

DMEA TEMPO

Volume 22 Issue 9

Des Moines Education Association

April 16, 1998

PREPARING FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

By President Paul Mann

Thank you for your support of my re-election as DMEA President!!!! I really appreciate all the cards, letters and phone calls. It is always good to know that the goals we have established, the successes we have achieved, and the hard work that we do for members is respected and appreciated!

I look forward to working over the next two years with our Executive Director and Chief Negotiator, John Vint, and with the many strong, cooperative, and effective association leaders we have! United, I am confident that we can make the next two years the very best ever for the DMEA!

This has been an exciting, exhausting, and exhilarating month as we battled with the administration to save the 21 Smoother Sailing elementary counselors! We worked very hard behind the scenes with school board members and members of the community to help forge an acceptable compromise that would not negatively impact on class size. We wish they had adopted more of our proposal and eliminated more central administrative positions rather than teacher and associate positions, but at least they listened to us and the community about saving the counselors.

We have received many congratulatory letters and cards of thanks from those saved from the budget ax. It is well that we take a moment to savor and celebrate our "unprecedented" victory in saving these 21 positions! It was, of course, the first time in 30 years that a district budget had been rejected by the board! Thank you DMEA Crisis Team, counselors, and other members who participated so well in our efforts!

As I reflect on the daunting tasks facing us, with continued underfunding by the legislature, right wing attacks on the public schools in general, and with increasing pressure for punitive evaluations and "selective" (merit) pay rather than the significant salary increases warranted for all of our members, I know that I will need your help to meet the challenge of providing progressive leadership for the 21st century.

I ask for your support, your understanding, and your involvement on our DMEA and district committees! I am committed to bringing new people on board...people with fresh ideas and new perspectives. Together with those who have worked so hard and well for so long, we can make our school district one of the very best places for students to learn and teachers to teach!



BUDGET BATTLES NOT OVER

The 1998-99 school district budget was passed by the school board on April 7th. What does that mean? Passage means that the school board approved a budget that reflects their priorities on April 7, 1998. But this budget can be amended between now and June, 1999. Needs and priorities can change and this district regularly amends the current operating budget. Thus it is critical that DMEA continue to point out this budget's shortcomings.

More income is likely to come to the district in the form of grants. The Iowa Legislature will approve additional dollars for programs, even though inadequate. The legislature is also likely to permit districts to use a special management levy to fund early retirement at age 55. This will free up general fund dollars. Finally, district administrators predicated this 98-99 budget on the assumption that the district will have only \$104,000 in reserve as of June 30, 1998. It is a conservative estimate and likely inaccurate.

DMEA must continue to be vigilant and continue to work with other community groups who believe, as we do, that districts do not exist to make profits but instead to provide programs. Remember, one of the very sad things about this budget is that it spends a million of the dollars for student programs on bricks and mortar.

The budget saga is not over!

ELECTION RESULTS

The Faculty Reps ratified the 1997-98 DMEA Election results at the April 9th meeting. Officers and delegates elected are as follows:

DMEA Executive Board

President Paul Mann
 Vice President Elaine Wilkinson
 Elementary Rep Janean Faux
 Middle School Rep Pat Papenheim
 Ethnic Minority Rep Carmen Winters

Department of Associates

President Rhonda Anderson
 Vice President Helen Ringgenberg
 Secretary Phyllis Brown

Department of Nurses

President Donna Dickerson
 Vice President Janice Bannister

Department of Secretaries

President Elect Phyllis Suttek

ISEA DELEGATES

Toni Austin
 Alice Boyd
 Paul Mann
 Kris Mesicek
 Kevan Mulder
 Pat Papenheim
 James Patch
 Griff Reese III
 Karen Reese
 Bert Testa
 Elaine Wilkinson
 Carmen Winters
 Linda Sibley Young
Alternates
 Teri Ross
 Judi Carter
 Phyllis Brown
 Chet Culver
 Maria Beem-Guffey
 John Richeson

NEA DELEGATES

Toni Austin
 Rhonda Beakler
 Alice Boyd
 Paul Mann
 Kris Mesicek
 Kevan Mulder
 Merlin Papenheim
 Pat Papenheim
 James Patch
 Bert Testa
 Eunice Van Tuyl
 Elaine Wilkinson
 Carmen Winters
Alternates
 Janis Bowden
 Teri Ross
 Linda Sibley Young
 Rhonda Anderson
 James Van Tuyl
 Rita Hill
 Ronnene Harris
 Phyllis Brown
 Justine Finley
 Maria Beem-Guffey
 Keri Jo Schlueter

> REMINDERS

- > The DMEA Recognition Dinner is May 28th at the Embassy Suites Hotel beginning at 5:30 p.m. Watch for your invitation through bag mail early in May. Reserve the date to come and honor retiring colleagues and others.
- > Volunteer of the Year and Friend of Education nomination papers will be due in the DMEA office April 24th. Check with your Faculty Rep for nomination forms or call the DMEA office.
- > School District health insurance meetings have been scheduled for April 27 at Roosevelt, April 28 at Lincoln, and April 30 at North all at 3:45 p.m.
- > ISEA applications for Teacher of the Year-1999 are available at the DMEA office.
- > Department of Associates Appreciation Dinner May 12th at Baratta's 5:00 p.m.

COMPUTERS FOR SALE

- 1 AST BRAVO LC P/1008 MB 5.25 Floppy Drive
- 1 AST VISION 5L COLOR MONITOR
- 1 EPSON ACTION LASER III PRINTER

Installed programs:

- Word perfect 6.0
- Excel 5.
- Print Shop
- Name Tags
- File Manager
- DOS 6.2
- Word for Word
- Multipan V3
- Reach Out
- Purchased 2-1996

Applications:

- Card file
- Calendar
- Notepad
- Paintbrush



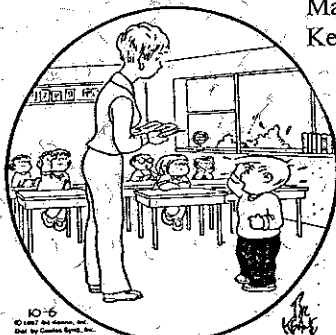
- 2 Wang Computers w/ printers
 (Older but still good for word processing)

Make an offer!

Call for more information to 277-6271. Send your bid to the DMEA office. Best offer will be notified by May 22, 1998.

Calendar for May

May 4	GA Committee Meeting	DMEA	4:15
May 7	Executive Board Meeting	DMEA	4:00
May 11	HR Committee	DMEA	4:00
May 12	Associate's Appreciation Dinner		5:00
May 14	Faculty Rep Meeting	North	4:00
May 21	Executive Board Meeting	DMEA	4:00
May 28	Recognition Dinner		5:30



"I know the answer, but I can't quite download it."

