



# 2014 Elections

## Annual Meeting of the Membership

MIPA Spring Conference, April 22, 2014

Under MIPA's bylaws, members of the executive board serve two-year terms, with about half of the elected positions up for vote each year. Only active, dues-paying members may vote. Candidates are listed alphabetically below by the office they are seeking.

### FIRST VICE PRESIDENT (2-YEAR TERM, 5-YEAR COMMITMENT; MIPA'S FIRST VICE PRESIDENT WILL BECOME PRESIDENT IN 2016)

#### Shari Adwers

Grosse Pointe North HS

**Years at Current School:** 12

**Years as a Teacher:** 15

**Student Media Advised:**

North Pointe newspaper (and website, www.mygpn.org) and Valhalla yearbook



**Current MIPA Office:** Trustee

**Previous MIPA Experience:** Trustee,

2013-present; Collaborated on MIPA Common Core alignment, 2012-present; Attended conventions with students since 2006; began presenting at MIPA conventions in 2011

**Past Work Experience:** Curriculum Leader for Feature Writing, Journalism Education Association, 2013-present; Workshop presenter (multi-state) & curriculum development Jostens, 2012-present; English & journalism teacher, publications adviser, Grosse Pointe North High School, 2004-present (yearbook since 2005, newspaper since 2012); Language arts teacher (grades 6 & 7) and literary magazine adviser, Pierce Middle School, Grosse Pointe Public Schools, 2001-2004; Language arts teacher (grades 6 & 7), Dwight Rich Middle School, Lansing School District, 1998-2001; Curriculum Coordinator, Christian Urban Education Services / Sacred Heart Schools, Omaha, Neb., 1997-1998

**Education:** B.S. in education, University of Nebraska - Omaha, 1995, Field Endorsement: Language Arts, emphasis in writing & journalism; M.A. in Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment, Walden University, 2005

**Honors, Awards & Activities:** Master Journalism Educator, Journalism Education Association, 2014; NSPA Pacemaker finalist, North Pointe newspaper, 2012-13; CSPA Silver Crown, North Pointe newspaper, 2012-13; Certified Journalism Educator,

Journalism Education Association, 2010; Publications judge since 2002 (Columbia Scholastic Press Association, Iowa High School Press Association, Florida Scholastic Press Association, Northern Illinois School Press Association); Have attended 14 NSPA/JEA national conventions since 2006; Presented at National Scholastic Press Association conventions, fall 2012, spring 2013, spring 2014; JEA Development/Curriculum Commission since 2011

**Why I'm Seeking This Office:** I want to help MIPA continue to thrive and be a vocal advocate for the growth of student journalism programs in Michigan. Strong journalism programs provide the best real-world education and job preparation for our students and are exactly what schools need as they adopt Common Core standards (many of them just don't know it). I want to see MIPA be the model for other scholastic press organizations and lead the way in Common Core alignment. We need to be developing resources and getting them into the hands of advisers. Through outreach and mentoring, we can increase school involvement statewide and maximize learning opportunities for both students and advisers.

**Additional Comments:** N/A

### TRUSTEE (TWO 2-YEAR TERMS, ONE 1-YEAR PARTIAL TERM, CHOOSE THREE)

#### Sarah Ashman

Mason HS

**Years at Current School:** 2

**Years as a Teacher:** 4

**Student Media Advised:**

The Profile (newspaper)

**Current MIPA Office:**

Trustee

**Previous MIPA Experience:** Activities Assistant, MIPA Summer Journalism Workshop, 2012; Floor Counselor, MIPA Summer Journalism Workshop, 2011; On-Site Contest Coordinator, Spring Awards Conference, 2011

**Past Work Experience:** English and journalism teacher (including introduction to journalism and photojournalism), Dexter High School, 2010-2012



**Education:** B.A. in English with a journalism minor, Michigan State University

**Honors, Awards & Activities:** N/A

**Why I'm Seeking This Office:** I've always been a sort of MIPA wannabe, doing everything I could to be a part of this group even before I was an adviser. Prior to my term on the board, I regarded its members as an upper echelon I could never feasibly be part of. Their names, their publications ... they inspired a nerdy sense of unworthiness I'm sure we've all experienced. My first board meetings were spent doing more listening than speaking, but I eventually found my voice. As a second year adviser, I fill an interesting niche in a group with over 100 years of experience collectively. I can speak on behalf of those who are still furiously muddling through the newbie realm, sharing concerns and ideas only someone in this unique position may feel. As continuing trustee, I would connect with new advisers, helping to share valuable resources to help programs thrive.

**Additional Comments:** N/A

#### Ava Butzu

Grand Blanc HS

**Years at Current School:** 15

**Years as a Teacher:** 22

**Student Media Advised:**

Grand Blanc High School Echo Yearbook, 11 years; Flint Central HS Prospectus Yearbook, 5 years

**Current MIPA Office:** N/A

**Previous MIPA Experience:** Member for over 20 years

**Past Work Experience:** N/A

**Education:** B.A. and M.A. English, University of Michigan

**Honors, Awards & Activities:** Several years running of earning Spartan Awards; 2013 Silver Crown with CSPA; Yearbook Judge/Evaluator for NISPA and Virginia League; Workshop teacher and keynote speaker at several workshops nationally for my publisher.

