

SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:

- Essex County supports Jacqi Greadington
- NJEA endorses Obama
- The ECEA is online
- Welcome new members

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Essex Exchange

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Essex County Endorses Jacqui Greadington for Office

Jacqui Greadington for Secretary-Treasurer

The Essex County Representative Council unanimously voted to endorse Jacqui Greadington for NJEA Secretary-Treasurer. Jacqui has been an advocate for all the members of Essex County and as NJEA Secretary-Treasurer Jacqui will be a staunch supporter for all members of the NJEA—statewide.

Jacqui Greadington has twenty two years of service to NJEA and those years have honed her skills as:

- *Experienced Leader*
- *Advocate*
- *Negotiator*
- *Lobbyist*
- *Organizer*
- *Speaker*
- *Trainer*
- *Mediator*

Among Jacqui's distinguished accomplishments, Jacqui has won the following awards:

- **Essex County Education Association: Distinguished Educator of the Year Award**
- **East Orange Education Association: FAST (Family**

& Schools Together) Community Service Award

- **United Negro College Fund: Distinguished Service to the Labor Movement Award**
- **Eagle Flight Inc.: Community Service Award**

It is up to us, Essex County, to make sure that the NJEA has the best possible leadership. Jacqui Greadington is the best candidate for the NJEA.

Be sure to vote!!!

NJEA Endorses Barak Obama

The NJEA, along with the NEA, endorses Barak Obama for President of the United States. Mr. Obama promises positive change for the country. Mr. Obama is a staunch supporter of education and educators.

Obama understands the essential issues affecting public education today. The following are issues taken from Obama's website.

Barack Obama will reform

No Child Left Behind

Obama and Biden believe teachers should not be forced to spend the academic year preparing students to fill in bubbles on standardized tests and he will improve the assessments used to track student progress to measure readiness for college

Barak Obama will invest in

early childhood education

The Obama-Biden comprehensive "Zero to Five" plan will provide critical support to young children and their parents. And they will help states move toward voluntary, universal pre-school

“I’m asking you to believe. Not just in my ability to bring about real change in Washington....I’m asking you to believe in yours.”
Barak Obama

Change
We Need!
Obama
Biden

Obama for President

Barak Obama will make college affordable to all Americans

Obama and Biden will create a new American Opportunity Tax Credit worth \$4,000 in exchange for community service. It will cover two-thirds the cost of tuition at the average public college or university and make community college tuition completely free for most students.
Citation barakobama.com

Recruit, Prepare, Retain, and Reward America's Teachers

- **Recruit Teachers:** Obama and Biden will create new Teacher Service Scholarships that will cover four years of undergraduate or two years of graduate teacher education, including high-quality alternative programs for mid-career recruits in exchange for teaching for at least four years in a high-need field or location.
- **Prepare Teachers:** Obama and Biden will require all schools of education to be accredited. Obama and Biden will also create a voluntary national performance assessment so we can be sure that every new educator is trained and ready to walk into the classroom and start teaching effectively. Obama and Biden will also create Teacher Residency Programs that will supply 30,000 exceptionally well-prepared recruits to high-need schools.
- **Retain Teachers:** To support our teachers, the Obama-Biden plan will expand mentoring programs that pair experienced teachers with new recruits. They will also provide incentives to give teachers paid common planning time so they can collaborate to share best practices.
- **Reward Teachers:** Obama and Biden will promote new and innovative ways to increase teacher pay that are developed with teachers, not imposed on them. Districts will be able to design programs that reward accomplished educators who serve as a mentor to new teachers with a salary increase. Districts can reward teachers who work in underserved places like rural areas and inner cities. And if teachers consistently excel in the classroom, that work can be valued and rewarded as well. *Info taken from Barakobama.com*

Obama's Record

Record of Advocacy: Obama has been a leader on educational issues throughout his career. In the Illinois State Senate, Obama was a leader on early childhood education, helping create the state's Early Learning

Council. In the U.S. Senate, Obama has been a leader in working to make college more affordable. His very first bill sought to increase the maximum Pell Grant award to \$5,100. As a member of the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

committee, Obama helped pass legislation to achieve that goal in the recent improvements to the Higher Education Act. Obama has also introduced legislation to create Teacher Residency Programs and to increase federal support for summer learning opportunities.

