



WCEA Advocate

Volume 4 Number 6 *Affiliated with New Jersey and National Education Associations* June, 2008

You've Earned A Great Summer-Enjoy!

NEA Director Mike Kruczek Reports:

Report of General Counsel Robert Chanin to the NEA Board of Directors.

General Counsel reported out on three topics at the board meeting this May. These topics were "Paycheck Protection Ballot Initiatives," "Pontiac v. Spellings"



Michael Kruczek

(Unfunded Mandates of NCLB), "Alabama Education Association, et al. v. Choa" (Labor-Management Reporting Disclosures Act Coverage).

It was reported that the "Paycheck Protection Ballot Initiatives" could be divided into two categories. The first is an initiative titled "Open and Clean Government Act." This act seeks to prevent public-sector labor organizations from participating in the political process. This act is predicated on prohibiting all holders of "no-bid" or "sole-source" contracts with the

government and their Political Action Committees from making any contributions or expenditures in any election at any level for a specified time period.

The second is one of a more traditional approach to paycheck protection measures. The process prohibits the use of any political funds or resources to facilitate any contributions or expenditures in connection with state or local candidate elections or ballot measure election. This would have a two fold effect. First, it would prohibit payroll deductions for political action committees, and second it would prohibit the collection of dues as well - unless the affiliate obtains an annual written consent for such uses in recent political activities.

These are the latest respective updates on the above categories:

1. In the 9th Circuit Idaho paycheck protection case, the defendant state filed a petition for certiorari asking the U.S. Supreme Court to review the case. On March 31, the Supreme Court granted review. The case probably will be argued in the Fall, and a decision issued early in 2009.

2. In the 10th Circuit Utah case, the defendant state filed a petition

for rehearing en banc (asking all of the judges on the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals to rehear the decision of the 3-judge panel in our favor). In light of the Supreme Court's grant of review in the similar Idaho case, the 10th Circuit has put Utah's petition for rehearing on hold pending the Supreme Court's decision.

The Sixth Circuit Court granted the federal government's rehearing en banc petition in the Pontiac v. Spellings (NCLB Unfunded Mandates) case. This decision vacates the prior panel decision in favor of and reinstates the appeal on that court's docket for a new decision by all fourteen of the Sixth Circuit's judges. The earliest decision expected by the Sixth Circuit Court will be the end of 2008, because arguments will not be heard until September 10, 2008.

In the Alabama Education Association, et al. v. Chao case, the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia issued an adverse decision. This case involves the question of whether pure public sector associations are covered by the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act. This case was on remand from the U.S. Court of Appeals which reversed a previous court decision in our favor. The

Check page 3 for PD hours, grad credits and compenstaton

OFFICERS:

President: Michael Kruczek Phillipsburg	Vice-President: John Borgeson Hackettstown	Treasurer: James Kaulius Phillipsburg	Recording Secretary: Valerie Gary Greenwich Twsp.	Executive Committee: Michael Kruczek Phillipsburg
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question that was on remand was on whether the Department of Labor had fulfilled its obligation to provide a detailed explanation for changing its long-standing interpretation of the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act in which all pure public sector unions were excluded from coverage. The District Court answered "yes" to this question. It was General Counsel's opinion that this decision be appealed.

The following update on this issue: On April 10, the plaintiff state associations filed a motion for reconsideration in the district court. The Department of Labor filed its opposition on April 23, and we filed our reply on April 30. The motion is now pending before the district court.

NJEA Director Explains New PD Standards:



Michael Cohan

Michael Cohan, Director of Professional Development and Instructional Issues, and UniServ rep John Ropars, met with close to forty members of local professional development committees at Flynn's in Phillipsburg. They explained the new standards on professional development that went into effect on January 1, 2008.

Cohan, who had also been a member and chaired the NJ Professional Teaching Standards Board, opened by stating the twelve standards that had been divided under three headings: Context: Where is the professional learning taking place?; Process: How will the professional learning be conducted? and Content: What will be the focus of learning?

The Context Standards must be developed by both teachers and administrators, not by one or the other. They must "address where the learning occurs-the organization system, or culture-and the organizations responsibilities to



Members listening to Cohan

ensure results for adults and students"

The Process Standards must "address how the system organizes learning opportunities to ensure adults acquire the knowledge skills, and dispositions to affect student learning".

The Content Standards "address what educators must understand and be able to apply to ensure students learn successfully".

After going over the basics, Cohan stressed that effective schools don't have administrative

dictators, but should be run by effective teachers and those on the PD committees should be the leaders, not the followers!

