



# The VOICE

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## A Note From AEA Organization Consultant Raquel Altreche

Dear Colleagues:

For those of you who do not know me, my name is Raquel Altreche, AEA Organizational Consultant. I have the privilege of working with the Washington, Cartwright, Glendale Elementary and Glendale Union School Districts. My job is to consult with your leadership and provide resources in the governance of your organization.

Even though I had the opportunity to welcome some of you at the new teacher function, I wanted to take a moment to welcome all of you back and wish you a wonderful, successful year. As we move into this year, please be aware that the WDEA and the AEA are here to work with you on the things that impact your everyday work environment.

Currently, we have political challenges that affect you which need to be addressed. Your Building Representatives will be sharing a lot of information with you at a site meeting. Make every effort to attend those meetings, ask questions, and vote on November 4th (or before)! Together, we can make change happen!

Remember, if you have any concerns, please do not wait. Contact your Building Representative as soon as possible. I look forward to working with you and your leadership because you are all a wonderful group of people.

Sincerely,

Raquel Altreche

AEA Organizational Consultant

602-407-2330

## Did You Know?

### WEPAC stands for Washington Education Political Action Committee

During a presidential election, more voters turn out, which makes winning any election that much harder. It takes a lot of energy and time to raise money, recruit volunteers, gather signatures, walk neighborhoods, phone bank, put up signs, and work the polls. This election year might be even more important when we consider the legislative races. The WDEA is particularly supporting one of your very own, Jackie Thrasher, for re-election in District 10. She has an extremely competitive race. We need to pull out all the stops to help her. There are many different ways to contribute. A financial contribution to our PAC is always important as it helps to elect these pro-education candidates. Remember, since no dues money can support political causes, donations are the only source of funding. Even more important, we need your time. If you are interested in walking neighborhoods, putting up signs, making phone calls, or doing anything else to help out, please contact Mike Scantlin, WEPAC Chair, at 602 510-7683 or one of the leaders at your site.

We also have a school board election occurring this year. There are three positions open and four candidates submitted applications; one is already serving on the board. WDEA challenged the number of signatures submitted by one applicant, which took considerable time and effort. When the court reviewed the challenge, he was found to have too few signatures and will not be able to run. This is a huge victory for our organization! This shows what hard work and unity can accomplish and we look forward to working in a congenial atmosphere with the new board starting in January.

Submitted by Mike Scantlin, WEPAC Chair



# The Voice Continued



## Representative of the Month

Meet Jeremy Shepard!

Jeremy Shepard is a first year teacher in our district and is also the new Building Representative at Mountain Sky Middle School. You can't ask for a better Building Rep than Jeremy! He and his wife both left the Madison District to work at WESD and both are already active WDEA members. He has stepped up in many ways to assist our district and our association. Jeremy volunteered to join the Planning and Steering Committee and became a Building Representative before even signing a membership form. He has been an awesome recruiter and has really stepped up to the plate to make our district a better place to work and learn. I am proud to have nominated him for this award and even prouder to have him and his wife as new members of the WDEA!

Submitted by Laurie Richards, Area Delegate

## NEA/AEA Recommended Candidates

As the national election approaches, the NEA has created a list of candidates that it endorses for President and Congress. No dues money is used to support these candidates, all funding is raised through the NEA Fund for Children and Education.

President: Barack Obama

Congressional District 1: Ann Kirkpatrick

Congressional District 2: John Thrasher

Congressional District 3: Bob Lord

Congressional District 4: Ed Pastor

Congressional District 5: Harry Mitchell

Congressional District 6: No endorsed candidate

Congressional District 7: Raul Grijalva

Congressional District 8: Gabrielle Giffords

The AEA has also created a list of endorsed candidates for state legislative races. Again, no dues money is used to endorse these candidates. Funds are raised through the AEA Fund for Public Education. Since there are so many districts and races, this list will be published in the next edition of The Voice. Please stay tuned!

This information is also available on the AEA website: [www.arizonaaea.org](http://www.arizonaaea.org). Sign in to the Member's Only section, click on Political Elections and then on Recommended Candidates. There is also information on the AEA's stance on ballot measures that will appear on the November ballot.

## Calendar

### Dates:

September 25	Governing Board Meeting
October 9	Governing Board Meeting
October 13-17	Fall Break
October 22	AEA Networking Meeting
October 23	Governing Board Meeting
October 27-31	Parent/Teacher Conferences

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



## Thank You WESD!

The WDEA would like to celebrate our partnerships and successes with the district through out the school year. In order to begin this new tradition, WDEA Executive Board members will periodically speak during the public participation portion of the Governing Board meetings to publicly thank the WESD for working together with us to improve public education.

At the August 28<sup>th</sup> Board meeting the WDEA Secretary, Laurie Richards, thanked the district for continuing its partnership with the WDEA for the annual NEA Read Across America Event and our first annual Literacy Event.

In addition, WESD was also thanked for being invited back to assist with making the Metro Center Back to School Event a success.

We look forward to our continued partnerships to improve public education!