

**“Just because you do not take an interest in politics,
does not mean politics won’t take an interest in you.”**
Pericles 495-429 B.C.

Politics are a fact of life. When you are born, your birth is registered by someone appointed by an elected official. When you die, someone else appointed by an elected official records your death. Between the cradle and the grave, elected officials and their appointees determine, among other things, how fast you may drive, what you pay for your utilities, the interest rates you earn, and the taxes you pay.

As an educator and a public employee, the qualifications and certification you need to teach, the size of your class, and the amount of your retirement pension are just a few of the things that will be determined by elected officials and their appointees.

As educators we should have a strong interest in helping to elect those who influence these decisions that affect our lives and careers. MCEA TIGER COPE Committee is MCEA’s very own political action committee. MCEA TIGER COPE is often asked to monetarily support candidates for the Florida Senate and the Florida House of Representatives. A good example of the effectiveness of TIGER COPE is Representative Shelley Vana from Palm Beach County. Shelley is a former teacher and a former union president. Now in Tallahassee, she is known as a spokesperson for teachers and a champion of educational issues. MCEA TIGER COPE has contributed to her campaign each time she has run for re-election.

Educators should be the best educated voters of all. We are certain that all MCEA members are already registered voters. Now we would like you to go one step farther. We are asking you to help us support candidates who will help improve Florida’s system of education. Your dues do NOT go to candidates, but your MCEA TIGER COPE contributions will, so, please, JOIN MCEA TIGER COPE today!

Please complete and sign this form, then return it to the MCEA office. Help elect “friends of education” to political offices. Make a difference in our schools and our lives!

MCEA TIGER COPE AUTHORIZATION: I hereby authorize the Martin County School District to deduct from my salary the sum of \$_____ (\$1 minimum) PER PAY PERIOD and forward that amount directly to the Martin County Education Association TIGER COPE Committee.

This authorization is signed freely and voluntarily and not out of any fear of reprisal, and I will not be favored nor disadvantaged because I exercise this right. I understand that this money will be used to make political contributions by the MCEA TIGER COPE Committee.

This voluntary authorization may be revoked at any time by providing thirty (30) days’ written notice to MCEA TIGER COPE Committee, notifying them of such revocation, as provided by law.

Name _____ SS# _____

Home Address _____

Home phone _____ Cell phone _____ Work Site _____

Home e-mail address _____

Signature _____ Date _____