

Dear Members, Happy May Payday!

The AEA Bargaining Team has questions as we enter the last full week of school. The team would like to hear how you feel the school year went to help prepare for next fall. (Although the survey is anonymous, please be discreet with your answers; some data/comments will be shared.)

[SURVEY LINK](#)

TOPICS

- End of the Year Notes: Grades, Transfers, AK Reads Act Update
- Important information for those considering resigning/retiring over the summer.
- Sick Leave Bank Donations Update: ALL MEMBERS CAN DONATE
- PEHT Open Enrollment: Ends May 31.
- Flexible Spending Accounts through ASD: Ends May 31.
- Go365 Points
- Good Teaching Institute: Call for Presenters
- ASDSA: Course Registration Ends Sunday, May 21.
- ASD IT Firewall Outage Notification: May 27-28.

End-of-the-Year Notes

- **Grades:** Grades are due by the time you leave for break on May 24, 2023. Article 417 B states:

"Fourth quarter grades/report cards/comments will be due before the member is released for summer. Submission of grades/report cards/comments may be required at the end of the GAP day only when

the administrator has previously documented a concern about a member's untimely submission of grades/report cards/comments."

If you have been told to turn your grades in before May 24 and need assistance, please get in touch with Courtney, Debbie, or me.

- **Transfer Requests:** If you have a transfer request in the system and no longer wish to transfer or need to add/delete a school, do so now. Schools listed in your transfer request give principals of those schools the ability to pick you up whether you still intended for that to happen or not. If you no longer want to transfer to a particular school, ensure that the school is not listed in your transfer request.
- **Alaska Reads Act:** AEA has received updated information and believes this is where DEED has settled. Please know NEA-Alaska and AEA continue to advocate for educators and will continue to send updates as information becomes available. In this regard, but if this impacts you, you may want to read about it [HERE](#). **Everyone who is certificated and teaches a K-3 student (classroom, specialists - library, art, PE, music, etc., and principals) must be endorsed in the science of reading.**

DEED is making sure courses are free for the next five years.

- LETRS - a large course, more than the 3 qtr credits required, but great information.
- Keys to Literacy - standard 3 qtr credit course
- Building an asynchronous course that will be ready by June 2024
- If you already took the NWEA online reading course with assessment, that counts
- Or, you can take a test, or if you've already taken these tests, you're qualified:

- ETS Praxis II Teaching Reading, test code 5204, score at least 159
 - ETS Praxis II Teaching Reading: Elementary, test code 5205, score at least 159
 - ETS Praxis II Teaching Reading: K-12, test code 5206, score at least 156
 - Pearson Foundation of Reading, a score of at least 240
- You have two years to complete the course or test (after the window, any incoming teacher or those transferring to a K-3 position will be required to have the endorsement before teaching). Compliance falls to the district, not the teacher, and could result in loss of funding.

DEED has reduced the cost to add “Reads Act K-3 Endorsed Teacher” to \$50 for the next five years. And it will be good for life. At this time, this cost is the responsibility of the educator.

Important information for those considering resigning/retiring over the summer.

HEALTH INSURANCE

Employers have no responsibility to any employee who has severed their employment past the month the employee leaves. For example, if you resign/retire in May, your health insurance coverage will end on June 1.

If an educator resigns mid-summer, ASD will ask that educator to pay back the \$1750 (per month) ASD contributed to the educator's health insurance premium. Should the educator refuse to pay, ASD will send it to a collection agency.

Article 205, last paragraph states:

Members who submit their notice of resignation to the District after the last work day of the school year will lose their coverage at the end of the month in which their notice of resignation was submitted. Said members shall then be responsible for both the employer and employee contribution for any months of coverage received after May. Payment of these amounts shall be made directly to the District. Failure of the member to pay both these amounts to the District will result in the matter being sent to a collection agency.

