



# 2015 Elections

## Annual Meeting of the Membership

MIPA Spring Conference, April 20, 2015

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.

### SECOND VICE PRESIDENT (2-YEAR TERM, CHOOSE ONE)

**Sara-Beth Badalamente**  
Grand Ledge HS

**Years at School:** 8  
**Years as a Teacher:** 8  
**Student Media Advised:**  
The Comets' Tale  
Newspaper (print and online), The Ledge  
Yearbook



**Current MIPA Office:** Secretary  
**Previous MIPA Experience:** I'm proud to say I started as a MIPA kid. My adviser Lydia Cadena sent me to MIPA camp in 2001, and I have been hooked on MIPA ever since. I have helped judge, presented at the fall conference, chaperoned camp as a floor mentor and now teach at the one-day workshop and at camp as an InDesign instructor. I was a trustee on the board for two years and am currently the secretary. During my time on the board, I proposed and helped implement honors cords for MIPA, took over the on-site critique at the fall conference and am currently helping plan the memorial run for the Jeff Nardone scholarship.

**Past Work Experience:** I have been teaching and advising at Grand Ledge High School for the past eight years. I worked for the Novi News and completed the teacher internship program with The Midland Daily News.

**Education:** B.A., English and Journalism, Michigan State University; M.A., Journalism, Michigan State University

**Honors, Awards & Activities:** Named a Rising Star, Journalism Education Association, 2011; Golden Pen Nominee 2008, 2011; Future Journalism Teacher of the Year Scholarship, Journalism Education Association, 2006; MSU Outstanding Senior Award, 2006; State News scholarship winner, 2002; Member: Journalism Education Association; Soccer coach, wife and mom of two

**Why I'm Seeking This Office:** I would like to commit my time on the MIPA board differently for another two year term. As a second vice president I will be able to contribute more in the conversations at meetings. There are some projects I would like to continue

working on as a board member with curriculum and the Jeff Nardone memorial run. It is an honor to be a representative of MIPA on the board, and it would be a blessing to be able to extend my time on the board.

**Additional Comments:** MIPA Rocks!

### SECRETARY (2-YEAR TERM, CHOOSE ONE)

**Marilyn Hess**  
Plainwell HS

**Years at School:** 10  
**Years as a Teacher:** 10  
**Student Media Advised:** The Trojan Torch  
student newspaper, trojantorch.com website

**Current MIPA Office:** None  
**Previous MIPA Experience:** My first experience with MIPA was as a student decades ago! My adviser at Livonia Stevenson was the inimitable Janet Mendler, under whom I served as editor-in-chief of The Spotlight. I was selected for MIPA's Student Journalist staff in 1980. Since becoming an adviser myself, I have attended and taught sessions at the fall conference. I have judged MIPA individual contest entries for several years. I have attended the spring conference and in the past have taken advantage of the one-day workshop and adviser days at MIPA summer camp.



**Past Work Experience:** Editor in chief, The DeWitt-Bath Review (weekly newspaper; Owner, Wordwright Publications (desktop publishing business); Also did stints as an EMT/paramedic and substitute teacher before going back to school to get my teaching certification

**Education:** B.A., English and Journalism, Michigan State University, 1984; M.Ed, Secondary Education, Grand Valley State University, 2008

**Honors, Awards & Activities:** Fellow, Reynolds Institute (ASNE), Kent State University, summer 2013; Michigan Press Association Foundation intern, The Grand Rapids Press, summer 2009; Board of Education member, Wayland Union Schools, 2001-2004

**Why I'm Seeking This Office:** In short: I want

to be on the MIPA board because I can contribute time and expertise. Although I have lots of life experience, and a fair amount of it in the journalism field, I'm still a relatively new teacher and adviser, and I know how important it has been for me to have guidance and to gain experiences. MIPA offers both to its adviser members, and I want to be part of the team that does it with such thought and creativity. I love the energy our students possess, and they need opportunities to learn about the world and about how to communicate effectively through reporting and writing for various media. I don't have a specific agenda but plan to soak up a lot and learn a lot from the current board and from members so that I can find a niche and make a solid contribution.

