

IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

New Business Items of the 2024 Annual Meeting of Delegates

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #1

Task Force to Review the Local Office Support Program

APPROVED New Business Item #1: The MTA will create a task force to review all Policies and procedures associated with the Local Office Support program and recommend amendments to align these policies with the following objectives:

Increase access to Local Office Support funds for all locals to attend MTA Annual Meeting, Training and Professional Learning Conferences, and NEA Events

Support new member outreach,

Expand access to funds for locals engaged in rank-and-file organizing,

Reduce the burden of local bookkeeping and repeated exchange of funds between MTA and local affiliates.

Support ESP leadership development.

The task force will consult with any existing body tasked with policy review before making recommendations for adoption by the delegates of the 2025 MTA Annual Meeting.

IMPLEMENTATION OF AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #1

The task force had 10 meetings, consulted with policy bodies and surveyed presidents, treasurers and MTA committee chairs. The task force developed proposed amendments to the policy, which were presented to the Board of Directors at its March meeting for recommendation to the 2025 Annual Meeting of Delegates. The 2025 Annual Meeting of Delegates will act on the proposed policy recommendation of the Board and task force.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #2

Endorse a Plan to Disassociate NEA from Amazon.com

APPROVED New Business Item #2: The MTA Annual Meeting will endorse the following New Business Item to be presented at the 2024 NEA Representative Assembly:

“In light of Amazon’s position that the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) is unconstitutional, the NEA shall use existing staff and resources to research and design a plan to remove any affiliations and partnerships with Amazon.com, Inc by May 1, 2028. (May Day). This plan will be presented to the 2025 Representative Assembly for adoption as a New Business Item.”

IMPLEMENTATION OF AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #2:

Delegates to the 2024 NEA Representative Assembly (RA) brought a New Business Item to the RA floor. That New Business Item (#12 at the NEA RA) read as follows: “NEA shall use existing staff and resources to spread awareness via social media to NEA members about Amazon’s attack on workers’ rights and the National Labor Relations Board.” That NBI was approved by the NEA Representative Assembly.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #3

President Biden’s Order on Women’s Health

APPROVED amended New Business Item #3: Utilizing existing publications, the MTA shall publicize the Executive Order on Advancing Women’s Health Research and Innovation. The discussion of the order should include, but not be limited to: a) advancements in women’s health research, close health disparities, and ensure that the gains made in research are translated into real world clinical benefits for women; b) its policy to ensure that women have access to high-quality, evidence – based healthcare and to improve health outcomes for women across their lifespans; c) its policy to develop new comprehensive resources to help ensure that women have evidence – based information about menopause, including menopause – related research initiatives, findings, and symptom – prevention and treatment options; d) its policy to involve the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Veteran Affairs in evaluating the needs of women service members and veterans related to midlife health. In addition, the MTA President and board members in their communications will encourage our members to let their families and friends know about this comprehensive executive order. Also, the MTA through a new NEA business item will urge the NEA to similarly publicize the executive order.

IMPLEMENTATION OF AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #3

Delegates to the 2024 NEA Representative Assembly (RA) brought a New Business Item to the RA floor, NBI 20. That New Business Item was referred to the NEA Board of Directors and Executive Director.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #4

Encouraging Districts to Apply for IRA funds for Greener Schools

APPROVED New Business Item #4: Whereas, Massachusetts has 1,840 schools with 186 million square feet of building area responsible for an estimated 880,000 metric tons of carbon emissions annually, and

Whereas students spend over 15,000 hours inside a school by the time they graduate high school, and

Whereas, schools can fulfill their educational mission only when students and staff are provided with safe and healthful learning environments, and

Whereas, schools are increasingly subject to the impacts of extreme weather events that threaten the well-being of students, families, teachers and staff, and

Whereas, Massachusetts has set ambitious targets for the reduction of greenhouse gasses, and

Whereas, modifications to infrastructure, buildings and vehicles can decrease schools' greenhouse gas emissions, and

