



Watch along the *Kanawha*

August-September 2010

WELCOME BACK!

After a much deserved rest, I hope you are looking forward to returning to the classroom to meet your students in August. Another summer has evaporated more quickly than we would have liked, but we hope you were able to spend time doing something you really enjoyed!



As you prepare for another school year, we want to thank you for your commitment to your local association, the KCEA. Our goal is to keep our members informed of the latest developments at the local, state and national level.

Be sure to use your ACCESS CARD (membership card) online to print coupons for valuable savings. These savings are available to you for personal use and school purchases. Using this benefit can help save the money to pay your membership dues, and in some cases exceed that amount.

Please remember each day that your hard work and dedication are appreciated. You DO make a difference in the lives of students and their families. The model you represent, as a professional educator, is often the best model a student may have for building goals and character.

Dinah Adkins

Mark Your Calendar

for the monthly KCEA meetings:
2nd Monday of each month
4:15 p.m.

WVEA Headquarters
(unless notified otherwise—
check the KCEA web site)
1558 Quarrier St.
Charleston, West Virginia

Building Rep Meeting

On August 12, building reps met at “The Barge” restaurant in Charleston for a “Let’s Get Acquainted” activity. The representatives were given information for the upcoming year, received newsletters, and picked up members’ desk calendars. Many of our new employees in the county attended and, along with the KCEA Executive Committee and Building Reps, enjoyed an evening of great food, lively discussions, and musical entertainment.

KCEA plans to schedule another “Get Acquainted” activity later in the fall. Be sure your building location, home and cell phone numbers, and address are updated at the WVEA Headquarters so you will receive information about this, and other activities this year.

You may also update your information with the KCEA President by e-mailing dhadkins@gmail.com.

KCEA/WVEA “NEVER” represents an administrator against a teacher. Teachers take precedence!

Legislature--Special Session Results

Legislation passing during the special session includes:

1. 210/2010 - Alternative Learning Centers - creates uniform standards for all alternative learning centers (ALCs) and creates a pilot programs for five elementary schools and middle schools. \$1 million was appropriated for the pilots.

2. 209/2009 - Community School Pilot Program - creates a special community school pilot program to be

WVEA Workshops, Presentations and More Available for your School

Have folks in your building had questions about their rights, Safe Schools protections, the Student Code of Conduct or how we should involve parents with their "tweens" in the transition from elementary to middle school? All this and more is available as presentations or workshops by WVEA staff members for your school. You can check out and download an Adobe Acrobat PDF version of the WVEA's Professional Development Catalog online at: <http://www.wvea.org/teaching-learning/presentations.aspx> then give us a call! Kym Randolph can be reached at krandolph@wvea.org and Anita Maxwell at amaxwell@wvea.org.

WEB SITES YOU CAN USE!

AWARD WINNING

KCEA: <http://pages.suddenlink.net/kcea/>

<http://boe.kana.k12.wv.us/>

www.wvea.org

www.nea.org

AWARD WINNING NEWSLETTER

Watch Along the Kanawha

Is the Official Publication of the
Kanawha County Education Association

1558 Quarrier St. • Charleston, WV 25311

Dinah Adkins
President & Editor

*Member Comments and Suggestions For Future Articles are
Invited by Writing to the Editor at the above address or
you can e-mail the editor at dhadkins@gmail.com*

implemented at one public school for a five year period. The school, to be designated by the State Superintendent, will have significant enrollments of disadvantaged minority and under-achieving students. The school will work with community organizations, higher education and the State Board to develop and implement strategies that could be replicated in other schools with similar enrollment characteristics. All other provisions of the governor's original bill - differential pay, career ladder, incentives based on student growth- were stricken from the bill.

3. 206/2006 - School Teams and School Committees - allows for the combining of certain school teams and committees to encourage greater collaboration.

Professional Issues Conference Scheduled for October 15-16, 2010

WVEA's annual Professional Issues Conference will be held October 15-16 at the Marriott Hotel in Charleston, West Virginia. The theme of this year's conference is "West Virginia's Public Schools Work." The conference will begin with a dinner at 7:00 p.m. on Friday and will conclude at approximately 2:00 p.m. on Saturday afternoon. Professional development sessions are being finalized. Once confirmed, conference information will be posted on the WVEA website at www.wvea.org.

