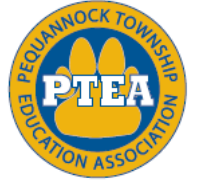




Pequannock Township Education Association



CHALKBOARD

December 2011

~President's Message~

Happy December!

During the legislative "Lame Duck" session, the education "reform" proposals put forth by the Governor may be expected to gain some traction.

Some of you have asked what you can do to attempt to halt the progress of the damaging legislation proposed by the Governor.

In the past two weeks, your Association Representatives have shared information with you regarding NJEA's proposals for Education reform.

You can continue to contact your legislators to convey your concern about the Governor's poorly conceived reforms, and to express support for the well-researched proposals outlined by NJEA.

As we move toward a new year, I encourage us all to continue to support valid and intelligent reforms. As educators, we should have a legitimate voice in the debate.

On a personal note, I ask us all to think of all our colleagues who are in need this season.

I wish you all a restful and enjoyable holiday break. May you enjoy the blessings of family and friends.

Lee Ann

For the latest information on legislative issues that affect all of us, please go to the "Current Legislation" tab on NJEA's Issues and Political Action page on their website. Just follow this link to stay informed, and then make your voices heard to your representatives. <http://www.njea.org/issues-and-political-action/current-legislation>.

~Insurance~

Laura Higley (PV/PTHS)

Be aware of the legislative changes that were made over the summer. The NJ Pension and Benefits web site has some documents that spell out the changes and how they affect us.

<http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/pensions/reform-hb-qa.shtml>

Please read the MEDCO Prescription Advisory at NJEA's site. This information affects retired members (and members who will be retiring) <http://www.njea.org/members/retired-members-public/medco-prescription-advisory>

~PRIDE~

Jamie Dean (NB) & Karen Schiffel (SJG)

Reimbursement paperwork has been submitted to Uniserv office for our fall activities.

Reminder - all original receipts must go to Karen Schiffel (SJG). She will then copy and forward to Jeri. NJEA will only accept originals and several other copies are needed for files at the local level. Additionally, PRIDE will NOT provide reimbursement funding from Walmart or Sam's Club. These are not UNION based corporations.

Please, please, please - check with Karen prior to making any purchases that she has not given the okay for. Funds are not permitted to be used to buy gift cards or student giveaways. Guidelines and requirements have become more stringent. It is of the utmost importance that compliance to these are a priority.

With that being said thank you for your participation in our fall events. Winter events are next on our list and Karen and Jamie will touch base with those who have activities planned.

The MCCEA poster contest flyers have been distributed. See your AR if you did not receive one. Any entries you receive should be given to Jamie Dean at NBS by January 10, 2012.

**Last call for nominations for FRIENDS OF EDUCATION. These are due to us by 12/22/11. Please be sure to include a home address and telephone number with your letter of nomination. Send nominations to Karen Schiffel at SJG.

Also, don't forget about the Mall Project. Think about projects, writings or just pictures that could be displayed showing all the GREAT THINGS that are happening in Pequannock Township! See your AR if you have any questions.

~IPD~

Janelle Heise (PV)

MCCEA Overnight PD Conference

Friday Night and Saturday, January 27-28, 2012

Friday Night Keynote Speaker – Dr. Walter Farrell, NJEA School Voucher Specialist

PD Hours for the following workshops:

- The Many Faces of Bullying – NJ Law
- The Differentiated Classroom
- PMI Session: Progressive Math
- PMI Session: Progressive Science
- Elementary Classroom Management, Part 1 & 2
- Dealing with Stress for ESP's
- Workshop for English Language Learners

Advocacy Workshops (No PD Hours):

- Grassroots Organizing
- Hot Topics in Advocacy

Register by visiting <http://www.mccea.com/mccea-calendar/events> to either register online or to print the registration form. Cost varies but all include buffet style meals.