

FEAdback

FAIRBANKS EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

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From the President's desk....

2010 Brings Changes, Already!!

Under the District Health Plan, the PA Clinic is now located at Urgent Care on Airport Way. That office has made several changes to facilitate our business. If you have comments about the service you have received to date, certainly send them to fea@alaska.net or to the other Health Care Committee members, Jeff Hebard and Larry Ehnert. Your comments will be noted. The committee meets again on January 13. When you reviewed your pay advisory for January 8, you may have noticed an increase in the amount for health care. The new amounts are (Plan A/Plan B): Employee Only, \$75.73/\$26.51; Employee and Spouse or Employee and Children, \$100.97/\$35.34; and Employee and Family, \$126.21/\$44.17. Keep an eye open for the **Personal Wellness Profile (PWP)** that will be arriving soon in your mail at home. By completing the PWP, you are eligible for the **\$250** incentive and for completing the WIN for as much as a **\$500** incentive.

When does your teaching certificate expire? The District notifies you prior to your certificate expiring. If your certificate expires you may continue to teach your classes, but will be placed on substitute pay. If nineteen (19) days pass and the state has not notified the District you are recertified, you are terminated by the District. By going to the Teacher Certification website at www.eed.state.ak.us/TeacherCertification/CertificationsSearch.cfm you can see the date your certificate expires. Paperwork to renew your certificate can be filed up to six (6) months prior to the date of expiration. Make sure you have taken the required credits and have the transcripts ready to send.

Teaching is your profession and the teaching certificate is your license!!!

Participate in the Superintendent Search

FEA has formed an ad hoc Superintendent Search Review Committee in light of the School Board's search for a new superintendent. The committee met on Wednesday, January 6. A number of excellent ideas were discussed and the Board of Directors will discuss some points that were controversial, such as should the School Board only consider local candidates (does local mean statewide) or should the search be a national search. The FEA Board of Directors is listed on the left of this page. If you have an opinion, let them know and, let the School Board know by contacting them using these methods: by mail to the Board of Education, 520 Fifth Avenue, Fairbanks, AK 99701; by email to schoolboard@northstar.k12.ak.us; by phone to the Board of Education Office at 452-2000, ext. 400; or by making contact with any individual board member.

Items of Interest to Members

Deadlines are drawing near. One section of the 2008-2011 Negotiated Agreement of interest to those who may be considering retirement at the end of this school year is found on page 4, Article 101 VI. This article states that if you provide an "irrevocable written notice of retirement" on or before **Friday, January 15**, you will receive a one-time payment of **\$1,500.00** on your last paycheck.

Take time to read your latest issue of the **NEA-AK**ivist dated November/December 2009. Contained in it are important articles on the Pension Coalition, your rights during an investigatory, voting out the exit exam, and an upcoming NEA-Alaska Constitution change to be considered by Delegate Assembly. Next week, three members of FEA will be filmed for the 'I am NEA -Alaska' image campaign discussed in the issue.

Do you know where your NEA-Alaska membership card is? Read 'Dear Elena' for the reason.

THANK YOU FOR BEING A TEACHER!!!

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