

Hawthorn Education Association

Vol. 1, Issue 4

Educating Your Children with Pride

Building Reps

Without our building reps, where would HEA be? You have all made such an impact in your union. You are the key connector between decisions that are being made, how your HEA money is being spent, and you represent your colleagues voices. We would like to thank several building reps who will not be returning to the Executive Board next year: Brenda Henriksen, Karen Janisch, Jen Harris, Alex Lobb, & Anna Lykholap.

We greatly thank you for your time and commitment to HEA.



As the school year is winding down, we thought this would be the perfect time for a **Year in Review**. Some of the year's highlights:

1. MOU was agreed upon after the negotiation: Retiring ESPs are entitled to receive a lump sum post-retirement service bonus amount equivalent to 12% of the ESP's final base salary.
2. HEA t-shirts so the district and community can see we stand strong together
3. We had a very successful fund raiser and were able to purchase over \$700 in books for our elementary school libraries
4. Members received an HEA notepad for teacher appreciation.
5. We will be doing our first Feed my Starving Children - June 3rd - wear your HEA t-shirts!
6. Created a "Love of Learning" award for 8th grade students, two per building
7. Media increase: Facebook & Newsletters
8. Grievance was filed for the seniority list

CAPE Committee:

The Committee to Combat Attacks on Public Education (CAPE) is an IEA committee that works on showing that IEA is a powerful and positive force for children, helping local unions connect with their board and community, and organizing members to speak for or against issues that affect public education. CAPE encourages all those who work in public education to seek out information so that IEA members are the most informed people speaking about issues that affect our students, our schools, our communities, and us. If you would like to get involved in the work that they do or get information about current issues facing public education, please visit their website at <http://www.ieanea.org/about/committees/cape/>.

Take Action Against House Bill 96!

House Bill 96 passed the House on April 21, and it is now being looked at in committees in the Senate. The bill freezes property taxes across the State, and the only way to increase rates is through approval from voters at the local level. This will negatively impact public education because it reduces the money that goes to programming, curricular materials, and all of the other ways we work to meet the needs of our students. Because over 90% of Hawthorn's funding comes from local property taxes, it is especially important for our members to take action. Please call, email, or meet with your representatives. If you go to IEA's website, there is a link to contact your legislators under the Legislative tab.

As the year winds down, don't forget your Union is here for you. Sometimes there is a fight for you behind closed doors and you don't know about it. If you're not happy with an answer or your question isn't being answered and you feel ignored, speak up and keep pushing, that is what will make us a stronger union.

We have ALL worked very hard this year, whether as a teacher, a paraprofessional, a One-on-One, a nurse, a secretary or a custodian.

Rest up over the summer and let the fun begin again in August!