Whereas, the MTA belongs to the Climate Resilient Schools Coalition whose focus is to protect students from, and prepare students for, the effects of climate change, and

Whereas, the Inflation Reduction Act has allocated unlimited funds for the next ten years for the installation of ground source heat pumps to heat and cool schools, and

Whereas, the Environmental Protection Agency has allocated large sums of money for the transition from diesel to electric school buses,

Therefore be it resolved that the MTA will disseminate to all members, committees and local presidents easily understood and easily used resources to encourage school districts to apply for these funds, and

Therefore be it further resolved that MTA will actively support members organizing in their schools and communities for their districts to apply for these funds and to take other steps to reduce the use of fossil fuels in their schools.

IMPLEMENTATION OF AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #4

The Center for Education Policy and Practice team within MTA's Legislative, Policy and Political Action Division carefully researched and prepared detailed and clear guidance documents on how districts could access Inflation Reduction Funds for green schools. We shared the materials with the makers of this NBI, the MTA Health and Safety organizer and the MTA Environmental Health and Safety Committee who disseminated it through their networks and conference exhibits. The materials are available at <https://massteacher.org/about-the-mta/committees/environmental-health-and-safety-committee/resources>

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #5

Decarbonization Task Force Reauthorization

APPROVED New Business Item #5: Whereas, the 2023 MTA Annual Meeting approved a Decarbonization Task Force to move the Massachusetts Teachers Association towards

decarbonization by 2030,

and whereas, the Decarbonization Task Force has submitted its report and recommendations to the board and membership which provided a detailed plan with budgetary implications and a timeline,

and whereas, the recommendations are only now starting to be implemented,

and whereas, the Decarbonization Task Force should monitor the implementation of detailed timelines and action steps to help the MTA to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030.

Be it resolved: The MTA, in line with the 2021 Next Generation Roadmap for Massachusetts Climate Policy, and the UN Paris Agreement to keep global temperature rise well below 2 degrees Celsius, hereby reauthorizes the Decarbonization Task Force for another year.

IMPLEMENTATION OF AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #5

The Decarbonization Task Force was reauthorized at the 2024 Annual Meeting of Delegates. The Task Force has continued its work. The MTA has implemented many decarbonization practices, such as purchasing equipment for the MTA Print Shop that is environmentally sustainable, using recycled paper, and encouraging members to use public transportation or carpool to MTA conferences and events.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #6

Refocus MTA on Education in Massachusetts

APPROVED amended New Business Item #6: The MTA Board of Directors shall not take positions on matters of international conflict until the MTA Board of Directors and Executive Committee create a policy that outlines the steps that must be taken before such a position or call to action on international conflict is taken. This policy would include an opportunity for board members to talk to the members they represent to listen and learn from the diverse opinions of MTA members. The MTA and MTA elected officials will not make any public comments on international conflict until such policy is made. MTA elected officials are still able to make statements that reflect their opinions when speaking as an individual.

IMPLEMENTATION OF AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #6

The MTA Board of Directors passed policy amendments in October which require MTA to publicize all motions and new business items for meetings of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee ten (10) days prior to the meeting. This will allow time for members to review what their Board and/or Executive Committee members will be voting on at upcoming meetings. The MTA's Division of Governance and Administration has implemented these policy amendments.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #7

Publicizing Beyond Thoughts and Prayers

REJECTED New Business Item #7: The MTA shall publicize the gun reform efforts of the Beyond Thoughts and Prayers PAC which was launched by Representative Jake Auchincloss of Massachusetts 4th District with the assistance of Representative Lucy McBath of Georgia 7th district. The

coverage should include but not be limited to: a) the PAC targeting districts with Republican representatives that voted for President Joe Biden in 2020 and other districts nationwide with polling that favors gun safety legislation in order to elect pro gun safety legislators b) the PAC supporting those candidates who will support 1) the Assault Weapons Ban Act, 2) Equal Access to Justice for Victims of Gun Violence Act, and 3) Ethan's Law (requiring safe gun storage, named after a Connecticut child who was killed by an unsecured gun); c) the story behind Representative Lucy McBath becoming a renowned gun safety advocate.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #8
Stop Development of Framework

