

The *LPAE* Link

The Official Newsletter of the Lafayette Parish Association of Educators

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LPSB APPROVES NEW SCHOOL ZONES STARTING IN FALL, 2017

At its regular board meeting on November 2, the LPSB approved a school rezoning plan to begin with the 2017-2018 school term.

The zoning plan has been in the works for nearly one year with multiple meetings held for teachers, parents, and students to express input for new school zones. Demographer Mike Hefner with GIS Services presented three zone maps. The board ultimately approved the third revision.

District staff suggested that rezoning will allow for changes at schools above and below capacity to better balance out the needs of students in the system.

The board also approved administrative rule changes that will impact the transfer of students to new zones. One substantial change involves students who will be high school juniors or seniors next year. These students will have the option of staying at their current school for an additional year.

New LPSS zones can be found at:
<http://lpssonline.com/homezone>



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2** LPAE Scholarship Program
- 2** Quality PD With LAE
- 3** American Education Week
- 4** NEA Read Across America Library Grants
- 4** Grant Opportunities for Educators

TRANSFER POLICIES TO CHANGE *School rezoning, Southside High cited*

LPAE has worked closely with district staff to develop transparent and open transfer policies under looming changes to schools as a result of redistricting.

As the process of opening Southside High kicks into full gear, teachers currently employed with the system will have an opportunity to apply for positions at the new site beginning in January. In addition, voluntary transfers for all teachers will continue with requests through March 1st.

Dr. Aguillard has pledged to work with HR to post all positions online for a set period of time for employees to view. In addition, employees will receive first preference for transfer before April 1st at which point the district looks towards university graduates and other districts for filling positions.

Another major change comes in the form of involuntary transfers that will feature a district-designed rubric consisting of **COMPASS score, tenure, certification, and seniority in the system.** HR has indicated that COMPASS will account for roughly 20% of determining transfers. The idea here is to deemphasize relatively close COMPASS scores and the perceived subjective nature of observations.

STAFF MAKES TAX PROPOSITION SUGGESTIONS TO BOARD

CFO Billy Guidry made a presentation to LPSB at its 11/9/16 at the urging of Superintendent Donald Aguillard. The presentation focused on a possible option of a 30 year property tax that could generate up to \$500 million in funds for building maintenance and technology

Mr. Guidry's presentation focused on the issue of bonds and the cost facing taxpayers in the parish. If approved by voters in an election an additional \$37.50 in property taxes per year for a \$100,000 home and \$187.50 per year for a \$200,000 home.

The board received the report without vote or comment.

LPAE Offers Education Scholarship

Have a dependent son, daughter or spouse at UL in Lafayette? Are they majoring in education? Will they be a Junior or Senior in the Fall of 2017? Could they use extra money? Answered YES to all of the above?

Call the LPAE office for an LPAE UL-L Scholarship application.

(231-0010)

All scholarship applications must be back in the LPAE office by January 30, 2017.

LPAE verifies membership.
UL-L Scholarship Department determines winner.



BE A WINNER, RECRUIT SOME MEMBERS

Recruit the most new LAE members before November 30, 2016 and win an iPad or gift card (amounts include \$400, \$250, and \$100).

In order to be eligible, you must enroll at least three active public school employees in the association - the top four recruiters at the end of the month will receive prizes.

Please scan and email the completed enrollment forms to iguillot@lae.org OR mail to the LAE Headquarters by the close of business Monday, December 5, 2016. Don't forget to fill in your name as the recruiter.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE LAE-TLC'S CULTURALLY COMPETENT EDUCATOR TRAININGS

A series of workshops meant to help challenge educators to view the assets that many struggling students - who are challenged by language barriers, economic circumstance, or race - bring to the classroom. These trainings explore the meaning of social justice and equity in education. All sessions will offer helpful information on how to design and plan lessons that are relevant to Louisiana's high-needs-student population. All workshops are from 10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. Lunch is included.

November 19, 2016: The Culturally Competent Educator II- Main Branch Lafayette Public Library
December 10, 2016: The Culturally Competent Educator III- Breaux Bridge Public Library

NEA JOINS COMMUNITY IN CELEBRATING AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK

The National Education Association was one of the creators and original sponsors of American Education Week.

Distressed that 25 percent of the country's World War I draftees were illiterate and 9 percent were physically unfit, representatives of the NEA and the American Legion met in 1919 to seek ways to generate public support for education.