Registration forms will be included in your August issue of the *WVEA Today*. **Deadline for registration is October 1, 2010.** Your registration fee includes Friday night lodging (if applicable), dinner on Friday, lunch on Saturday and all handouts and conference materials. Space is limited to the first 250 who register. Registration forms may be downloaded from the WVEA website, copied and distributed. **Checks for the conference registration fee must accompany your form in order for room reservations to be made.**

If you have any questions about the conference, contact Kym Randolph at 1.800.642.8261 extension 211 or Anita Maxwell at 1.800.642.8261 extension 116.

Growing Membership

While the number of administrators in KCEA has diminished considerably over the last few years (there are no principals who are members), our professional and support professional memberships has increased. Welcome to those of you who have joined the association!

Staff Development Opportunity

KCEA and WVEA have coordinated with Carol Thom to offer a special Cell Phone/Internet Us Training this fall. KCEA/WVEA is excited to provide such a great opportunity for meaningful staff development.

The goal is to update you on the acceptable use of cell phones, the Internet, and other technology. The training session is eye-opening, informative and will allow time for participants to ask questions.

The training will be voluntary, and teachers may sign up to attend on the afternoon of Oct. 21 in lieu of attending staff development at the school site. This training will be held at the Emmanuel Baptist Church on the West Side. During this first training opportunity, approximately 150 teachers may participate.

Check online staff development to register for this activity, or contact Carol Thom's office.

“Teachers in Space” Competition

The non-profit Teachers in Space program already has 15 seats that have been donated/purchased for teachers, but the program’s goals go far beyond 15 teachers. The Teachers in Space program plans to fly at least 200 teachers a year. “We want to put a thousand astronaut teachers into American schools within the next decade, said Teachers in Space project manager Edward Wright.

Teachers in Space announced that it will be selecting three additional Pathfinders astronaut teachers. The new competition, which is expected to last about a year, will begin the next few weeks. Teachers who wish to be notified as soon as the competition begins should email apply@teachersinspace.org with “New Competition” in the subject line. Details on the new competition are available at: www.teachersinspace.org.

New Membership Cards

Membership cards are mailed to all continuing members in early August. The WVEA continues to provide member benefits such as discounts on hotels, golf courses, ski resorts, travel, entertainment, and recreation packages through the Internet-based ACCESS card program.

WVEA members have saved hundreds of dollars through special offers from restaurants, retailers, merchants and other providers featured directly to WVEA members in the “ACCESS-Member Benefits section of the WVEA website. Check the site frequently to avoid missing out on special offers.

If you would happen to misplace your card, call 1.800.642.8261 extension 131 for a replacement. All new and cash members will receive confirmation of their membership and then their personalized membership cards will be sent in 2 or 3 weeks.

A second mailing will also arrive in early August from another vendor and will contain an EEL brochure outlining our legal services plan, your WVEA pocket calendar and your Member Benefits Guide.

NOTICE~~

If you have transferred to a new school, please contact the WVEA with your new location, e-mail, and phone number.

School Calendar

Surveys for the 2011-12 school calendar should be available soon. Watch for them online from Carol Thom's office. This will be your opportunity for input concerning EARLY START DATE and SPRING BREAK CONNECTED TO THE EASTER HOLIDAY. Last year the KCEA representative on the calendar committee represented you very well and, as most of you requested, the traditional start date and spring break at Easter were included in the calendar. KCEA is the only association supporting these calendar options.

Call the WVEA Help Center

WVEA's Help Center handles all types of questions. Simply call and speak to one of the Member Advocacy Specialists for any employment related questions. They have expertise in school law statutes, state board policies and grievance decisions which enable them to assist you with any questions you may have.

You may call the toll-free number 1.866.568.WVEA (1.866.568.9832) or send an email. A link to the Help Center inquiry form can be found on the WVEA website's homepage at www.wvea.org. The Help Center is a member-only service. In order to verify your membership, you may be asked to provide the last four digits of your social security number.



WVEA Provides NBC Information/ Support for Members

The WVEA provides information and guidance regarding the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards' (NBPTS) rigorous and voluntary National Board Certification (NBC) process. WVEA members are provided support for the process via a connection to National Board Certified Teachers (NBCTs) in various certification areas who serve as mentors for candidates. If you are a WVEA member and have questions regarding the process, contact WVEA staff member Anita Maxwell at 1.800.642.8261 extension 116 for additional information.

