

Message to members :



April 23, 2015

Representative assembly

Happy Thursday! This past week over 1,000 delegates from around the state of Illinois attended the IEA representative assembly. Representative members from every IEA region are brought together once a year to debate and discuss positions the IEA will take on issues facing education. The decisions made by the assembled delegates set the direction of IEA for the coming year. Your Region 11 representatives were: Tim Ruyle, Kelly Sholtis, Jordan Mundhenke, Sue Bell, Marge Adkins, Karveta Broussard, Mike Brown, Kris Kloba, Jean Harrison, Angela Cooper, Monique Davis, Ladoris Eslahi, and Crysta Weitekamp.

Although we did discuss many business items, this year the IEA RA included time set aside for professional development sessions. The PD sessions covered a wide variety of topics. SEA members Laura Jordan, Kelly Sholtis, and Crysta Weitekamp were among the presenters as was Carolyn Sloan, our Uniserv director. For a detailed list of topics, please see the IEA website and feel free to ask one of the delegates about this process.

The theme during the RA was that all IEA members need to Come Together united for student success. Our strength comes not in one person, but in all of our members. We must all remain vigilant in fighting the attacks on public education. As President Klickna stated on April 22, we will not be silenced!

For more information on the RA and to view presentations, please visit the members only section on ieanea.org.

NEA Fund for Children and Public Education

At our last association representative meeting, ARs were given information about the NEA fund. The NEA Fund for Children and Public Education is a federal political action committee (PAC) for NEA members. The fund financially supports pro-public education candidates on the federal and state levels regardless of their political affiliation. NEA does not use dues dollars for this purpose. Participation in donating to this fund is voluntary. Please see your building ARs for more information or contact me at the SEA office.

Message to members :



TRS trustee elections

The Teacher Retirement Systems Board of Trustee elections is underway. Please visit <http://www.trs.illinois.gov> to vote for IEA endorsed candidates Cinda Klickna and Andrew Hirschman. Voting lasts through May 1. All members of TRS, including administrators, can vote in this important election. Make sure our voices are heard!

Many of you may have heard of the teacher who gave her students the assignment to finish the sentence, “I wish my teacher knew...”. We have an idea here at the SEA office that we hope will help us gather similar information about the state of education in Illinois. We are asking ALL SEA members to send an email to Crysta or Carolyn with one sentence only: I wish my state lawmakers knew... and finish the sentence with whatever you wish state lawmakers knew about public education. It can be as personal or as global as you want it to be. Please put “I wish my lawmaker knew” in the subject line when sending the email and we will compile them (anonymously—names redacted) into a comprehensive list of things we wish those who make the laws knew about public education.

Crysta

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