

FEAdback

FAIRBANKS EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

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Volume 28

Number 17

February 5, 2010

From the President's desk....

FEA Officers

Steve Laroe
President
Tammy Smith
Vice-President
Sandi Ryan
Treasurer
Kim Wallingford
Recording Secretary
Pat Aikman
Membership Secretary

Happy Valentine's Day

May you enjoy this special issue in an appropriate color!!!

Security Breach of TRS Information

Announced at Delegate Assembly and explained on the [NEA-Alaska](http://www.nea-alaska.org) website (top of the left-hand column) is the breach of security of confidential information for teachers who were enrolled in TRS in 2003 and 2004. The breach occurred at a contractor of the State of Alaska. Members affected by the breach are to receive a letter from the Alaska Department of Administration explaining the procedures to protect against identity theft. Information in the letter will explain how to place a claim for a loss due to this breach at PricewaterhouseCoopers. I very much recommend you read the article on the [NEA-Alaska](http://www.neaalaska.org/nea/node/1) (www.neaalaska.org/nea/node/1) website since this is an issue for an estimated 77,000 members of Alaska retirement systems.

Delegate Assembly 2010

Attending this Delegate Assembly (DA) provided an opportunity to meet the candidates for each of the [NEA-Alaska](http://www.nea-alaska.org) leadership positions, President, Vice-President, and [NEA](http://www.nea-alaska.org) Director. So speak to one of the delegates for more information. Region V candidates were introduced and spoke.

Just as important however, is the discussion on the critical issue topics: Anti-Corruption/Clean Elections (appearing on the August primary ballot), Response to Intervention (RTI), Elementary and Secondary Education Act (NCLB) Reauthorization, Pay for Performance, the Dumbest Generation, and the Living Wage Campaign. Read upcoming issues of FEAdback for more information.

During the business sessions of Delegate Assembly a report of the elections committee established by DA 2009 was presented in the form of changes approved by the [NEA-Alaska](http://www.nea-alaska.org) Board of Directors to policy. These changes are expected to avoid the problems encountered during the last statewide election. Certain changes in the operation of [NEA-Alaska](http://www.nea-alaska.org) PACE were adopted by the DA, while others are still under consideration. A change to the [NEA-Alaska](http://www.nea-alaska.org) Bylaws was approved that changed the manner members of the [NEA-Alaska](http://www.nea-alaska.org) Board of Directors are allocated from the Retired Region. Adopted as Priority 1 issues as recommended by the Legislative Review Committee are Rural Teacher Housing, Restoring the Defined Benefit Retirement System, securing Full Funding for K-12 Education, and Defeating the Alaska Anti-Corruption Act ballot initiative (Gag Law). Priority 1 means these are the most urgent issues for association members and receive top priority as the issues are addressed by the Legislature or the electorate.

Jackie Lee Johnson of the Mat-Su was announced as the [NEA-Alaska](http://www.nea-alaska.org) Teacher of the Year. You can read more about Jackie and her career on the [NEA-Alaska](http://www.nea-alaska.org) website under the About Us tab.

Fairbanks very own **Irene Matheis**, was announced as the [NEA-Alaska](http://www.nea-alaska.org) Education Support Professional (ESP) of the Year. More on Irene and her career is found under the About US tab of the [NEA-Alaska](http://www.nea-alaska.org) website.

Are you interested in attending DA 2011 in Anchorage to learn how you're association operates? Become a delegate candidate in the April election. Participation is enjoyable and educational!!!

Items of Interest to Members

Returning to Fairbanks Sunday afternoon, delegate and [FEA](http://www.nea-alaska.org) Treasurer, **Sandi Ryan** brought to my attention a very important article in the February issue of the Alaska Airlines magazine. Turning to page 23, I read the article about our very own **Chérie Stihler** and her book **Wiggle-Waggle Woof!** Chérie teaches at Arctic Light Elementary and is a member of the [FEA](http://www.nea-alaska.org) Board of Directors. **Nice Job** Chérie!!!!

THANK YOU FOR BEING A TEACHER!!!

FEA Board of Directors

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Sandy Cummings
Sherry Blizzard
Jerry Grogan
Paula Addis

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