Info from Barakobama.com

For New Members

The ECEA welcomes our new members. Our Association is a community of teachers and support staff. We extended a heartfelt welcome to our new community members. The Association is here to help answer questions, to assist in professional support, and to provide pertinent information on matters that affect the county and to provide a forum for issues. Each new member should become familiar with his/her local executive commit-

tee and the building reps from the local.

Some information for new teachers:

- Executive Officers: President, Anthony Salese, Belleville; Vice President, Priscilla Burke, East Orange; Secretary, Carolyn Campbell, South Orange-Maplewood; Treasurer, Susan Collins, East Orange; Executive Director, Sandy Linton.

- Important dates for ECEA events are found in the ECEA directory/calendar.
- The ECEA Calendar-Directory is a vital resources for members. The calendar contains name and phone numbers for county information. The calendar is a monthly reminder of the events sponsored by the ECEA. Be sure you calendar is always handy!

Become A Representative

Please consider becoming an association representative. It is imperative that the county information is disseminated among members of each local. The BEST way to provide information is through colleagues. The county rep meetings are held the across the county at Essex county restaurants. Please check the ECEA calendar/directory for the date, time and

place of each meeting. Dinner is provided for representatives.

The rep council meetings provide important information concerning issues affecting public education as well as addressing issues affecting the membership of each local. The county meetings provide a forum for issues that affect all of us and our profession.

Each local is allowed

one representative for the first 150 members and one rep for each increment of 100. Please consider joining the representative council to address the concerns of your district and provide important information to your colleagues.

Please see your local president to sign up.

*“Our association is a community of teachers and support staff”.
“The Association is here to assist and help”*

Essex County Education Association Pride Expo

Essex County will host its Pride Expo on March 6 through 13, 2008 at the Livingston Mall. All locals are welcomed and encouraged to participate in the expo. The expo showcases the accomplishments of public school students. With the unending pressure of vouchers and charter schools, it is important that the public understands the importance and benefits of public education. The expo provides the public with a glimpse of the great education that public schools provide for all children. Pride is our moment to shine. Please plan to become involved and highlight the accomplishments of your students!!. Contact your local president or local pride chair for more information.

Pride in Public Education!!!

Educating all students !

Essex County Education Association

350 Main Street Phone: 973-736-5650
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New ECEA website

The ECEA is on the web. Please check out our website for updates as the year progresses.

We're on the web.
www.eceaonline.org

NJEA Convention

TRENTON - Tens of thousands of New Jersey Education Association (NJEA) members from across the state will attend the 154th annual NJEA Convention, November 6-7, 2008, in Atlantic City.

Recognized as the largest educational gathering of its kind anywhere in the world, the NJEA Convention draws teachers and educational support professionals who participate in over 300 seminars, workshops, and programs.

“On behalf of NJEA and the [New Jersey Center for Teaching and Learning](#), I am proud to introduce the Technology Integration Showcase for the first time this year,” said NJEA President Joyce Powell. This new venue includes demonstrations to show educators how to apply state-of-the-art technology in their classrooms, covering topics such as podcasting, website design tools, and the educational adaptation of social networking sites, among others. NJEA is also proud to host Tony and Emmy award-winning actress Cynthia Nixon, who

will discuss her support for public schools in America.

Another new feature is NJEA’s recently launched blog. Written by a special education teacher, and available at www.njeaconvention.wordpress.com, it will give readers a first-hand look at what takes place at the Convention and will include photos and video.

In addition to the seminars and programs designed to meet members’ state-mandated, 100-hour professional development requirement, convention-goers take advantage of the Convention Center’s huge exhibit area, featuring more than 700 vendors and exhibitors.

Other highlight events include a panel of State Board of Education members and the Celebration of Excellence, as well as concerts by the All-State Jazz Ensemble and the All-State Chorus

and Orchestra. Details of those and other highlight events are available in the attached media advisory.

The New Jersey Education Association is the state’s largest association of education professionals, representing 200,000 elementary and secondary teachers, administrators, higher education faculty, education support professionals, retired educators, and students preparing to become teachers.

Citation –NJEA.org

