



The VOICE

May 2009

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Despite Challenges, IBN Comes Through for YOU!

On April 23, the Governing Board met and approved the following IBN recommendations. There will be a final IBN meeting on May 18 to resolve a few outstanding issues, debrief about this year's process, and set a date for a Fall meeting.

The elimination of the teacher attendance incentive for 09-10.

The elimination of all hard-to-fill stipends, including math, science, and special education, for 09-10.

The reduction of the stipend paid to National Board certified teachers by 25 percent for 09-10.

The reduction of the stipend paid to all BEGIN teachers 25 percent for 09-10.

The reduction of the stipend paid to program coaches for summer work by 25 percent for 09-10

The reduction of the stipend paid to "other professionals," including psychologists, speech therapists, social workers and counselors for national certifications, by 25 percent for 09-10.

The reduction of the stipend paid to after-school athletic coaches by 25 percent for 09-10. The Governing Board authorized the WESD Sports Council to determine if the schedule (practices and games) should be reduced commensurate with the stipend reduction. The Governing Board approved the caveat that no sport may be eliminated.

Maintaining the current pay-to-play fees for after-school athletics for 09-10.

The Sports Council will investigate implementing an intramural program allowing more students to participate at lower costs.

CONTINUED ON THE BACK, THERE ARE 15 TOTAL APPROVALS

REMINDER!!

This is the final hard copy edition of The Voice .

Beginning in September, The Voice will be delivered via email and will be available at www.wdea.net .

A hard copy will be posted at each site on the WDEA bulletin board.

Did You Know?

WDEA member Jennifer Lesser is April's Excellence in Education Award winner.

Mrs. Jennifer Lesser, a third grade teacher at Acacia School, was nominated by parent April Rossrucker for the Ottawa University/KEZ 99.9 Excellence in Education Award. This parent's kind words about Jennifer's caring and understanding for her two sons, led to Mrs. Lesser becoming the April award winner. Jennifer has been a teacher in the Washington School District since August of 1996. She has willingly moved from grade level to grade level (even in the middle of the year) to help out her team. Jennifer is involved in many committees and is always volunteering to take on more. She is very deserving of this award and we are so proud of her! Congratulations Jennifer!

Submitted by Christine Hollingsworth, Acacia Elementary School Principal



The Voice Continued



Representative of the Month

Meet Kyla Kushner!

Kyla Kushner is a teacher and Building Rep at Cactus Wren School. Next year, Kyla will be expanding her role in the WDEA by joining the Executive Board as an Area Delegate. Kyla has helped with membership all year long and helped out at the New Teacher Event this past August. She attended the Emerging Leaders two day training at the AEA Leaders Conference last summer, along with fellow Cactus Wren Building Rep Sabrina Neal. Kyla has signed up several WDEA members this year and has attended School Board Meetings. Most recently, Kyla attended the AEA March 4 for Schools Rally with several hundred other Education Supporters.

Thanks for all you do for members Kyla!

Submitted by Nancy Putman, Membership Chair

Governing Board Approvals Continued:

Reducing the substitute budget by 25 percent for 09-10.

Each school will be allocated a substitute budget for each semester to be used for both substitutes and class coverage. If the allocation is fully used, classrooms must be covered at the site level, without class coverage pay. Long-term absences are excluded from the substitute allocation.

All lanes changes will be honored for teachers, speech therapists, and administration for 09-10.

The use of the 09-10 work furlough plan in the event that it is needed to accomplish a balanced budget.

The need for a work furlough will be determined upon receipt of the final budget numbers. Not invoking the work furlough will be the first priority should funding be sufficient.

Out-of-county/state field trips for 09-10 are allowed, as long as no District funding is used.

Calendar

Dates:

May 1	Lamp of Learning Award Dinner
May 7	Governing Board Meeting
May 12	Installation of Officers
May 18	IBN Meeting
May 20	Second Annual Literacy Night
May 21	Governing Board Meeting
May 25	No School: Memorial Day
May 27	Last Day for Students
May 28	Last Day for Teachers

If you would like more information on any of these events, please contact your Building Representative.



AEA-RA 2009

On April 24 and 25, several WDEA members were in Mesa, participating in the annual AEA Representative Assembly.

Thank you to the following leaders who attended:

Sara Hester	Seith Lewis
Nancy Putman	Darrin Squire
Sheryl Kronenberg	Laurie Richards
Chandra Beck	Nina LaPine
Mike Scantlin	Helen Ciba
Caren Oliver	Kyla Kushner
Patricia Reeves	Lyndy McKay
Judy Wells	Florence Brockel
Randal Rudder	Monica Dunham
Wren Schultz	Sabrina Neal
Penny Lee	Lori Fox
Joslyn Brown	Carolyn Naylor
Stephanie Lederman	Marilyn Sensney

Congratulations to Nancy Putman for being elected Region 5 AEA Director and Laurie Richards for being elected Region 5 AEA Alternate Director.