

# The LMEA

# Apple Core



The officers publish the Apple Core  
for LMEA members.

March 2017

## *Your LMEA Contract is Available to View on Our Website*

Our contract is available to all members with a desktop, laptop, tablet, or smartphone. Just go to our LMEA website [www.lmeaonline.org](http://www.lmeaonline.org) and select CONTRACT & HIGHLIGHTS. From there you can browse among the more frequently sought categories and articles or pull up the entire document for viewing or printing. [see below]



And while your there why not check out the other features of the website such as links to the PSEA, NEA, PSERS, details about our health plans, and the exclusive member benefits that can save you lts of money! Special thanks to our Matt Shaw, our fellow member and webmaster, for our redesign and making the website more accessible across devices.

## *Looking for Affordable Online Courses for Salary Advancement?*

The contract lists a number of online course providers that can no longer be used for salary advancement beyond masters. Several of these online colleges and universities were popular with members because, in addition to providing relevant course content, they were also very affordable. The good news is that **only these providers are excluded**, and we have found several others that are as affordable. All of these providers offer accredited educational graduate coursework at a low cost:

<https://www.collegecreditconnection.com/cc/ccc/Home.aspx>

[http://teacher.scholastic.com/products/ScholasticU/gradcredit\\_sandiego.html](http://teacher.scholastic.com/products/ScholasticU/gradcredit_sandiego.html)

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

<http://www.pbs.org/teacherline/earn-credit/>

<http://www.videocourses4teachers.com/>

## *Annual LMEA Dinner for Retirees Returns on June 1st*

Last year the LMEA changed its annual event to honor our retiree from a banquet to a more relaxed dinner. Those who attended appreciated the setting, comradery, and delicious food at Evviva restaurant in Narberth. Retirees (and guest) will be invited to join the LMEA officers for a dinner on **Thursday, June 1<sup>st</sup>**. If you are planning on retiring this year, or know someone who is, please get in touch with Lisa McDevitt at [mcdevitl@lmsd.org](mailto:mcdevitl@lmsd.org). to reserve your seat at this special event.



## ***LMSD Continues to Get National and State Recognition for Excellence***

Year after year, Lower Merion schools and the teachers that work in them continue to be recognized by NICHE.com, the leading website for parents in search of great schools and communities. Using surveys that gather the input of hundreds of thousands of parents and students, along with other relevant data, NICHE puts forward rankings for public schools both nationally and by state. Here is where

Lower Merion stands:

- **8<sup>th</sup> Best School District in America, 3<sup>rd</sup> Best School District in Pennsylvania (out of 501)**
- **9<sup>th</sup> Best Teachers in America, 2<sup>nd</sup> Best Teachers in Pennsylvania**
- **Merion Elementary School rated 4<sup>th</sup> Best in America, Penn Wynne ES is 17<sup>th</sup>, Cynwyd ES is 21<sup>st</sup>**
- **ALL Six LMSD elementary schools ranked in the Top 12 in Pennsylvania (our of 501)**
- **Bala Cynwyd Middle School ranked 20<sup>th</sup> Best in America**
- **Bala Cynwyd and Welsh Valley, respectively, rank 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> among Pennsylvania middle schools**
- **Harrilton and Lower Merion, respectively, rank 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> among Pennsylvania public high schools**

**Every member reading this newsletter should remember that he/she played a role in these achievements. CONGRATULATIONS ON A JOB WELL DONE!!**

### ***Secretary of Education DeVos Gets Historically Black Colleges (HBC) all Wrong***

In a statement released after a meeting with the presidents and chancellors of historically black colleges held at the White House, Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos wrote “HBCUs are real pioneers when it comes to school choice. They are living proof that when more options are provided to students, they are afforded greater access and greater quality. Their success has shown that more options help students flourish.” Huh? Anyone with a basic understanding of African-American history knows that HBCs were founded because blacks were barred from enrolling in all-white institutions. HBCs offered the only option (not “school choice”), to blacks before the desegregation of public colleges and universities in the 1960s. Stay strong, it’s going to be a long four years!



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