REJECTED New Business Item #8: The MTA will not create a framework for discussing and a set of curriculum resources for learning about the history and current events on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict for educational use.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #9
Written Policy on MTA's Involvement in International Affairs

Withdrawn by Maker.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #10
Operations & Facilities Review

NBI #10 was not addressed due to loss of quorum.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #11
MTA Commitment to Locals on Membership Dues

NBI #11 was ruled out of order.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #12
Changing the Funding Process for Public Sector Union Contracts

NBI #12 was not addressed due to loss of quorum.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #13
Health and Safety Protections for Educators

NBI #13 was not addressed due to loss of quorum.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #14
Pension Reform Facebook Group

NBI #14 was not addressed due to loss of quorum.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #15
Public Letter re: Mass PRIM Private Investments

NBI #15 was not addressed due to loss of quorum.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #16
MTA Organize an Annual Labor Conference of Pensions

NBI #16 was not addressed due to loss of quorum.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #17
MTA will Organize an Open Meeting 2 Weeks Prior to Mass PRIM's Quarterly Meetings

NBI #17 was not addressed due to loss of quorum.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #18
Take Actions to Safeguard MA Pensions

NBI #18 was not addressed due to loss of quorum.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #19
Divestment for Peace and Justice

NBI #19 was not addressed due to loss of quorum.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #20
Defending Academic Freedom

NBI #20 was not addressed due to loss of quorum.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #21
Publication of Board Agenda and Alerts on Website

NBI #21 was not addressed due to loss of quorum.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #22
MTA Website

NBI #22 was not addressed due to loss of quorum.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #23
Massachusetts Local Association Region District Map

NBI #23 was not addressed due to loss of quorum.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #24
School Safety Database and Report

NBI #24 was not addressed due to loss of quorum.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #25
Anti-Privatization NBI without Budgetary Implications

NBI #25 was not addressed due to loss of quorum.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #26
Defending Academic Freedom

NBI #26 was not addressed due to loss of quorum.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #27
Fossil Fuel Divestment

NBI #27 was not addressed due to loss of quorum.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #28
Safe Schools for All Program

NBI #28 was not addressed due to loss of quorum.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #29
Targeted Support for Rural and Minimum Aid Funding, A.M., 2024

APPROVED New Business Item #29:

- The MTA acknowledges the existential crisis facing rural and regional school districts in Massachusetts and establishes this issue as a legislative and organizing priority, statewide.
- The MTA will use its full lobbying power in the state house to advocate for equal distribution of the Fair Share revenues between early education, K-12 education, and higher

education, with the majority of the K-12 funding going to communities that haven't seen an increase from the Student Opportunity Act.

- The MTA will assign a dedicated organizer to help locals in these districts organize their members and their communities, and to connect these efforts with the statewide MTA action. This relationship will continue until there is significant movement on this funding issue.
- The MTA will use all viable methods to push/force the legislature and the governor to honor the language of the Fair Share Amendment (which states that the funds will be divided between infrastructure and public education) and cease funding privately run preschool options.
- The MTA will use its connections in the press to inform the public about the existential crisis facing our rural and minimum aid school districts, and use the MTA's communication apparatus to organize locals to bring the full power of the MTA to bear to push for consistent sustainable funding for rural aid and the setting of minimum aid levels.

IMPLEMENTATION OF AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #29

The MTA has always been committed to providing school districts of all types across the Commonwealth with the resources that students and educators need and deserve. This core focus, which has resulted in historic victories with the Student Opportunity Act and Fair Share Amendment, has become even more important in recent years with a growing fiscal crisis. With many rural schools the crisis is especially acute, so the MTA is leading the charge for solutions that support the urgent needs of our schools, including expanded work with rural, regional and other districts that generally receive only minimum aid from Chapter 70.

