

MTA GOVERNANCE <mtagovernance@massteacher.org>

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Information and Reminders - 2019 MTA Annual Meeting



May 1, 2019

TO: Delegates to the 2019 MTA Annual Meeting

FROM: MTA Governance

SUBJECT: IMPORTANT Information - 2019 MTA Annual Meeting

Dear Annual Meeting Delegate:

We are looking forward to a meaningful, well-attended 2019 MTA Annual Meeting of Delegates at the Hynes Convention Center this Friday and Saturday. Members will debate MTA's budget and policy issues, vote on new business items, and honor award recipients. MTA committees, partners and vendors will be set up outside the meeting room before and during the convention.

Meeting materials and information for delegates, including the business session agenda and schedule of events may be found on our website at www.massteacher.org/annualmeeting.

Scroll down for more tips and news about the Annual Meeting.

We look forward to seeing you there!
MTA Governance

REGISTRATION AND BADGES

- Annual Meeting Delegates who were reported to MTA by April 16 have been mailed their Annual Meeting badge via regular mail. Delegates should receive badges the week before the meeting and should bring the printed badge along with two forms of personal identification (driver's license, MTA Card, Credit Card) to the meeting.
- Delegates should go to the Registration Area in Hynes 304-306, third floor (directions are included with the badge) to check in and complete the credentialing process.
- For delegates who forget their badge, did not receive it, or have any issues, the registration service desk (Room 304-306) is prepared to assist and reprint the paper badge. As always, members of the Credentials and Ballot Committee will oversee the process and are available along with staff to assist with any questions or concerns.

- **REMINDER: Watch your mail and bring your printed badge to Annual Meeting to expedite the registration process.**
- Registration Hours (Hynes 304-306)
 - Friday, May 3 – 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
 - Saturday, May 4 – 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- **Changes/Additions to Local Delegations:**
 - Changes to delegate registration (removing or adding a delegate or alternate, for example) can only be done by the local president - who should contact MTA Governance, MTAGovernance@massteacher.org to request the necessary form or may fill out the required paperwork onsite at registration.

SECRET RECORDING AWARENESS

As we gear up for this year's meeting, we want to alert you to a unique problem and provide some cautionary advice. In recent years, right-wing activists have launched a secret recording smear campaign targeted at members and leaders of educators' unions. While you are at the Annual Meeting, or when you are out socializing before or after, here are some tips to protect yourself and our association from unauthorized recording or unscrupulous smear tactics:

1. Trust Your Instincts.
2. Make Sure People Are Who They Say They Are.
3. Wear Your Delegate Credentials.
4. Follow Security Procedures.
5. Be Wary about Individuals Seeking Assistance without Details.
6. Say What You Mean.
7. Walk Away from Ambush Interviews.
8. Please help keep our Annual Meeting business confidential by disposing of printed materials in a secure manner.

More information can be found in the delegate handbook on page 14.

DELEGATE HOTEL

- Sheraton Boston, 39 Dalton Street, Boston, MA 02199
- Check-in after 4 p.m.
- Check-out time is 12 p.m. (noon)

ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE AND LUGGAGE STORAGE

- Hotel guests arriving Friday morning prior to check-in may store luggage at the Bell Services stand in the Sheraton lobby. At the conclusion of the Friday Business Session you may return to the hotel, show your claim ticket to the Bell Services stand, and collect your bags. Remember that many other participants will be collecting their bags.
- Check-in time is 4 p.m. and early check-in is not available. DO NOT attempt to check-in with the hotel until check-in time.
- On Saturday, the Sheraton will provide satellite luggage storage for MTA guests in **Back Bay D meeting room** (2nd Floor). \$3 per bag, cash only. Back Bay D meeting room is accessible as you walk to the Hynes Convention Center from the Sheraton. The room is open from 6:30 am-6:00 pm. You may encounter long wait times, as many delegates will be returning to retrieve their luggage at the same time on Saturday afternoon
- Luggage is NOT PERMITTED to be brought and stored at the Hynes Convention Center.

BOSTON VISITOR INFORMATION

If you want help making restaurant reservations or with planning an excursion or tourist activity, the Boston Concierge Service Desk will be open in the Boylston Hallway (third floor of the Hynes) from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday and from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday.

SEATING

- A seating chart will be available at the door outside of the **Business Session – third floor Ballroom, A, B, C.**
- Please be advised the business session seating will be “theater style” (no tables) to accommodate seating for all delegates.
- MTA leadership and staff thank the delegates for their understanding and cooperation and assure you we are working to make this Annual Meeting a productive and worthwhile experience for all.
- Here are some suggestions and tips:
 - You may want to bring a clipboard to have a writing surface.
 - Pack light and consider bringing only your personal items.

FOOD AND BEVERAGE

- For your convenience, a concession stand will be offering delicious “grab and go” food options for breakfast and lunch.
- The stand will be set up at the end of the Boylston Street Hallway on third floor of the Hynes.

DIRECTIONS AND PARKING

- Please see attached Driving and Parking Information Flyer to help get you to the Hynes Convention Center.
- Sheraton Hotel will extend valet vehicle check-out time for departing MTA guests on Sat., May 4, from 4 p.m. until 6 p.m. at no additional charge.

MOTHERS’ ROOM

NEW THIS YEAR: The Hynes Convention Center is now offering the Mamava Nursing Pod! These enclosed, private spaces are lactation stations for new mothers that can be used by employees, visitors, and event attendees at our convention centers. Located off of the south rotunda, near the Prudential Center entrance, adjacent to restroom.

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MTA BENEFITS

- Visit the MTA Benefits Sponsors on third floor of Hynes and find dozens of ways to save money as an MTA member.
- MTA Benefits Sponsors include:
 - Access Development
 - Augeo Marketing
 - Cambridge Credit Counseling
 - CarePatrol
 - Citizens Bank
 - Fitchburg State University
 - Gallagher Affinity
 - Hanover Educators Insurance Agency
 - Hear in America
 - KinderCare Education LLC

- MTA Benefits
- NEA Member Benefits
- Optical Academy
- Professional Insurance Services, Inc.
- Tankfarm
- T-Mobile
- Vista Financial, Inc.

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