MTA will also send letters of support for these recommendations to DESE and to members of the Massachusetts legislature.

The Special Commission on School Library Services in Massachusetts recommends:

● Improved access to school libraries and school librarians
  ○ Every school needs a school library and a certified school librarian
  ○ DESE needs a School Library Curriculum Specialist to ensure equity in every school and to support a culture of inquiry in schools that sustains inquiry, and resource-based learning, collaborative teaching, and the integration of digital technology to improve access for all students

● Improved access to information resources in school libraries
  ○ Every school needs adequate infrastructure and devices, as well as print and electronic resources, to develop digital literacy, efficacy and safety

● Improved access to information technology
  ○ School librarians need continuing and high-quality professional development to deliver high quality, relevant instruction and help to students, teachers and administrators
  ○ All students need improved access to internet and digital devices in school libraries
  ○ All students need school library staffing that ensures adequate access to information technology

● Improved access to library instruction and help
  ○ All students need access to the best instructional practices in their school libraries

● Improved access to funding
  ○ All schools/districts need guidelines for budget allocation and expenditure to support these recommendations

SUBMITTER’S RATIONALE
The Special Commission on School Library Services in Massachusetts submitted *The Massachusetts School Library Study: Equity and Access for Students in the Commonwealth* to the Legislature in February 2018. The Commission, which included educators, librarians, legislators, and members of the business community found that Massachusetts public school students do not have equity when it comes to their school library programs.

- All students deserve equitable access to key resources for learning, including school libraries with certified librarians and support staff.

- The recommendations address this inequity and provide clear guidelines on how to move forward.

**DUES IMPACT**

No dues impact.

**SUBMITTER’S COST & STAFF TIME ESTIMATE**

Submitted to staff for cost estimate

Staff cost estimate:

Estimated staff time 20-25 hours

**MTA COST & STAFF TIME ESTIMATE (For MTA use only)**

*New Business Items* submitted to the President in the MTA Headquarters (2 Heritage Drive, 8th Floor, Quincy, MA 02171-2119) no later than 5 p.m. Monday, April 30, will be distributed to the delegates at registration and commence to be considered at the Friday session.

New Business Items *WITH* budgetary implications must be submitted either by the Monday prior to the Annual Meeting (April 30) or no later than prior to the conclusion of business on Friday at the Annual Meeting (May 4) so that they may be acted upon prior to adoption of the annual budget and the dues for FY 2018-2019 which will occur Saturday morning (May 5). A new business item *WITH* budgetary implications is defined as any activity or action that would result in an additional expenditure of more than $1,000 by the MTA.

New Business Items *WITH* budgetary implications will be considered in the order in which they are received but before other New Business Items *WITHOUT* budgetary implications.

Other New Business Items *WITHOUT* budgetary implications shall be submitted to the Presiding Officer prior to the end of the first hour of the business session of the second day of the Meeting of Delegates (by approximately 10 a.m. on May 5) and shall be considered throughout the meeting at times determined by the Presiding Officer.