

November 22, 2006

## **SAD 3 bargaining units endorse FUTURE MSAD 3 fundraising**

THORNDIKE - The collective bargaining units representing teachers, educational technicians, kitchen staff, custodians, and bus drivers in MSAD #3 have announced their endorsement of the campaign for the Mount View Performing Arts Center.

The MSAD #3 Maine Education Association executive board has unanimously approved a resolution endorsing FUTURE MSAD 3's campaign for the 300-seat Mount View Performing Arts Center. At their meeting on November 13<sup>th</sup> the board recognized the efforts of FUTURE MSAD 3, a volunteer-led nonprofit group working to raise \$575,000 in private funds to enhance the auditorium in the new Mount View School complex. The capital campaign will support seven major elements within the facility to transform it into a true performing arts center for the students, residents, and employees of SAD 3. FUTURE MSAD 3 announced it has \$148,000 left to raise to meet a challenge grant offered by the Unity Foundation in honor of their founders, Bert G. and Coral B. Clifford. The Unity Foundation is matching every dollar raised for the campaign, up to \$250,000. When FUTURE MSAD 3 completes the Unity Foundation challenge grant they will also have achieved the campaign goal for the performing arts center.

"We are very pleased to be associated with this effort," said Faith Campbell, President of Local E.A. #3 in announcing the board's endorsement. "The Mount View Performing Arts Center will have long-lasting benefits for our students and the entire community. We believe it will be the jewel in the crown of the new complex," Campbell added.

Steve Bennett, chair of the FUTURE MSAD 3 board of directors acknowledged the significance of this vote of confidence. "Having the endorsement of the leadership representing the majority

of SAD #3 employees is a great boost to the campaign, and we're grateful for their public statement of support."

The MSAD #3 Maine Education Association represents 300 employees at six elementary schools, Mount View Junior High, and Mount View High School. SAD 3 serves the 11 towns of Unity, Brooks, Freedom, Jackson, Knox, Liberty, Monroe, Montville, Thorndike, Troy, and Waldo with a total population of 10,028. MSAD 3 is geographically one of Maine's largest and most rural school districts. The Mount View Performing Arts Center will be utilized by both students and residents from these communities.