

On the Move...

“Official Publication of the Huntsville Education Association”

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ELECTIONS FOR OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

HEA needs you to consider running for one of our local association positions. The HEA Officer Positions are President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. All of the officers' positions are open and all positions are a 1 year term.

There are several positions available on the HEA Board of Directors. The BOD positions are 2 year terms. The following positions are available:

- 4 certified(teacher) positions
- 1 classified(support) position

The Association is also represented at the State and National Delegate Assemblies. The HEA delegates to the national convention will attend the National meeting in July, 2017. The local delegates to the state convention will attend the AEA Delegate Assembly in December 2017.

We have not yet received an official notification indicating the actual number of delegates we will be allowed, but there will be both certified and support positions available. The official number should be available by the time nominations open on February 13.

As stated in Article I, Section I of the HEA By-laws, “All candidates for office shall be members in good standing of the Association.”

2017-18 HEA ELECTION DATES SET

HEA will be conducting local elections for officers, board positions and delegates at the same time. Nominations will OPEN on February 13 and CLOSE on February 17. Nomination forms must be at the HEA office on later than 4:30 pm on the 17th. The campaign period will be February 20—March 3. No campaign materials are to be distributed before or after these dates. Elections will be held for 3 days, March 6 - 8. The ballots will be due by 4:30 on March 9.

Nomination forms will be available from your building representatives, or you may contact the HEA Office at (256) 533-7570.

Income Tax time is here!

The professional membership portion of your dues is tax deductible. The 2016 taxable amount for Certified members is \$550.20. The amount for Support members is \$265.20.

Knowledge is POWER

(Volume 1, number 4)

On January 31, the Senate HELP committee will be voting on the Secretary of Education nominee, Betsy DeVos.

The Alabama legislative session will start on February 7. Do you know your state senator and representative? Have you contacted them? Our legislative contact team reached out to all local legislators in the area and we have had productive meetings with many of them. The following issues will likely be debated: extra money for the Education Trust Fund and the possibility of a salary increase; protection of education dollars; funding of PEEHIP; the Retirement Systems of Alabama, Senate Pro Tem Del Marsh's call for a "comprehensive education plan" among others. Stay vigilant—the decisions made by the legislature impact your pocketbook, your livelihood, and the resources needed for your students.

Stay connected: Read your *Alabama School Journal* and follow AEA on Facebook and Twitter. Follow HEA on Facebook and Twitter (@HvilleEducators). Follow NEA and Network for Public Education to monitor national developments. Join "Save Our RSA Retirement" group on Facebook, which is a coalition of tens of thousands of RSA members working together to protect our retirement. Subscribe to Larry Lee's blog at <http://www.larryeducation.com/> for a great analysis of state-wide education news and politics. Sign up for AEA text alerts: <https://www.myaea.org/be-active/get-involved/> If you receive a call to action from AEA via email, robocall, or text, please answer the call! It could make all the difference in the legislative session.

AEA Training

Labarron Mack will be conducting a workshop entitled "Helpful Tips for HEA Members" on Thursday, February 2, 2017 at the Representative Assembly. The workshop starts at 4:00p.m. (HEA office). I look forward to seeing you there!

Congratulations! Ms. Bonnie Garrett

Bonnie Garrett, the PLTW/ STEM instructor, at Westlawn Middle School was named "2016 Alabama PLTW Gateway Teacher of the Year." She received this award at Auburn University on November 10, 2016, at the annual PLTW state conference. Way to go, Bonnie!!

Happy New Year Educators !

As we welcome in a new year, I just want to say thanks for being awesome educators for students each and every day. I know they have learned a lot during the previous months and so much more knowledge will be attained this year. So, here's to a " Happy New Year" and a great big " Thank You" for all the wonderful gains.

HEA President Deborah Hill

Delegate Funding; Don't forget.....

Funding for AEA and NEA Delegate positions is based on attendance at meetings which are held **prior** to the election. You must have attended at least 5 association meetings in order to qualify for 100% of the **available** funding. Since the election dates for this year will be March 6-8, you still have 3 opportunities to fulfill this requirement: February 2—RA meeting, February 23—HEA Board meeting, and March 2—RA meeting.

(The 5 meeting rule only applies to **funding** for delegate positions; no member in good standing will be prevented from running for a position.)