If you require health insurance in June, July, and August, you can stay in PEHT under the COBRA law program. Please call PEHT for details on COBRA costs.

The last day to submit your resignation without any summer health insurance would be May 31.

RESIGNATION DATES

June 30 is the last day to submit your resignation and not be considered in breach of contract with PTPC/DEED.

Sick Leave Bank Donations

The ability to donate ten sick leave days applies to **ALL Members** who are retiring or resigning from ASD. I was incorrect that donating to the SLB is only for Tier III educators.

Article 350 (G) states: *"A member who terminates from the District may elect to donate up to 10 days of accumulated sick leave to the Sick Leave Bank. Less than full-time FTE members are not eligible for the above provision."*

[Donation Link.](#)

If you are retiring or resigning from ASD and choose to donate to the sick leave bank, thanks for your generosity.

PEHT OPEN ENROLLMENT

May 1, 2023, until 5pm on May 31, 2023.

During open enrollment, members may:

- Decline (waive) coverage (with proof of other coverage) **OR**
- Select coverage if previously waived **OR**
- Change your plan selection (C, F, or HDHP) **and** level of coverage (tier) which best meets your (family) needs.

<https://mibenefits.ebms.com/auth/login>

Again, if you have no plan changes, there is nothing you need to do, as your plan and plan tier will remain the same for the 23.24 school year.

Go365 POINTS

CASH OUT YOUR Go365 points before June 30, 2023, or earlier!

Flexible Spending Account

An email was sent to all ASD employees on the afternoon of May 2nd.

For questions on Health Care and Dependent Care FSA enrollment, email or call: ***asdk12benefits@tri-ad.com*** or call (877) 874-3213, Monday - Friday, 4:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Alaska Time

Please find all the necessary information on our Support Central site, including scheduled webinars and in-person Open Labs.

ASD open Enrollment ends at 9:00p May 31, 2023

Good Teaching Institute 2023: Call for Presenters

- **Save the Date:** August 8 to August 11, 2023
- **Location:** Service High School
- **Theme:** Connecting for Success
- Choose a 90-minute or 180-minute session.
- **In-Person Sessions at East:** August 8 and 9
- **Zoom Sessions:** August 10 and 11

Additional keynote information and the catalog will be shared later in May/June after all presenters and sessions have been scheduled.

CALL FOR GTI PRESENTERS

AEA Good Teaching Institute wants you to present! Please consider sharing your expertise with fellow members in your continent area, S.E.L., tech integration, culturally responsive teaching, and amping up student engagement through creativity, cooperative learning, and gamification.

Whatever your area, come and share it with fellow AEA members at the Good Teaching Institute this summer from August 8 through August 11. Find out more about session format and compensation by visiting our Workshop Pitch Google Form: <https://forms.gle/Ncj9nGsPwHH9thpLA> If you have any questions, email Kevin Klott: klott_kevin@asdk12.org.

ASDSA

Course registration ends Sunday, May 21st.

The ASD Summer Academy [catalog](#) is live and open for registration. Please visit the [ASDSA Website](#) for access to the ASD catalog and directions on registering with UAA.

- There are over 100 courses.
- There are in-person and virtual options.
- In-person dates will take place from May 30-June 2.

Please get in touch with [ASD Professional Learning Department](#) with any questions:

ASD IT Firewall Outage Notification

To improve the District's IT security posture and replace end-of-life equipment, IT will replace the core firewall, a network security device that prevents unauthorized access to the network. This work will occur over Memorial Day weekend, May 27 - 28. All District computer systems and

internet (wired and wireless) will be unavailable during this time, including email, Q (Gradebook, Parent/Student Connection), BusinessPlus (IFAS), Student Nutrition software, ASD Google Apps, Absence Management, most phones, and many other computer systems that operate on the District network. When services are restored, notification will be sent via the Service Desk.

Please take a moment and fill out the end-of-the-year [SURVEY](#).

In Solidarity,

Corey