

January 12, 2010

Dear Fellow Forensics Educators:

I hope that the 2009-2010 Speech, Drama and Debate season has been a good one for you all.

The MFEA spring meeting will take place March 18-20th in Bozeman. The purpose of this letter is to give you the necessary details of the meeting to assist you in your planning for the meeting. All necessary materials for the meeting – 2007, 2008, 2009 minutes, MFEA Constitution, committee list, banquet information, business form, meeting agenda, meet schedule form, etc. will be posted on the Montana High School Association website (www.mhsa.org) for your convenience and to insure it is available to everyone. The conference will be held at the Bozeman Best Western Grantree Inn, 1325 North 7th Avenue Bozeman, MT 59715. The Grantree Inn has set aside a block of rooms. Please call 406-587-5261 to make reservations. Make sure to tell them that you are part of the MFEA meeting. Room rates are \$77 for a single and \$83 for a double. **This rate is guaranteed through March 1, 2010, so please make your reservations before that.**

Items for the official agenda must be sent to me by March 12. You can call me on my cell (406-360-5295), fax them to me at school (329-5959), email me at school (lmoliver@mcps.k12.mt.us or libbybrunell@yahoo.com – **please cc both because of the school's spam filter**) or mail them to me at 901 South Ave. W. Missoula, MT 59801. Sending business in advance will allow them to be placed on the agenda and listed online in advance.

The meeting will work the same way as it has the past few years – items that are not on the official agenda must be presented IN WRITING to the proper committee before being presented at the main meeting. Committee meetings will be on Friday so any significant motions made on Saturday that have not been heard by a committee will be effectively tabled until the committees meet next year. The committee work is the backbone of our organization. While the committees make the final decisions, the input from all coaches present is the basis of their decisions. I hope you will all plan to attend the committee meetings and voice your opinions.

The time to start planning for next year's season is now. ***Please come to the meeting with your meet dates. Please check the dates with your administration, etc. so that the schedule can be finalized at the meeting.*** Remember schools use the schedule we make to plan their season and budget for 2010-2011. Scheduling has been very difficult in recent seasons because of the number of school setting dates, even getting them sanctioned by MHSA, and then cancelling them during the season. ***It would be very helpful if you would email me your proposed meet dates so I can compile a tentative schedule to work with at the meeting.*** Please send your proposed dates by March 12, and I will post a tentative schedule online to help schools look at possible conflicts in advance.

Other items of business:

The Hall of Fame, Coach of the Year Awards Banquet will be Friday at 7:00 PM at the Grantree Inn. We are changing the way we do this. This year, instead of a dinner, which was becoming too expensive for people, we are hosting a reception with hors d'oeuvres and desserts from 7:00-7:30. Our program will start at 7:30. The cost for the reception will be \$15. There will be many fabulous appetizers and desserts from which to choose! Reservations and payment for the reception must be sent in advance to the MFEA treasurer

by March 5th. Please plan on attending. This is our chance to honor our Coaches of the year and to honor MFEA Hall of Fame inductee will be Bernie Quilico!

2. After a brief opening and announcements at 7:00 on Thursday evening, the group will break into interim meetings. The interim sessions should discuss general agenda items and set a tentative schedule.
3. ***In order to be nominated or vote for Coach of the Year, speak and vote at the meeting or serve on committees MFEA dues must be current.***
4. ***MFEA Academic Allstate certificates will be available on the MFEA SITE ONLY for students maintaining at least a 3.5 GPA during the entire season.***
5. Anyone interested in being the official note taker, please let me know as soon as possible. I will have a laptop computer available.
6. Please take note of the list of standing committees. If you are listed as a committee member and are unable to attend, please notify your Division so that someone can be appointed to fill the spot. Division Chairs, please check the list and to make sure that your committee people listed are accurate and still coaching. *Also please note if people are a standing member or an interim member.*
7. Please watch the MHSAs website for continuing information on the meeting.

AGENDA:

Thursday, March 18

- 1:30 PM Class A Speech Meeting with Joanne Austin in Birch Room
4:00-6:00PM Class A NW Division Meeting in Ponderosa/ Tamarack Room
6:00 – 7:00 PM Registration in front of Grand Room
7:00 Interim Meetings (AA in Grand Room, A in Aspen Room, BC in Ponderosa/ Tamarack Room)
- 8:30 – AA, A, BC Scheduling Meeting in Grand Room
(Please come with possible meet dates. Remember that programs plan their budgets and schedules based on the scheduling that happens at this meeting. Have a firm commitment for the date of your meet.)

We will also go over replacement members for committees meeting on Friday!!!!

Friday, March 19

- 7:00 AM – NFL Meeting – restaurant, if necessary
- 7:30 AM - Registration continues
- 8:30 General Session Convenes in Grand Room
- 9:00 AM – Committee Meetings will take place in the Montana Room; if a committee runs over time, the next committee can begin meeting in a room close by (TBA)
- Rules – 9:00 am Grand Room
Drama – 11:15 am in Aspen Room
Debate – 12:30 pm in Grand Room
Memorized – 2:00 pm in Aspen Room
Short Prep – 2:00 pm in Ponderosa
Interp – 3:00 pm in Aspen or Ponderosa (whichever is free)
- 4:00 General Session Reconvenes
5:00 Recess until Sat. morning
- 5:00 Hall of Fame Committee in Grand
5:00 Education Committee in Foyer
5:30 AA Nomination Committee for MFEA VP in Grand
- 7:00 PM Hall of Fame/Coach of the Year Banquet in Small Ballroom
Inductee Bernie Quilico

Saturday, March 20

- 7:30 Financial Committee Meeting - Restaurant
8:30 - ? General Session reconvenes in Grand Room

MHSA Speech and Drama Committee will follow immediately after the MFEA adjournment