



United: For Good



January

Newsletter of the NEBO EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

2010



Leadership Message:

If we truly believe in the importance of education and our role in the process,

we must strive to do all in our power to provide the opportunity of a quality education for every student.

Sometimes it feels like we are running on a treadmill. We just don't seem to get very far no matter how fast run. It's the Red Queen's plight from *Into the Looking Glass* as she points out, "It takes all the running you can do, to keep in the same place."

The question is: What if we just "stopped running" and gave up the fight? What would happen? If you want to find out, crank up the old treadmill to about 8 or 10 miles per hour and then just stop running. Shooom! Splat! Ouch, that's gotta' hurt. I don't think we would want to see what the status of education and our jobs would be if we didn't have the nearly one thousand teachers in our great district who have stood and continue to stand shoulder to shoulder in support of education.

We have made progress in many ways and in some instances have been able to maintain benefits and a favorable working environment when other districts across the state have not fared so well. I believe that the reason for this is that our district administration and our association presidency are made up of good people who truly have our students' and the district employees' interests at heart. As is common in all relationships, we do not always see eye to eye. We have our own perspective, but our mission is the same. Together we will continue to do our best for teachers & students.

Brad Shuler
Salem/Spanish Fork Area Rep.
Nebo Education Association

With Your Rep.

Ask your Association Rep.:

- How do I nominate a colleague for Teacher of the Year? (Elementary)
- How can I get a professional certificate (office style) for my room?

Ask YOUR Association:

Q: What exactly does UEA do during the legislative session?

A: With the opening of the Utah 2010 legislative session on January 25th came the beginning of a very busy several weeks for many of UEA's leadership and staff. UEA's full-time lobbyists this year are Kim Campbell, Kory Holdaway (former Republican Utah state legislator), Sara Jones, Susan Kuziak, Mark Mickelsen, and Ellen Thompson. During the session, this team along with other UEA personnel will:

- 1) Sort through the hundreds of bills legislators will present this year and track the dozens which relate directly to Utah Public Education, analyzing their potential impact on our profession, our students, and our schools.
- 2) Speak with legislators to promote positive and defeat negative legislation.
- 3) Testify before committees and both houses to encourage votes for bills that are good for public education. They also work with the governor to promote adequate, responsible education funding.
- 4) Keep members abreast of the events and issues. For example, members can access information on the hot topics such as retirement and the 2010 budget for Education. They can find out who their legislators are and contact them to express thanks or concerns. Dates are given for Educator Days on the Hill for those who are interested in learning more about the process and getting involved. And they can sign up for regular e-mail updates of legislative activity during the session. (See the next item for access information.)

2010 Legislative Session

Information on events and efforts of the UEA Lobby team at the 2010



Legislative Session can be found at "UEA Under the Dome" which you can access at:

<http://www.utea.org/politics/Legislative/legislativeInformation/index.htm>.

Bookmark this site to check in occasionally & bring yourself up to speed with how Utah Legislators are dealing with public education issues this year. There you will also find the "Capitol Bulletin" newsletter for weekly highlights of the session. For those who want to keep abreast of the action all session long, sign up for regular e-mail updates at:

<http://capwiz.com/nea/ut/mlm/signup>.

Say What?

Students in my 8th grade science and 9th grade biology are pretty excited at the beginning of school are pretty excited about what we are going to study during the year. As we discussed the upcoming units and activities one exuberant 8th grade student asked, "Are we going to digest frogs this year?" Gotta love 'em!

Kellie Roberts
Mt. Nebo Jr. High



"Education is what survives when what has been learned has been forgotten."
-- B. F. Skinner

