

SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:

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- Mock Elections for students
- The ECEA is online
- Youth Voter Registration
- Jacqui Greadington named Labor Leader of the Year

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Essex Exchange

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Professional Development Revisions

The state revised the Professional Development regulations. According to the new regulations, district boards of education are required to create school professional development committees by September 1, 2008. These committees must consist of a principal or designee and at least three teachers who will be elected through the majority representative.

The school based committees are charged with developing profes-

sional development activities that address and include school goals and teacher needs.

The New content standards address context, process and content. Further, the 12 standards are reorganized under three heading: context standards, process standards and content standards.

The most exciting part of the new regulations is that individual schools can address the particular needs

of their students and their community.

For more information please see *PD Points* on the ECEA website, NJEA website or the NJDOE website.

Professional
Development on line
WWW.NJEA.org

Mock Elections for Students

The 2008 National Student/Parent Mock Election will be held on Oct. 30. Students from kindergarten through 12th grade will vote in their schools for the next president of the United States, the state's candidates for the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives, and major national issues. To participate in the New Jersey Mock Election, a teacher or school official must return a school enrollment form. There is no charge to participate.

The enrollment form is available at www.njmockelection.org. The mock election allows teachers the flexibility to design the voter-education program that is right for their students. Links to free curriculum materials are offered on the New Jersey Mock Election website. NJEA is a supporter of the 2008 National Student/Parent Mock Election

(taken from NJEA.org)



ECEA Campaigns for Youth Vote

(As reported in the NJEA Reporter)

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 72 percent of American citizens reported they were registered to vote in the 2004 presidential election. Citizens aged 18 to 24 had the lowest registration rate and the lowest voting rate.

That's why NJEA partnered with the African American Heritage Parade Committee of Newark to sponsor a youth voter registration drive. On Tuesday, Sept. 23, the **Essex County Education Association**

hosted a voter registration kick-off event at the Bethany Baptist Church in Newark that was attended by many NJEA members and community leaders.

NJEA Assistant Executive Director **Rich Gray** addressed the crowd. "For those of us who are educators, we know that the school day is jam-packed. But we must find the time to educate our young people about registering to vote and showing up on Election Day."

East Orange Education Association President **Jacqui Greadington** added. "This event is about bringing POWER to the people. Let's use this night as a springboard to educating those in our schools and communities about civic responsibility"

NJEA consultants in Essex County followed up the event by contacting many local presidents in Essex County to encourage voter registration drives at their high schools.

"Let's use this night as a springboard to educating those in our schools and communities about civic responsibility"

- Greadington

"I firmly believe that when NJEA members' rights are protected, when they are treated with respect, when they have a safe and healthy work environment, when they know that they have a union that will advocate for them, they can be free to devote their time and energy to teaching their students."

-Greadington

Greadington honored by AAHPC

(As reported in the NJEA Reporter)

East Orange Education Association President Jacqui Greadington was named Labor Leader of the Year by the African American Heritage Parade Committee at its 2008 Labor Awards Brunch Celebration in Newark on October 4.

Upon receiving the award, Greadington recalled her father's struggle to join a local of International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) at a time when African Americans were not admitted. He and a group of four other men eventually became the first

African American men to be admitted to that local.

"So today, I accept this award in the name of my father for his courage, determination, and commitment to unionism," said Greadington. "I firmly believe that when NJEA members' rights are protected, when they are treated with respect, when they have a safe and healthy work environment, when they know that they have a union that will advocate for them, they can be free to devote their time and energy to teaching their students."

The African American Heritage Parade Committee, Inc., (AAHPC) is a volunteer organization

involved with programs and seminars aimed at education African Americans to crucial national economic, political, and social issues. The committee established the African American Heritage Parade and Festival to be a celebration of African American history.

The parade had its beginning in 1966, when heritage enthusiasts conceived the concept, and called it the Crispus Attucks Parade, but it was discontinued in 1976. It was revived in 1979 as the Black Heritage day parade, which continued until 1993.

NJEA is a premier sponsor and marketing partner of the AAHPC.

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!

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

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.

Essex County’s Fall Focus for Leaders Meeting

On Wednesday, October 29th, ECEA will host NJEA’s annual fall focus meeting at the Valley Regency Caterers in Clifton, NJ at 4:30 PM.

The theme of the meeting is “Invest in a NEW Jersey”. NJEA Secretary Treasurer Wendell Steinhauer is the keynote speaker.

“...NJEA is launching a large-scale, long-term project to change how lawmakers and Garden State residents view public education. Working with the theme, “Invest in a NEW Jersey!” it is a comprehensive program to change the conventional wisdom about tax policy, economic development and school funding. We will demonstrate that investment in public

education does not come at the expense of the common good, but contributes to everyone’s prosperity.

It all starts with you, NJEA’s front line leaders. And it starts at this year’s Fall Focus meeting.”

Joyce Powell
NJEA President

“In the current economic climate, I am certain we will have to turn back more threats to our member’s hard-earned rights and benefits.As advocates, we also seek opportunities to move our association and our profession forward.”

—Joyce Powell

Essex County Education Association

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New ECEA website

The ECEA is on the web. The new website should be up and running soon. Please check out our website for updates as the year progresses.

We're on the web.
Www.ecea.info

NJEA Convention

If you like bargains, don't delay! Reserve your hotel room in Atlantic City for the 154th NJEA Convention. This year's gathering will be held on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 6-7.

For your convenience, NJEA has negotiated special Convention rates at [10 casino hotels and two non-casino hotels](#). Regular shuttle service between these hotels and the Convention Center will be provided by NJEA.

To reserve your room, click the button at the right for [ACrooms.com](#) and book your room online at NJEA's special rate. (Note, you must log in to access this page since it is only available to NJEA members.)

But is it worth staying overnight in Atlantic City during the Convention? Even with great rates at great hotels, is there anything going on after hours?

Well, if getting a jump on the exhibit floor and the workshops isn't enough, you *are* staying in Atlantic City, the town that's "always turned on," as its slogan says. Visit [www.atlanticcitynj.com](#) for details about all that AC has to offer.

There are other great reasons to stay. Several county associations, colleges and professional organizations host **hospitality suites** on Thursday afternoon after the Convention Center closes. That night you can listen to the smooth sounds of the **All-State Jazz Ensemble** in Trump Plaza. If you're not ready to turn in just yet, check out the **NJEA mixer and dance the night away** at the Sheraton Crown Ballroom. All of these events are **free of charge**.

Looking for another kind of excitement? Start training now and hit the boards in the annual **NJEA Boardwalk Run and Fun Walk** on

Friday morning. This sanctioned 5K race follows a scenic, traffic-free course and begins in front of the old Boardwalk Hall. Look for a registration form in your September *NJEA Review* or at [njeaconvention.org](#).

Need another great reason to stay? **Networking**. The best part about the NJEA Convention is that tens of thousands of Association members gather in one spot for two days. But the only way to meet these people is to be there and the best way to meet lots of them is to stay there!

Information taken from NJEA.org

