

FEAdback

FAIRBANKS EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

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From the President's desk....

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Tammy Smith
Vice-President

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Vacant

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Chris Villano

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NEA-AK
Tim Parker

Tammy Smith
Vacant

Region V Vacancy on NEA-Alaska Board of Directors

You will notice a vacant position on the NEA-Alaska Board of Directors for Region V. This region contains FEA and ESSA affiliates. According to FEA's Constitution and Bylaws, the President of FEA will recommend a replacement to the President of NEA-Alaska. Applications will be accepted until **5:00pm, Monday, August 31**. The person will serve this year and the seat will be open for election in April of 2010. If you are interested, contact me at 456-4435 or via email at fea@alaska.net.

Events Cancelled at Anchorage Hilton Hotel

NEA-Alaska President Barb Angaiak, issued a letter on August 24, following a meeting of the NEA-Alaska Executive Committee, to the Anchorage Hilton Hotel that NEA-Alaska will hold its annual Fall Event (statewide training opportunity) and the annual Delegate Assembly (over 400 educators in attendance) at other venues in Anchorage. This change is due to the continuing labor situation at the Anchorage Hilton Hotel. Employees of the hotel are union members of Unite HERE Local 878 who have requested a boycott of the hotel until their contract negotiations are settled. These negotiations have been ongoing for more than a year. To read a copy of Barb Angaiak's letter to the Anchorage Hilton Hotel and the NEA-Alaska press release you should visit the NEA-Alaska website at <http://www.neaalaska.org>.

Information to begin the 2009-2010 School Year

The Fairbanks Education Association's Political Action Committee for Education (PACE) is conducting interviews of the candidates for School Board, Borough Assembly, and Borough Mayor. These interviews will conclude on Thursday, August 27. PACE will then deliberate to make recommendations for the General Membership meeting preceding the Representative Council meeting on Tuesday, September 8 at 5:00pm. Approved recommendations will be announced in the September 11 issue of **FEAdback**.

Your first paycheck arrived on Friday, August 21. You will be reminded during the year to read your pay advisory for accuracy. Your next paycheck will arrive on Friday, Sept. 4 showing the first health care deduction. For new teachers, the amount depends on the Plan you selected. For continuing teachers, the amount will be the same as Spring Semester 2009. Remember, Open Enrollment will occur in November 2009 when you have an opportunity to change coverage. A new amount will be deducted beginning in January 2010 per the **2008-2011 Negotiated Agreement**.

Total union dues, for a full-time teacher, for the 2009-2010 school year are \$994.00 or \$62.13 per paycheck, using payroll deduction. The FEA website (<http://www.alaska.net/~fea>) has the break down, but the local FEA dues have not changed and remain \$215.00. With payroll deduction, the first deduction will occur on your paycheck for Oct. 2, with the last deduction made on April 30, 2010 (a total of 16 paychecks).

An important topic at the beginning of the school year is evaluations. The **2008-2011 Negotiated Agreement** contains new language concerning the dissemination of information about the evaluation process. Reading the second paragraph of Article 409 TEACHER EVALUATION, page 33, explains this change. The evaluation procedure and changes in the instrument are required to be explained on or before October 1. You should ask your principal when this explanation will occur in your building, since for many teachers the instrument is new this year. The instrument contains language concerning the use of technology. Additionally, a committee of FEA members and District staff will be discussing the revision of the Teacher Evaluation Handbook.

Mark your calendars to participate in the **Labor Day Parade** on **Monday, September 7**. The parade will begin at the Noel Wien Library at 12 noon and end at Pioneer Park for a free picnic. Volunteers are needed for the games FEA provides for kids during the picnic. Contact our office at 456-4435 to assist.

THANK YOU FOR BEING A TEACHER!!!