**Why I'm Seeking This Office:** The more I learn about other states' press associations, the more pride I take in MIPA. We are a strong association of supportive educators and students who produce excellent journalism and educational opportunities. As the leadership of MIPA continues to grow the



association and to find multiple avenues to connect with Michigan journalists, I would like to become more involved and offer ideas and support for continued excellence. Finally, my network of yearbook adviser friends and colleagues have helped me approach my work with a positive outlook and hopefulness, both of which are necessary in publications. I hope that I can give the same to them and others in need of a journalism education community — I hope to grow MIPA membership thusly.

**Additional Comments:** Advising yearbook is a year-round lifestyle for me - one that I love to learn and grow from, listening to my students to stay current and to my colleagues to stay grounded.

## Libby Held

Holly HS

**Years at Current School:**

14

**Years as a Teacher:** 15

**Student Media Advised:**

Yearbook, Journalism (online)

**Current MIPA Office:**

N/A

**Previous MIPA Experience:** Faithful attendee of MIPA conferences, workshops and events

**Past Work Experience:** Developed Holly High School's first computer generated newspaper using InDesign and their first digital newspaper using WordPress.

**Education:** B.A. in English with a history minor, Michigan State University; M.A. in curriculum and teaching, Michigan State University; National Writing Project; Online Teacher and Site Coordinator Certified

**Honors, Awards & Activities:** Columbia Scholastic Press Gold Crown Award, Yearbook Various MIPA awards for student photos and journalistic work.

**Why I'm Seeking This Office:** At my school, I am the only teacher who teaches journalism; therefore, I lack support from my peers. In this, I know my current teaching situation is mirrored by many. As a trustee, my responsibility, which I would cherish, is to offer support and guidance, so journalism teachers do not feel alone in an ever changing curriculum that is often threatened by budget cuts and shortages. I aim to continue to build a strong network of teachers who support the importance and integrity of the journalistic study and profession.

**Additional Comments:** MIPA should stand for: Music In Publications Always. People use music as a medium for inspiration. Likewise, MIPA is the source for inspiration for all schools.



## Tim Morley

Inland Lakes HS

**Years at Current School:**

19

**Years as a Teacher:** 20

**Student Media Advised:**

I will be reinstated as the Nexus yearbook adviser for the 2014-2015 school year

**Current MIPA Office:** None

**Previous MIPA Experience:** Former workshop instructor (sports photo); Former One Day Workshop instructor; Trustee, 2006-2010; MIPA member, 2000-2009

**Past Work Experience:** N/A

**Education:** M.A. in journalism, Michigan State University, 2011; M.A. in education technology and instructional design, MSU, 1999; B.S. in mathematics, MTU, 1993

**Honors, Awards & Activities:** JEA Lifetime member; JEA Distinguished Adviser, 2009; JEA CJE certification, 2009; JEA Rising Star, 2006; MIPA Yearbook Spartan Award - 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009; CSPA Gold Crown, 2009; NSPA Pacemaker, 2008; NSPA Pacemaker Finalist - 2007, 2008, 2009; NSPA Convention Best of Show, 1st Place, Fall 2009; Numerous MIPA individual category winners; JEA Write-off Superior rankings

**Why I'm Seeking This Office:** I want to give back to the scholastic journalism community which has given me so much.

**Additional Comments:** N/A



## Jayna Salk

Troy HS

**Years at Current School:**

1

**Years as a Teacher:** 2

**Student Media Advised:**

Gladiator Yearbook

**Current MIPA Office:**

N/A

**Previous MIPA Experience:**

I was the MIPA office manager from 2008-2011. I've worked at the MIPA summer workshop since 2007. I love MIPA!

**Past Work Experience:** Student teaching at Haslett High School

**Education:** B.A. in Journalism, Michigan State University, 2011

**Honors, Awards & Activities:** JEA Future Teacher Award, 2010

**Why I'm Seeking This Office:** I'm seeking to fill the void that I've felt since I left the MIPA office. Also, I'm committed to staying involved with MIPA and helping to continue its contributions to scholastic journalism in this state.

**Additional Comments:** N/A



## Betsy

van der Zee

Ann Arbor Pioneer HS

**Years at Current School:**

21

**Years as a Teacher:** 24

**Student Media Advised:**

Pioneer Omega yearbook

**Current MIPA Office:** N/A

**Previous MIPA Experience:** I have participated in various conferences and workshops including Adviser Workshops (Yearbook Advising and Publication Design). This year I also participated in Judging Day.

**Past Work Experience:** Prior to becoming a teacher, I was a purchasing agent for a medical device manufacturer and a regional buyer for a college bookstore chain.

**Education:** B.A. in speech communication and theatre, University of Michigan; M.A. in communication, Eastern Michigan University

**Honors, Awards & Activities:** School yearbook won 2003 Spartan Award; attend yearly summer workshops offered through publisher, with my yearbook staffs since 1999; current member of school Building Advisery Team.

**Why I'm Seeking This Office:** There are several reasons that I am seeking a position on the MIPA board. I have been a yearbook adviser for 17 years and feel that this experience coupled with my business background would be valuable to the board. I also believe that serving on the board would present more chances for me to be involved with MIPA and its activities. I have a particular interest in Common Core alignment. I would like to be an active participant in keeping high school journalism vital and up-to-date. I value my own experiences on my high school yearbook and newspaper staffs and want to provide today's students with the similar (minus typewriters and rubber cement!) experiences.

**Additional Comments:** N/A