In addition, the new regs allow the hours to follow a teacher from district to district and the chief school administrator must provide those hours to the new district.



Washington Boro Rep

Finally, the Professional Improvement Plan has been replaced by a Professional Development Plan that must be reviewed by the Board of Education before going to the County Professional Development Board for approval and the plan must be related to goals.

Further information can be obtained from your PD committee.

- Committee Chairs:**
- Delegate Assembly:**
John Borgeson, Hackettstown
James Kaulius, Phillipsburg
- Delegate Assembly Alt:**
Susan Dalrymple, Phillipsburg
Vacancy
- Convention:**
Sue Burke-Kinnsman, Greenwich
- Elections/Nominations:**
Becky McDermott, Lopatcong Twsp
- ESP Representative:**
Debbie Siena, Hackettstown
- Instruction:**
Susan Dalrymple, Phillipsburg
- Media:**
Carly Hilsenbaek, Phillipsburg
- Membership:**
John Borgeson, Hackettstown
- UniServ:**
Susan Brooks, Phillipsburg
- Urban Education:**
Vacancy
- Gov't Relations:**
Cylvia Ultz, Hackettstown
- Congress Contact:**
Vacancy
- Worksite Health & Safety:**
Vacancy
- Exceptional Child:**
Vacancy

JOIN THE WCREA/NJREA TO MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD!

<p>Why The NJREA Needs You</p> <p><i>If retirees assume invulnerability, they forget change is a few votes away. An association's importance is measured by the number of members. NJREA informs you when action is necessary. Protecting your pension protects ours.</i></p>	<p>Why You Need The NJREA</p> <p><i>We are the only organization with the sole purpose to protect retirees benefits. We tell you what is developing. You don't have the time to speak to legislators. We do! List the key benefits of your pension benefits. We did it!</i></p>
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Teacher Seminars 2008

June through August at Monmouth University, West Long Branch

The following tuition-free six-day seminars are offered by the New Jersey Council for the Humanities for teachers of the state. Activities include lectures, discussions, field trips, films, writing workshops, curriculum planning, and opportunities to network with scholars and teaching colleagues.

Participants have the opportunity to earn

- 40 professional development credits
- with curriculum project, \$250 stipend
- with research paper, 3 graduate credits and \$250 stipend

American Heroes: From the Founders to 9/11

Saturday, June 28 -Thursday, July 3

Seminar Leader: Paul Lyons

The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey

Master Teacher: Peter Murphy

In this seminar, consider the heroism of extraordinary Americans who are strikingly courageous examples of integrity & who have left a legacy upon which we continue to build our experiment in democracy. Analyze the impact of these figures' rhetoric, values, & differing voices throughout our nation's history. Discuss strategies to present heroic figures in all of their contradictoriness, that is, in all their human-ness.

The 20th Century and the African American Experience

Sunday, July 6 - Friday, July 11

Seminar Leader: Clement Price

Rutgers University/Newark

Master Teacher: Peter Murphy

Over the course of the twentieth century, African Americans helped to usher in the modern era through their culture, their movement across the nation, their idealism & their tenacious social activism. This seminar will examine the great achievements & challenges that marked the life & times of African Americans & the transformation of American race relations in the twentieth century.

Religious Diversity in America

Sunday, July 13 - Friday, July 18

Seminar Leader: Joseph Devlin

LaSalle University

Master Teacher: Jonathan Greenburg

Explore the religions of New Jersey's increasingly diverse student population. Examine the beliefs & practices of these ethnic & religious communities & consider how their underlying principles influence political & social order.

Coming of Age Literature

Sunday, July 20 - Friday, July 25

Seminar Leader: Laura Nicosia

Montclair State University

Master Teacher: Richard Schwartz

Examine modern & contemporary portrayals of adolescents in coming of age literature & in the popular media. Analyze recent research on the challenges & opportunities faced by today's youth & discuss how coming of age literature can be used to engage students in the language arts classroom & to create communities of learning.

Literature and Democracy

Sunday, July 27 - Friday, August 1

Seminar Leader: Jacqueline Zubeck

College of Mount Saint Vincent

Master Teacher: Richard Schwartz

In this seminar, teachers will explore short stories, poetry, and one-act plays through the lens of the Constitution, particularly the Bill of Rights, which provides the framework for American citizenship and implies the necessity of an informed, literate and expressive populace.

Application Forms can be obtained at:

http://www.njch.org/teacher_seminars.html

Program Director Mary Grace Whealan may be reached at
1-888-FYI-NJCH (394-6524) or by email at mwhealan@njch.org