



# montana journalism education association

---

---

---

**TO: Montana journalism teachers and publication advisers**  
**FROM: Montana Journalism Education Association**

**September 2015**

Welcome back to another year of advising publications at your school -- or welcome to your first year as a publications adviser! Just as you all are organizing the production of your school's 2015-2016 yearbooks, newspapers and broadcast and online programs, those of us at the Montana Journalism Education Association are in the process of organizing and redeveloping what we hope will become an indispensable organization that will provide you with the tools to help your students succeed and your journalism programs thrive.

Enclosed you will find information about:

- \* Applying for membership in MJE
- \* A link to a survey of Montana journalism teachers and advisers

**PLEASE TAKE OUR SURVEY ----- <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/V78YNRS>**

- \* The upcoming JEA/NSPA national conventions in Orlando and Los Angeles
- \* The Journalism Education Association (JEA) and a list of 2015-2016 events and deadlines
- \* The JEA Mentor program and contact information for JEA State Director Linda Ballew
- \* School Newspapers Online (SNO)
- \* JEA's Scholastic Press Rights Committee
- \* The Certified and Master Journalism Educator Programs

We are in the process of developing a web site for MJE -- <http://www.mjeajournalism.com>. As we continue to develop the site, there will be teacher resources, links to multiple scholastic journalism sites, lesson plans from both national and statewide educators, and, eventually, a list of MJE members and educators throughout the state.

We hope you will consider joining MJE. By providing resources, encouragement and workshops both during the school year and the summer months, we aim to build a strong community of journalism teachers throughout the state. We are so spread out in Montana, and our goal is to develop a group of educators who can assist one another in making our journalism programs and students the very best they can be.

The national Journalism Education Association (JEA) offers a plethora of resources to its members, including the Listserv where members can exchange ideas, raise questions or learn about key issues facing journalism education today. Membership in the JEA extends beyond production of the newspaper, yearbook, literary magazine broadcast outlet or website -- it ventures into the classroom. As administrators look for ways to teach the Common Core Standards and 21st century skills, they need look no farther than the journalism classroom. JEA is taking the lead in promoting and developing curriculum and lessons that closely align journalism to the Common Core standards.

I encourage you to join JEA and MJE. If I can be of any assistance, or if you have any questions, feel free to contact me at 406.268.6178 or e-mail: [beth\\_britton@gfps.k12.mt.us](mailto:beth_britton@gfps.k12.mt.us).

Beth Britton  
President, MJE  
C. M. Russell High School

---

---

---