Welcome Back to Second Semester !!!

Public School Proud
Because we love our neighborhood schools

Celebrating our strong traditional public schools
Honoring our dedicated educators, students and parents

Escambia Education Association wants strong neighborhood schools that accept and uplift all children. In the face of the deep inequities that have riven our nation, public education is one of the few equalizers. This vision is under grave assault by many in both local, state and national political arenas. Education is not for sale. The commitment of the public education community is underestimated. We will not allow our profession, students and parents to be undermined by those trying to play with the lives of our nation’s public schools. We are #PublicSchoolProud. EEA members will showcase the great things that are happening in our public schools every day, honoring our students’ accomplishments and illustrating the joys of teaching and learning.

Female Dominated Teachers' Union Under Attack

Florida Lawmakers are once again coming after our right to have a voice. This year, we are seeing a bill that is now being pushed by the Speaker of the Florida House that will automatically decertify unions with membership less than 50%. However, instead of applying this bad law to all public-sector unions, those in public safety, police and firefighters, are exempt. As our FEA President, Joanne McCall pointed out at a press conference, police and fire fighters are male dominated professions, while public schools and many other public-sector professions are dominated by women.

The lawmakers pushing this legislation are saying that if a union does not have at least 50% of the employees as members, then the unions are not speaking on behalf of the
employees. Of course, if we follow that logic, then there are a lot of lawmakers in Tallahassee who are not speaking on behalf of their constituencies either. In high election years, only about 75% of voters vote and if a lawmaker is elected by just over 50% of those who voted, they were voted in by well less than 50% of eligible voters.

The fact is, unions represent their members and in our case, we also fight for our students and communities, and that is where the real problem is for lawmakers. Too many lawmakers forget that they actually work for us, the taxpayers and citizens. They don't like it when people question or expose what they are doing. As we saw last year, when the pressure gets to be too much, they just go behind closed doors and do what they want – hence HB 7069. To many lawmakers would like to do as they please and give big handouts to their friends and cronies rather than do right by the children and working families in our state. That is where we come in. Through our union, we provide the voice, oversight and accountability and some lawmakers would love nothing better than to silence us. They think it is not our place to speak up, but they are just plain wrong!

This attack is really an attack on democracy and individual rights. We cannot allow this to happen. Our local, state, and national unions are working to stop this legislation. We all need to get involved to stop it. At the same time, we have to see this as a call to build our membership, along with the membership of our sister local unions across the state to show that we are here to stay. Ask your co-workers who are not members of EEA, to join today and ensure that we have a powerful voice that will stand up to bully lawmakers who want to shut out the everyday worker in our state.

Each of you is a professional and you have the right to be treated and valued as such by everyone that crosses your path.

**Going to School or Taking a Workshop this Summer / DON'T FORGET:**

EEA's Woodham Loan Fund / Interest Free

We are happy to report that not only do we have a way for you to finance going back to school to enrich your education, but it is an interest free loan. Any EEA member is eligible to borrow up to $1000 interest free. You may take advantage of this loan any time. You must have and maintain EEA membership and hold an account at Members First Credit Union.

**Join Us at Bargaining**

We continue to negotiate salaries and some Contract language. Your Union’s Bargaining Committee is working hard to push the school district to focus on ways to prioritize funding for a raise in teacher salaries. Your bargaining committee spends a great deal of time researching other contracts and discussing the priorities of what we will bring to
negotiations. The bargaining team (those who actually go to the table) is Jim Bobbitt, Shauna Paedae, Brandi Cole and Austin Courson.

If you have ideas, concerns, suggestions take an active role in Your Union, today. Please contact Your EEA at donna.harper@floridaea.org.

INFORMED, INVOLVED & INVESTED!

As a member of the Escambia Education Association you will join with more than 49% of your colleagues in an organization that is shaping our profession.

Through the ENGAGEMENT, UNITY and STRENGTH of our membership, EEA:
- We are Leaders in our schools and community on Public Education issues
- We Fight to improve working conditions and pay for the teachers in Escambia County
- We Provide top notch professional development and training for members
- We Communicate with Our Members
- We Stand for High Quality Public Schools

Additionally, when you join EEA, you will receive many benefits from our EEA office and our state and national affiliates such as:
- Discount auto insurance
- Discount movie tickets, vacations and theme park passes
- Discount legal services
- And much, much more

In Florida you have a choice to make; you can unite with your colleagues as we make our Public Schools the best they can be or you can stand alone.

The Escambia Education Association
Teaching Today’s Children for Tomorrow’s Future

EEA is just a call away: (850) 476-2906
Website: www.escambiafea.org
Facebook: Escambia Education Association
https://www.facebook.com/supportyourunion/

JUST AS A REMINDER...

Any EEA member who recruits

5 members will receive $50.
The following information is represented in the form of codes. Please place the appropriate code in the (SEE CODES) area of this form.

SUBJECT AREA
01 Adult Basic Education
02 Agriculture
03 Architecture
04 Area Studies
05 Art
06 Biological Studies
07 Business
08 Communications
09 Computer Science
10 Driver Education
11 Education
12 Engineering
13 English/Language Arts
14 Fine & Applied Arts
15 Foreign Language & Lit.
16 Forestry
17 Geography
18 Health & Phys. Ed.
19 Health Professions
20 Fam & Consumer Science
21 Industrial Art
22 Library Science
23 Mathematics
24 Military Science
25 Music
26 Physical Science
27 Psychology
28 Public Services Curric.
29 Reading
30 Science
31 Social Sciences
32 Social Studies
33 Special Education
34 Speech & Drama
35 Vocational Education
36 No subject Taught
37 General Subjects
38 Other

POSITIVE
01 Audio-Visual Technician
02 Cafeteria Worker
03 Classroom Teacher
04 Coach
05 Counselor
06 Custodian
07 Librarian
08 Maintenance Personnel
09 Office Support/Secretary
10 Principal/Asst. Principal
11 Speech Pathologist / Hearing Impaired
12 Supervisor/Director
13 Teacher Aide
14 Transportation Personnel
15 Admin. Office Personnel
16 Other

LEVEL
01 Preschool/Kindergarten
02 Elementary
03 Middle
04 High
05 Vocational Education
06 Central Site / Admin Center
07 Other

PARTY AFFILIATION
R Republican
D Democrat
I Independent
O Other

ETHNIC
1 American Indian/Alaska Native
2 Black
3 Hispanic
4 Caucasian (not of Spanish Origin)
5 Asian
6 Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
7 Unknown

PAYROLL DEDUCTION AUTHORIZATION: I hereby agree to pay, and authorize my employer to deduct the dues and assessments described above and as are certified by the Association to the School Board for each year thereafter from my salary and direct and authorize my employer to pay such amounts to the Association in accordance with payroll deduction procedures in effect; provided, however, I may cancel my membership and this authorization by providing 30 days' written notice to the School Board and the Association notifying them of such revocation as provided by law. However, if I receive a membership incentive (dues rebate or a "free month" promotion), I will not withdraw my membership during the first 12 months without reimbursing EEA or Union of Escambia ESP for said incentives.