Sign Up for WVEA's E-newsletter

WVEA members stay informed with their Association and the latest education issues by getting the latest news delivered to them via email. To join WVEA's email newsletters list, we simply need to have your current email address in our membership database. Click on the "E-Newsletter" section on the homepage of the WVEA website at www.wvea.org and fill out a very short online form. You will then get updates from WVEA automatically.

Be sure to share the information you receive with other employees at your worksite so they can be aware of what WVEA is doing for education employees.

WVEA MEMBERSHIP AUTHORIZATION



WVEA/NEA/CEA -- 2010-2011
1558 QUARRIER ST.
CHARLESTON, WV 25311
TELEPHONE: 304/346-5315 or 1-866-568-WVEA

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

AREA CODE HOME PHONE

E-MAIL ADDRESS

COUNTY EMPLOYED

WORK LOCATION

	FIRST	MIDDLE	LAST	TITLE
NAME				
ADDRESS				
CITY				
STATE			ZIP	

CHECK THE COLUMN THAT APPLIES TO YOU:

ASSN.	<input type="radio"/> Professional	<input type="radio"/> Professional SUBSTITUTE	<input type="radio"/> Support Professional (ESP)	<input type="radio"/> Support Professional SUBSTITUTE
NEAWVEA DUES	\$465.00	\$198.75	\$275.50	\$121.50
CEADUES				
TOTAL				

METHOD OF PAYMENT - CHECK ONE:

- CASH (CA) BILL ME (CI)
 PAYROLL (PR) Credit Card No.: _____
 MASTER CARD (MC) VISA (VS) Expiration Date: ____/____/____

CONTINUING MEMBERSHIP

I choose to be a continuing member of WVEA, NEA, and my local Association, and I hereby authorize my employer to deduct from my salary and remit to WVEA, in accordance with the agreed upon payroll deduction procedure, unified membership dues, as may be determined from time to time, and political action contributions as indicated above, for the 2010-2011 membership year and every membership year thereafter, provided that I may revoke this authorization as of September 1 of any calendar year by giving written notice to that effect on my employer and WVEA on or before that date.

The National Education Association Fund for Children and Public Education (NEA Fund) collects voluntary contributions from Association members and uses these contributions for political purposes, including, but not limited to, making contributions to and expenditures on behalf of friends of public education who are candidates for federal office. Only U.S. citizens or lawful permanent residents may contribute to The NEA Fund. Contributions to The NEA Fund are voluntary; making a contribution is neither a condition of employment nor membership in the Association, and members have the right to refuse to contribute without suffering any reprisal. Although The NEA Fund requests an annual contribution of \$15, this is only a suggestion. A member may contribute more or less than the suggested amount, or may contribute nothing at all, without it affecting his or her membership status, rights, or benefits in NEA or any of its affiliates.

Contributions or gifts to The NEA Fund are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes.

Federal law requires us to use our best efforts to collect and report the name, mailing address, occupation, and name of the employer for each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year.

Federal law prohibits The NEA Fund from receiving donations from persons other than members of NEA and its affiliates, and their immediate families. All donations from persons other than members of NEA and its affiliates, and their immediate families, will be returned forthwith.

In accordance with the WVEA Bylaws, a WVEA contribution of nine dollars (\$9.00) for WVEA-PAC and one dollar (\$1.00) for the Ballot Initiative Fund (BIF) have been assessed as part of the WVEA dues. Any person wishing not to participate in WVEA-PAC or BIF should contact the WVEA office prior to November 1. Where objections are made, the member may choose to: (a) divert one or both of the assessments to the West Virginia Foundation for Improvement of Education, or (b) receive a rebate of either one or both of the assessments. Where objections are made the assessments will not be used for political purposes or ballot initiative purposes. If you wish to contribute to NEA FCPE or to make an additional contribution to WVEA-PAC, or your local PAC, write the amount of your contribution in the appropriate box marked with an (*).

Dues payments and contributions to NEA-FCPE and WVEA-PAC are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. Dues payments may be deductible as a miscellaneous itemized deduction.

Signing this form constitutes a binding contract to pay annual dues except by following the conditions set forth in the "continuing membership" statement above.

The undersigned becomes a member of the WVEA/NEA upon the date this form is signed.

Member Signature

Date