

DMEA TEMPO

Volume 25, Issue 8

Des Moines Education Association

March 2001

Calendar 2001-2002

We have been getting an inordinate number of calls about the calendar for 2001-2002. Here is a summary to ease your concerns.

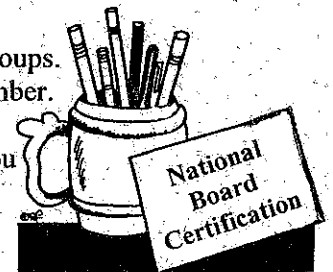
- The calendar is longer than usual but the contract and contact days remain the same. They are simply spread out over more of the year.
- Before school starts in the fall, there will be two in-service days for veteran employees in August. The third in-service day was moved to September 14th.
- There will only be two contact days the week of Fall Conferences.
 - Tuesday, October 9th and Wednesday, October 10th will be conferences.
 - Thursday, the 11th will be an in-service day for **TEACHERS NEW TO THE DISTRICT!**
 - For veteran teachers the 11th and 12th are designated days. They can be used for one of three purposes.
 1. They can be used for **VOLUNTARY** (with pay) staff development.
 2. They can be used for **VOLUNTARY** (with pay) work with designated students.
 3. They can be used as days off. You should not feel **compelled** to participate in 1 or 2.

A committee is supposed to be meeting to set up policy and procedures for number 2. The DMEA members on this committee are Toni Austin, River Woods; Deb Waltz, Goodrell; and Diane Crozier, East High. Please contact them if you have ideas to use the designated days for kids.

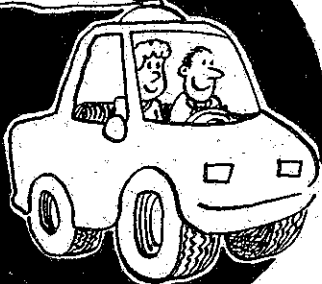
- Monday, October 15th is a required in building in-service day. This replaces the March in-service at the Convention Center.
- The conference week in February is the same as the one in October. There is a week between conference week and spring break in 2001-2002. In 2002-2003 they will be back to back.
- We have not built in any snow days during the year. They will continue to be added on at the end. Designated days and spring break will not be used for that purpose this year or next.
- If the legislature adds contract days, they will be added in June. It was felt that too many people had already made plans for the designated days.

We hope this helps clarify the situation for you. The process for 2002-2003 will be the same.

The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards is available on the web at www.nbps.org. The phone number is 1-800-22-TEACH. There are four certificate groups. Applications for 2001-2002 can be made starting in May and continuing through December. As of this writing DMEA has requested but not received application forms. If you are interested in National Board Certification check their web site for the certificate area you need and give our office a call for the application.



**DMEA
Recognition
Dinner**



The Des Moines Education Association Recognition Dinner will be Thursday, May 3rd in the Grand Ballroom of the Hotel Fort Des Moines. We will begin with a social time at 6:00 PM with music provided by our own Alice Boyd from Cattell. We will dine at 6:30 PM. We will recognize our retirees, Friend of Education and Volunteer Award winners along with our two scholarship winners of the George Fischer Scholarships. It is a great time to renew old acquaintances and say good bye to our retirees. It is a grand night out for only \$23 per person. Just call the office or let your FR know that you want to attend.

DMEA Lobby Day

There has been a great deal of activity without much happening at the legislature. You helped to make the February 3rd Rally Day a great success. Led by your FRs, our own DMEA Lobby Day was small but well done. We were able to get our message across to several Representatives and Senators.

Then came that horrible Republican Study Bill. Your Association and many individual members of the Association stepped up at public hearings on March 12th. Along with many DMEA supporters in the galleries, the legislature heard loud and clear about the myriad shortcomings of this Bill.

As of this writing, Governor Vilsack has offered his bill which is considerably more palatable and respectful of teachers. If you are interested in the text of both bills you can look them up on the net at www.legis.state.ia.us.

Unfortunately, things are just plain ugly on the financial front. The State Finance Department says there will be a \$9 million shortfall for the CURRENT fiscal year (FY), and a \$300 million shortfall for the next FY. A budget freeze for that next FY will still leave the state \$100 million dollars short. What that means for the \$40 million in the "lock box" for the education bill(s) remains to be seen. What is even scarier is talk of reducing allowable growth to 3% for both this FY and next.

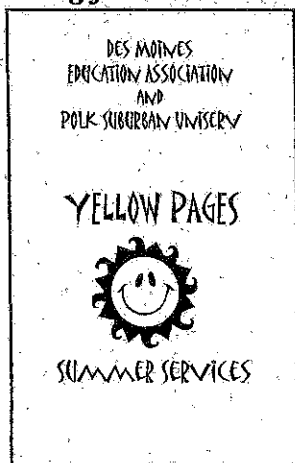
ISEA Delegate Assembly

Twenty of the people you elected to represent you will be doing so at ISEA Delegate Assembly in Ames April 5th and 6th. This task will be even more important this year because of the legislative interest and financial situation of the state. We will have some tough decisions facing us as we look to the future. Hopefully, we will not lose the 4% allowable growth already promised and have to deal with the fallout of that issue.

At the NEA level you will have at least 13 DMEA representatives at the Representative Assembly in Los Angeles. This is also an intensive task that these people take on to represent DMEA at a national level.

We have many issues facing us at both the state and national level. We hope you appreciate these people who are willing to go and fight for what is best for Des Moines teachers and students.

Looking for summer work? Advertise your skills and hobbies in the DMEA and PSUU Yellow Pages



Recognizing that many Association members turn to outside jobs to supplement their salaries, the Des Moines Education Association UniServ and Polk Suburban UniServ Units would like to again give each member an opportunity to promote his/her skills, talents, and/or hobbies. A 2001 directory of Association members and their avocations is being compiled so that when you need help with special projects a fellow Association member can do the job for you. The talents of DMEA and PSUU members are many and varied! If you wish to be included in the 2001 DMEA and PSUU YELLOW PAGES, please mail or fax your personal ad to the DMEA office at 206 Center Street, Des Moines, IA 50309 by April 13th. Please include your skill or hobby; home phone number and address and any information, rates, time available to work, specifics, etc. This advertisement will be provided to you free of charge by the Des Moines Education Association and Polk Suburban UniServ Units. Remember, in order to be included in this listing, you must return this form by April 13, 2001. Phone 471-8040 with your information or fax to 471-8043.

Election Results for 2001-2002

DMEA Executive Board Secretary
Elementary School Representative
Nurses Secretary
Nurses Treasurer
Associates Vice President
Associates Secretary
Associates Treasurer
Secretaries President Elect
Secretaries Secretary
Secretaries Treasurer

Kris Mesicek
Alice Boyd
Pamela Edwards
Barbara Wright
Judy Mouzakis
Phyllis Brown
Jan Redshaw
Mindy Knause
Judy Leitzke
Becky McNew

ISEA Delegates

1. Vern Hansen
2. Phyllis Brown
3. Jean Riley
4. Chris Miller
5. Rhonda Anderson
6. Ed Kelly
7. John Eller
8. Vidal Spaine

NEA Delegates

1. Pat Papenheim
2. Alice Boyd
3. Carmen Winters
4. Toni Austin
5. Jim Patch
6. Paul Mann
7. Jim VanTuyt
8. Eunice VanTuyt
9. Phyllis Sutte
10. Chris Miller
11. Rhonda Anderson
12. John Eller
13. Kris Mesicek