The conventions of both organizations subsequently adopted resolutions of support for a national effort to raise public awareness of the importance of education. In 1921, the NEA Representative Assembly in Des Moines, Iowa, called for designation of one week each year to spotlight education. In its resolution, the NEA called for: "An educational week ... observed in all communities annually for the purpose of informing the public of the accomplishments and needs of the public schools and to secure the cooperation and support of the public in meeting those needs."

The first observance of American Education Week occurred December 4-10, 1921, with the NEA and American Legion as the cosponsors. A year later, the then U.S. Office of Education joined the effort as a cosponsor, and the PTA followed in 1938.

Other co-sponsors are the U.S. Department of Education and national organizations including the National PTA, the American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary, the American Association of School Administrators, the National School Boards Association, the American Federation of Teachers, the American School Counselor Association, and the National School Public Relations Association

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American Education Week is always celebrated the week prior to the week of Thanksgiving.

Monday, November 14: Kickoff Day

Nationwide Kickoff. Across the country, schools will celebrate excellence in education by hosting kickoff events and activities.

Tuesday, November 15: Parents Day

Schools will invite parents into the classroom for a firsthand look at what the school day is like for their children.

Wednesday, November 16: Education Support Professionals Day

Education Support Professionals keep schools running and students safe, healthy and ready to learn. Check out these videos to see how hard ESPs work to serve students in public schools and how committed ESPs are to both their jobs and their communities.

Thursday, November 17: Educator for a Day

Community leaders will be invited to experience the day as educators and experience the challenges of teaching and the needs of students.

Friday, November 18: Substitute Educators Day

Substitute educators play a vital role in the maintenance and continuity of daily education.

You are LPAE. We Need You. Let Us Hear Your Voice.

All members are invited to our monthly meetings. Meetings are held at the Lafayette High School Library at 4:30. At our meetings, we vote and formally take positions on local and state policies. We also decide the future direction of our organization.

LPAE Email List

Members: If you are not currently receiving weekly LPAE updates, please call 231-0010 or send us an email at lafayettepae@gmail.com. Please make sure that the above email address is not being blocked.

READ ACROSS AMERICA LIBRARY GRANTS

NEA Helps Restock Libraries in Need

Are you an NEA member working in a school that educates disadvantaged students? Is your school library in desperate need of books? If so, consider applying for an NEAs Read Across America Library Grant.

NEA established the library grants program in 2006 to provide much-needed books for public schools in need. Since then, the program has funded more than \$500,000 in grants to restock library shelves nationwide. In 2016, 71 schools were chosen from 131 applications received from NEA members across the nation.

NEAs Read Across America Library Grants are made possible by a contribution from The Weinstein Company and Walden Medi. Donations from individuals or organizations to the fund are made through the NEA Foundation.

Donations from individuals or organizations to the fund are made through the NEA Foundation. Download the 2017 Read Across America Library Grants criteria and application at: www.nea.org/readacross

Applications are due November 28, 2016. Recipients of 2017 grants will be notified by December 16, in time to purchase books for NEAs Read Across America Day on March 2, 2017

Directpackages.com Technology Grant

Directpackages.com wants to know how you would implement technology to enhance your teaching methods and address learning challenges. Would you invest in a new computer or mobile devices for your students to use in the classroom? Or perhaps make use of software that streamlines your curriculum and lightens the load of grading papers?

Let them know in 400-500 words the impact new classroom technology could have for you and your students. The top three submissions featuring the most innovative and beneficial uses for classroom technology will each be awarded \$1,000 to spend on new technology for their classroom.

Write about what new technology would mean to your classroom and how you would use the grant to address a learning challenge. All submissions should include:

- An observed learning challenge that is amplified by inadequate technology.
- The specific technology or technologies you plan to implement.
- How this technology will support your teaching efforts.

Visit:

<http://www.directpackages.com/teachers-grant/> to submit your grant proposal. All entries are due by February 24, 2017.

AT&T GRANT

The Internet Experts at AT&TInternetService.com have just launched a new \$1,000 teacher grant. The grant is open to college professors and school teachers and asks applicants to write a 300-450 word essay or create a 1-2 minute video that explains how they or their students use internet-connected technology in the classroom. More details and the online application form can be found here: <http://www.attinternetservice.com/tech-teacher-grant.html>

