

DMEA TEMPO

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Des Moines Education Association

January 2001

Mark Your Calendars - RALLY DAY

Saturday, February 3rd has been set as the day for teachers and other public school supporters to rally for quality schools. The initiative for this event was provided by members in the Polk Suburban Unit of the ISEA. It is a good and timely idea. Some ask if this rally is to support quality schools or to push for higher teacher salaries. The answer is YES. There is no difference. Attracting and retaining teachers is the essential ingredient in quality public schools. We must make Iowa politicians understand that connection.



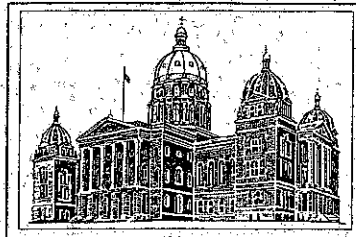
Here are the details:

- When:** Saturday, February 3, 2001
Time: Noon (for about 90 minutes)
Where: East High School, Des Moines
Activities: Speeches/Testimonials
 Short walk to the Capitol
 Bring letter(s) to your legislators
 Bring a sign if you want.
Who: All who are committed to quality schools

It should be a fun event with a serious purpose.

SENATORS

The Honorable _____ (full name) _____
 Iowa Senate
 State Capitol Building
 Des Moines, Iowa 50319
 Dear Senator _____ :
 (515)281-3371



REPRESENTATIVES

The Honorable _____ (full name) _____
 Iowa House of Representatives
 State Capitol Building
 Des Moines, Iowa 50319
 Dear Representative _____ :
 (515) 281-3221

Here is a list of Polk County legislators and how to reach them.

The Honorable Dick Dearden 3113 Kinsey Des Moines, Iowa 50317 Home Phone 262-1203	The Honorable Jack Holveck 2007 47th Street Des Moines, Iowa 50310 Home Phone 277-5064	The Honorable Mary Kramer 1209 Ashworth Road West Des Moines, Iowa 50265 Home Phone 224-7613	The Honorable Janet Metcalf 12954 Oak Brook Drive Urbandale, Iowa 50322 Home Phone 276-8428
The Honorable Jeff Lamberti 2621 NW 17th Street Ankeny, Iowa 50021 Home Phone 965-1067	The Honorable Matt McCoy 2421 E. Leach Des Moines, Iowa 50320 Home Phone 282-4510	The Honorable Frank Chiodo 417 Burnham Des Moines, Iowa 50315 Home Phone 287-5245	The Honorable Janet Petersen 1346 47th Street Des Moines, Iowa 50311 Home Phone 279-9063
The Honorable John Connors 1316 E. 22nd Street Des Moines, Iowa 50317 Home Phone 262-3345	The Honorable Ed Fallon 1321 8th Street Des Moines, Iowa 50314 Home Phone 243-8828	The Honorable Wayne Ford 3108 36th Street Des Moines, Iowa 50310 Home Phone 271-0605	The Honorable Scott Raecker 9011 Ittis Drive Urbandale, Iowa 50322 Home Phone 276-5987
The Honorable Betty Grundberg 24 Foster Drive Des Moines, Iowa 50312 Home Phone 277-8760	The Honorable Jack Hatch 1623 Woodland Avenue Des Moines, Iowa 50309 Home Phone 243-2033	The Honorable Geri Huser 213 7th Street NW Altoona, Iowa 50009 Home Phone 967-7846	The Honorable Libby Jacobs 808 58th Street West Des Moines, Iowa 50266 Home Phone 223-1225

To create an email address for legislators at the Capitol
 firstname_lastname@legis.state.ia.us

Report from the President - Chris Miller

The District has a committee dealing with Alternatives to Suspension. I am representing our Association on this committee and the prime directive is to ensure that teachers can teach and students can learn in a safe environment.

We don't believe "Alternatives" should necessarily mean more paper work and enabling on the part of the classroom teacher. Teachers use innumerable behavior adaptation processes. Most teachers handle their own discipline. It takes repeated violations to make it an office problem. How many interventions are enough? How many disruptions of teaching and learning can be tolerated? How much time do we spend on the "lost sheep" instead of the flock?

Most students who wind up with suspensions are not newbies to the office unless they run afoul of zero tolerance policies. It appears from our members that these policies are working to decrease weapons and violence. The problem seems to be with follow through on the part of those outside the buildings.

When students routinely exhibit inappropriate behaviors up to and including attacks on teachers, we must look to the welfare and learning of the other students in the classroom. If they are being robbed of teacher time and attention because of the behaviors of one of their peers, something should and must change.

What do you think? Are there other alternatives? Is this a big problem or not for our members? Do you have other recommendations?

DMEA ELECTIONS

It is again time for our internal election. The following offices are open.

Eligibility for officers requires completion of two (2) consecutive years of membership. Term of office is for two years.

DMEA Executive Board Secretary
DMEA Executive Board Treasurer
Elementary School Representative
High School Representative

Dept. of Nurses - Secretary

Dept. of Associates - Vice President (one year only)
Dept. of Associates - Secretary
Dept. of Associates - Treasurer
Dept. of Secretaries - President Elect (one year only)
Dept. of Secretaries - Secretary
Dept. of Secretaries - Treasurer

- ❖ Your FR has copies of the nomination form. It is due at the DMEA office by January 25th at 4:30 PM. Fax to 471-8043. Do not bag mail.
- ❖ At the same time we must elect 15 delegates to the ISEA Delegate Assembly to be held in Ames on April 5 and 6. Expenses are paid and Association leave is available.
- ❖ The NEA Assembly will be held in Los Angeles, July 1-7, 2001. We need to elect 13 delegates and again, expenses are paid.

➔ Briefly:

- ❖ Another way to keep track of the teacher salary debate is to visit the ISEA website (www.isea.org)
- ❖ Questions about your certification. Here is how to contact the Board of Examiners:
 - Automated licensure status line: 1-800-778-7856
 - Licensure main phone line: 515-281-3245
 - Web site: www.state.ia.us/educate/programs/boee
 - Application forms can be down-loaded off the web.
 - FAX: 515-281-7669
- ❖ George Fischer Scholarship - 2 \$1000 Scholarships
 - Parent or guardian must be a current DMEA member.
 - Applicant must be a 2001 high school graduate.
 - Applicant must be accepted by a college or institution of his/her choice
 - Applicant must be willing to appear for a personal interview before the Scholarship Committee on April 17, 2001 at the convenience of the committee.
 - Applicant must file a personal letter of application and request letters of recommendation from two (2) former or current teachers of his/her choice, both to be mailed or hand delivered to the DMEA office on or before March 16, 2001.
 - A high school transcript, including grades and standardized test scores is required with the application.



Read Across America is scheduled for Friday, March 2, 2001. This is Dr. Seuss 97th birthday. Morgan Freeman is this year's national spokesperson. This year's theme is Oh, The Places You'll Go, published in 1990.