



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Your weekly update newsletter from LAE President Joyce Haynes

June 6, 2011

THE 2011 SESSION: SIX WEEKS DOWN, THREE TO GO

The LAE Lobby Team is keeping you up to speed on the top issues being discussed at the Louisiana State Capitol. Sign up for the *LAE Capitol Connection* update newsletter that's sent out every Friday. If you're interested in receiving weekly legislative updates, please email ashley.davis@lae.org. You can also view legislative committee meetings live online by going to, www.legis.state.la.us/. Scroll down to the section, *Today at the Louisiana Capitol*, and click on the TV icon to view House and Senate broadcasts.

THANK YOU MEMBERS

Thanks to you, several potentially threatening bills were killed during legislative meetings. HB 101 and SB 12 were voted down because of your calls and emails to legislators. Keep up the good work - we still have a ways to go. The governor has more control than we do, but we will continue to push forward with our efforts. We don't want any legislators to say they're not hearing from educators and school employees. Please check your emails regularly for Capwiz action alerts and continue communicating with your legislators on any legislation that may be harmful to public education. They do see and hear you – trust me!

LAE LOBBY DAY 2011

LAE is gearing up for a special day of talking to our legislators. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us on **Wednesday, June 15** for Lobby Day 2011. We will meet at **8 AM** on the right side of the Capitol steps. (In the case of inclement weather, we will meet inside just past the guard's desk.) Email your UniServ Director ASAP if you plan on attending. You can also RSVP via the LAE website; click on the "Lobby Day" link on the homepage. We'll post a schedule of activities shortly.

FAREWELL FRIENDS, YOU'LL BE MISSED...

District 6, Seat A Board Member Tessie Adams and **District 3, Seat B Board Member Dorothy Doulet** have stepped down from their positions on LAE Board of Directors. Thank you both for your dedication and hard work! LAE will miss you. **District 4 Board Member Milton Gholar** retired and was honored in royal fashion at a huge retirement bash late last month. Congratulations Milton! We are so happy for you and hope that you have a wonderful retirement!

SUMMER LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

LAE leaders and staff are hard at work planning the [2011 LAE Summer Leadership Conference](#). Events kick off on **July 24th** at the Paragon Casino Resort in Marksville, LA. The conference ends on **Thursday, July 28th**. All LAE members are invited to attend; the registration fee for each participant is **\$180.00**. This fee includes a hotel room (double occupancy) for three nights and three meals per day. If you would like a single room, you must pay an additional **\$175**. Visit www.lae.org for the conference agenda and workshop registration forms. You can also find a sampling of workshop topics in the May issue of the *LAE Voice*.

REDUCTION IN FORCE

Have you or anyone you know had to deal with a Reduction in Force (RIF)? If you've received, or know of anyone receiving a RIF notice, I encourage you to go the LAE website for more information on proper procedure.

A GOOD READ: VIEWS FROM ELSEWHERE: A SUPERINTENDENT

There have been a number of opinions floating around in the media about the search for the next state superintendent of education. I found the following article interesting and encourage you to check it out – go to <http://www.thetowntalk.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2011105280312> read the piece.

ACEE COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Advisory Committee on Educator Evaluation (ACEE) met late last month to discuss updates to the framework and timeline of Non-Tested Subjects and Grades (NTGS). Several guests from other states attended the meeting in an attempt to offer insights on national practices of the NTGS. The entire committee was allowed to engage in open dialogue with the guests on possible solutions for Louisiana. I, personally, felt like the meeting was a waste of time, as the other states involved in the discussion have collective bargaining. They did not even discuss value-added in their state processes. The LADOE discussed having other subjects get together and write their own tests.

LAE requested placement on the agenda for the next ACEE meeting in June, in order to make a presentation to the committee regarding our alternative to the VAM model. We're still waiting for confirmation to present to the committee. We'll continue to keep you posted on developments. You can follow the ACEE committee meetings at home by logging on to www.louisianaschools.net/media/acee.html. Be sure to tune in for the **June, 21st** meeting.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

June: 2011 Legislative Session continues

June 10th – 11th: LAE Board meeting

June 15th: LAE Lobby Day 2011

July 2nd - 5th: NEA-RA

July 25th – 28th: LAE Summer Leadership Conference

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”

-Nelson Mandela