During the FY25 state budget process MTA and our allies played a key role in winning some important first steps with a significant increase in Chapter 70 per-pupil minimum aid to \$104 – an investment made possible by Fair Share – and a small increase in rural school aid. Heading into the 2025-2026 legislative session, the MTA has prioritized a comprehensive platform that includes increasing rural school aid and minimum aid; increasing reimbursement for transportation costs; strengthening the special education circuit breaker reimbursement program; providing targeted funding to address the mental health crisis in public schools; and increasing the reimbursements that districts receive for tuition lost to charter schools. Since fiscal challenges vary among districts, it will take a combination of these solutions to ensure that every district has the resources that students and educators need to succeed.

To drive advocacy for these solutions, the MTA has organized a Fiscal Crisis Campaign to take the lead in strategizing and organizing statewide. The campaign's efforts have included direct lobbying of legislators and the administration, legislative hearings and correspondence, and member-led meetings organized at the local level or through the Senate District Coordinator program. Also, the campaign has helped convene United for Our Future – a broad coalition of educators, administrators, parents, advocacy groups and civil rights

leaders who are calling for immediate and decisive action to address the funding crisis.

These efforts have been supported by an organizer dedicated to coordinating the Fiscal Crisis workgroup, two organizers and a field rep working with districts in western Massachusetts, and research and technical support provided by the Bargaining Campaign Strategy Team. Members across the state are organizing in Fiscal Crisis Action Teams and bringing parents, students and local allies together to take strategic action in rural and minimum-aid districts in order to win increased funding.

The MTA Communications Division has increased public awareness of these issues by landing key agenda-setting stories in the press, including an exclusive in Politico ("New coalition urges education funding fix," Feb. 11, 2025) and in The Boston Globe ("A new coalition says Massachusetts school districts don't have enough money. Here's why." Feb. 13, 2025). MTA member voices are increasingly heard through stories in regional media, op-eds, letters to the editor and social media.

Furthermore, the MTA Communications staff assigned to this endeavor have identified regional stories that elevate member voices and our coalition partners. This includes earned media, op-eds, letters to the editor and social media posts. To learn more about ways you can get involved, please visit massteacher.org/fiscalcrisis.

Lastly, as part of these efforts, the MTA is fighting for Fair Share funds to be used as intended by voters – to support public education in PreK through higher education and public transportation – and not to subsidize private child care providers. This message has been communicated to legislative leaders and the MTA has made clear that the cost of child care is a major priority for the Commonwealth, but one that must be addressed using non-Fair Share general revenue.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #30

Establish Alternative Routes to Educator Licensure

NBI #30 was not addressed due to loss of quorum.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #31

NEA Directors to be Observers at Executive Committee during Executive Session

NBI #31 was not addressed due to loss of quorum.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #32

Endorse NBI for 2024 RA on Nationwide Walkout

NBI #32 was not addressed due to loss of quorum.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #33

Endorse NBI for 2024 RA on Aligning Contract Expiration Dates

NBI #33 was not addressed due to loss of quorum.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #34

Endorse NBI for 2024 RA on Strike/Action Ready Locals

NBI #34 was not addressed due to loss of quorum.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #35

Establish an MTA Strike Fund

NBI #35 was not addressed due to loss of quorum.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #36

Stop Endorsements of Corporate Parties and Build an Independent Political Party in Massachusetts

NBI #36 was not addressed due to loss of quorum.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #37

Union Solidarity Network – Local Unions Join in Strikes, Walkouts, Rallies, Marches, etc.

NBI #37 was not addressed due to loss of quorum.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #38

MTA Solidarity and Mobilization in Support of Student Protests and a Ceasefire in Gaza

NBI #38 was not addressed due to loss of quorum.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #39

Revoke Healey Endorsement

NBI #39 was not addressed due to loss of quorum.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #40

Emphatic Closing of Debate

NBI #40 was not addressed due to loss of quorum.

AM24 NEW BUSINESS ITEM #41

Concerns around Electric School Buses

NBI #41 was not addressed due to loss of quorum.