

TEA

August 15, 2011

Dear Members,

I hope your first day back was a good one. I know that you will be very busy this week setting up routines and procedures and welcoming back a new group of students. I hope our start for a new year is a promising one.

While we may have challenges, please know that the work we do is extremely important and our community does value us. You make a difference every day. ***Collectively our voices and our influence make positive changes for our profession.*** Our working conditions are the students learning conditions. Together we are the difference in our students' lives.

As you may already know as an association we have been evaluating operations to be more efficient, effective and best serve our members. Even though there may be some differences on how this is done, we must stick together and not allow any conflict to erode our purpose. ***Our association has always honored differing opinions and a variety of needs.*** As before, we will work through those differing opinions and come out stronger. **Our TEA leadership is confident that with accurate information, members will support our changes.**

We will be working on our website design, and continue to update it with pertinent information. Please provide your email address so that you can receive timely information from the leadership team. As your President, I also plan to visit sites on a regular basis and have several opportunities in the near future for me to meet members by area.

In the next few days you should be receiving an update on negotiations, alternate ways for member dues pay, local affiliate w/state option uniserv and our recommended organizational changes. You can also use the web links to access this information more timely.

Now more than ever we must let others know how important it is to be an active member of our association. We will be visiting sites starting next week to "flip" our membership to alternative dues pay. However you don't need to wait until then, you can print a form off the website, or visit the office. Your membership continues to speak for our profession, public education and all students.

I look forward to our work together.

Frances