**Additional Comments:** I am a mom of two grown sons with an awesomely supportive husband. Besides reading in hot bubble baths, hobbies include kayaking, traveling, cross-country skiing, biking, knitting, and going to the Y to pretend I fit in to a hip-hop dance exercise class. What most people in MIPA circles would be surprised to learn is that I am a licensed EMT who used to work part-time for an ambulance service. Nowadays I mostly use this knowledge to teach a First Aid/CPR class at my school.

### TREASURER (2-YEAR TERM, CHOOSE ONE)

**Betsy van der Zee**  
Ann Arbor  
Pioneer HS

**Years at School:** 22  
**Years as a Teacher:** 25  
**Student Media Advised:**

Pioneer Omega yearbook  
**Current MIPA Office:** Treasurer

**Previous MIPA Experience:** I have participated in various conferences and workshops including Adviser Workshops (Yearbook Advising and Publication Design). I have 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., Speech Communication and Theater, University of Michigan; M.A., Communication, Eastern Michigan University  
**Honors, Awards & Activities:** Have attended yearly summer publisher workshops with my staff since 1999; current member of school Building Advisory Team; Various MIPA and publisher awards.

**Why I'm Seeking This Office:** I have enjoyed serving as treasurer since last October and would like to continue to serve in this capacity. I believe my business background and 18 years of experience as a yearbook adviser are an asset to this position. Additionally, serving on the board has helped me to become more involved with MIPA activities, which I have found personally and professionally rewarding.

**Additional Comments:** None.

## TRUSTEE (2-YEAR TERM, CHOOSE TWO)

### Libby Held

Holly HS

**Years at School:** 14

**Years as a Teacher:** 15

**Student Media Advised:**  
Yearbook

**Current MIPA Office:**  
None

**Previous MIPA Experience:** Newspaper, Online Newspaper

**Past Work Experience:** N/A

**Education:** Oakland Writing Project and Portfolio Project; B.A., English, Michigan State University; M.A., Curriculum and Teaching, Michigan State University

**Honors, Awards & Activities:** MIPA Gold Medal, 2014; MIPA Silver Medal, 2013-2011; Columbia Scholastic Press Association Gold Medal, 2013; Columbia Scholastic Press Association Silver Medal, 2011, 2012, 2014

**Why I'm Seeking This Office:** As a member of MIPA, I value the educational opportunities provided for both instructor and student growth. As a lone yearbook teacher within my building, I want to expand my opportunities to surround myself with like minded colleagues in order to expand my own growth and the growth of other like teachers.

**Additional Comments:** I have a strong passion for developing leaders among my staff, where I strive to develop an atmosphere where we work as a team while still developing individual talents.

### Tim Morley

Inland Lakes HS

**Years at School:** 20

**Years as a Teacher:** 21

**Student Media Advised:** Nexus yearbook

**Current MIPA Office:** Trustee

**Previous MIPA Experience:** MIPA trustee 2006-2010, 2014-2015; MIPA workshop instructor, sports photography 2007-2010

**Past Work Experience:** Owner, Inland Lakes Images.

**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; aerospace engineering, University of Southern California, 1988-1990



**Honors, Awards & Activities:** JEA Distinguished Adviser, 2010; Certified Journalism Educator, JEA, 2009 (renewed 2014); JEA Rising Star, 2006; MIPA Yearbook Spartan Award - 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009;; NSPA Pacemaker, 2008; NSPA Pacemaker 2007; CSPA Gold Crown, 2008

**Why I'm Seeking This Office:** Yearbook saved my life. Twice. I want to pay back scholastic journalism for making me who I am today. As a freshman, I was the new kid. I tried sports and made friends, but it was not until my junior year when I joined yearbook class that I found my niche. My mom had cancer while I was in high school. My adviser was my confidant. She would spend hours after school in the yearbook room talking about life, how my mom was doing, my fears. Without her friendship, I do not think I would have made it through high school. Yearbook has saved my life again in recent years. I believe that without yearbook, I would no longer be teaching. I am certified in math and science, but teaching journalism is my passion. It is what I was meant to do. It is why I get up every morning..

**Additional Comments:** None.