



United: For Good



December

Newsletter of the NEBO EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

2009



Leadership Message

Custom here in the Nebo Education Association continues to evolve.

Last month the body of Association Representatives decided to break with tradition. After considerable discussion they decided to set aside the practice of providing fruit pies to Association members for the Holiday Season and put in its place a new tradition for Nebo. Their vote created the opportunity to view a movie at Spanish 8 Theaters on Saturday, December 5, 2009. Six hundred of family and members were there to start what may be a new tradition. We had 8 theaters available with 6 being used. "A good time was had by all."

Stay in contact with your Reps as they work hard in your behalf. They are doing a great job. If you appreciate them, tell them that you do and support them with your input and activity. Share your constructive concerns, opinions, and suggestions (i.e. the Christmas gift change). Representation is alive and well in our organization.

As we all deal with these challenging financial times, I find myself assessing how thankful I am to be a teacher, to have had great teachers and to work with great teachers and staff in Nebo School District. It is indeed a wonderful gift that we share. Best wishes and joy at this most wonderful time of the year.

Martin Powell
Springville Area Representative
Nebo Education Association



With Your Rep.

Let your Association Rep. how you felt about the movie event.

Ask YOUR Association:

Q: Where does the funding come from for our salaries and schools?

A: As this question is a bit like "Where does Santa get all those toys?" it seems quite apropos for this newsletter.

Public school funding comes from three main sources: Federal monies, state taxes, and local property taxes. How those dollars get to us and what can be done with them is rather complicated and requires the expertise of a district finance department to manage.

Federal monies make up about 10% of the funding stream. Most of those funds go to the special service programs and to district food services.

Property taxes levied upon the local citizens provides about 16% of the district revenue. Most of our building construction is done with bonds issued in conjunction with those taxes. Property taxes are set by the state legislature, the local school board or by a vote of the local citizens depending on the levy.

The largest revenue source (74%) is from the state legislature. They have many funding sources, but most of the money they appropriate to schools is from state income taxes. Every dime of those income taxes is earmarked for public education. Each year the legislature makes its best guess as to how much tax revenue will be accrued in the coming year, and then appropriate increases (or decreases) according to that "best guess".

We in public education work with them to find "creative" funding sources and to encourage them to invest as much of the discretionary monies in our students and schools as possible. In tough times there is definitely less "in the pot" to go around and challenges arise as to how to deal with the deficit. Thus, it is important for us to be united as an Association and public education advocates, especially in the tough times, in finding and encouraging solutions to those challenges.

Say What?

I was explaining fusion to my students and had written on the board $E=mc^2$. I was writing what each letter of the equation meant as the students gave it. I had written "energy" by the E and had just asked the students what the m stood for. For some reason, my brain already saw the m on the board and so I just finished writing the rest of the word. OOPS! I hurried and wrote the m in front of it, but too late - my students had already seen it. We all laughed and they teased me for the next few days.

Janelle Hanks
Diamond Fork Jr. High



Need Association Help?

Call or e-mail:

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"The principal goal of education is to create men who are capable of doing new things, not simply of repeating what other generations have done."

-- Jean Piaget



Merry
Christmas

