

President's Notes

February 1, 2012

Hello JEA,

Things are getting busier and busier...I'll be sending out these President's Notes every few, or daily, as issues and news warrants. Please take the time to read them...print them and share with friends who may not check email as frequently, and generally, just help disseminate this information.

*** Early Release Survey** - As of 3:30 Wed, we've had over 50% of our members participate! This is a great number for two days of surveying, but the McDowell group reports that completion rates are slowing down. Please take the time to complete this survey...we need to hear from everyone on this issue. Go back and look for an email from Tasha Bailey (yiana.bailey@mcdowellgroup.net), it was sent out in the early evening of 1/30. It contains your unique log-on link. If you have troubles with your link, or can't find your original email, please send a help message to jim.calvin@mcdowellgroup.net

*** Building Reps Meeting** - We were regularly scheduled to meet on Feb. 7th, but the need for teacher attendance and testimony at the School Board meeting that night is taking precedence. Also, our bargaining team will be in negotiations on the 6th and 7th...if we hold off until the 8th JEA will be able to provide building reps with some bargaining information to take back to their buildings. **Feb. Building Reps meeting, 4:30 at JDHS (room tba) on WEDNESDAY, FEB. 8th** Remember, Building Reps meetings are open to all members, and it will be crucial that every building be represented.

*** School Board Meeting** - The School Board is meeting at 6:15 (JDHS Library) on Feb. 7th. They've asked the public to provide comments on the current negotiations with JEA. Read my earlier email with the details of what JEA needs you to do. (Also posted on the website and in your buildings.) **If you don't feel up to a public comment just yet** (really quite painless, about 1-2 minutes only) **please come and show your support of those teachers who are providing comment.**

*** RUMORS** - Unfortunately, bargaining is a time of rumors. JEA is committed to getting accurate, meaningful information out to all members. Right now...we don't have much in the way of information. We have a copy of the District's initial proposal...but there has been no actual negotiations done...no talking, no decisions. After the sessions on the 6th and 7th of next week, there will be some real concrete information to share. One thing I do know is that initial proposals are never the ending proposals; things will change through this process. Building reps will be bringing some real information back to buildings after our Feb 8th Building Reps meeting...and JEA will be announcing a General Membership Meeting as well. In the meantime...**Keep Calm and Carry On.**

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Ben Kriegmont
JEA President 2011-2012