

SUN-Line

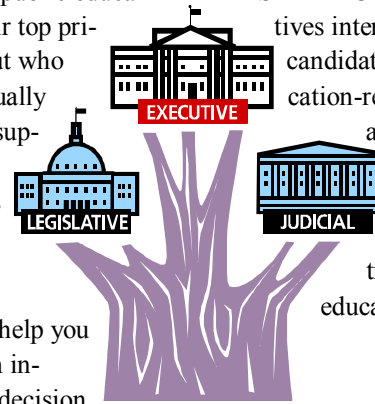
Election 2008: Why It Matters

Politics has a greater influence on the way teachers teach and how students learn than ever before. Decisions made by policy makers—whether they are in the U.S. Congress or in the state Legislature—affect everything from the size of our classes to the size of our paychecks.

That's why it's crucial to vote for candidates

on Election Day who will not only talk about making public education their top priority, but who will actually vote to support our students and our schools.

To help you make an informed decision



on November 4, local interview committees and ISEA-PAC representatives interviewed the candidates on key education-related issues and have recommended those candidates who truly support education.

October 7

- SC8 ESP Training, Indianola

October 9

- SC8 Bargaining Training, Indianola

October 14

- SUN Bargaining Training, Ottumwa

October 23

- SC8 Protecting Member Rights, Indianola

ISEA Recommended Candidates

FEDERAL RACES

For President:

Barack Obama

For Senate:

Tom Harkin

Congressional Districts:

#1 Bruce Braley

#2 David Loebsack

#3 Leonard Boswell

IOWA SENATE

NOTE: Only even-numbered Senate seats are up for election this year.

SD 24 Al Sorenson

SD 36 No recommendation

SD 38 Tom Rielly*

SD 46 Eugene Fraise*

SD 48 Ruth Smith

IOWA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HD 41 Paul Bell*

HD 47 No recommendation

HD 71 No recommendation

HD 72 No recommendation

HD 73 No recommendation

HD 74 Mark Davitt*

HD 75 Eric Palmer*

HD 76 No recommendation

HD 89 Larry Marek

HD 90 John Whitaker*

HD 91 Ron Felder

HD 92 Jerry Kearns

HD 93 Mary Gaskill*

HD 94 Kurt Swaim*

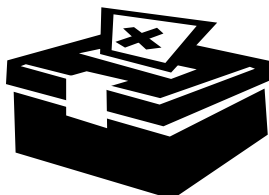
HD 95 Michael Reasoner*

HD 96 No recommendation

* Denotes an incumbent legislator.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Register, Volunteer, and Vote
- Licensure
- Taking Charge of Your Classroom



ISEA

Great Education.
It's An Iowa Basic.

Register, Volunteer, and Vote!

All education employees have the opportunity to help elect Friends of Education on November 4. How can you help?

- ☐ Make certain that your friends, family, and colleagues are **registered to vote**. To pre-register to vote, a voter registration form must be completed and returned to the county auditor's office. The voter pre-registration deadline is 10 days prior to Election Day. As of January 1, 2008, voters can also register to vote

on Election Day at the polling place for the precinct in which they currently reside. Voters registering to vote on Election Day will be required to show proof of identity and residency.

- ☐ **Volunteer time on behalf of ISEA recommended candidates.** You can help elect pro-education candi-



dates and earn chances to win prizes in three easy steps! (1) Join the Grass Roots Education Action Team (GREAT) by

clicking on the ISEA's online Election 2008 Guide at www.isea.org. (2) Work three hours for a recommended candidate. (3) Submit an "I

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Your License is Your Responsibility

It is your professional responsibility to hold appropriate licensure for whatever teaching assignment you hold. Consequently, you should be aware of the following important licensure information.

"You must disclose any occurrence of a teaching assignment for which you are not properly licensed to the school official responsible for determining teaching assignments."

- The expiration of your license is linked to your birth month.
- Your licensure and endorsement information is readily available to you and to the public on the BOEE Website at www.state.ia.us/boee. Any individ-

ual can file a BOEE complaint against you and/or an administrator for improper licensure without directly contacting you or the school district.

- No compensation shall be recovered by a teacher for services rendered while without a valid teaching license.

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Taking Charge of Your Classroom

Whether you are a beginning or career teacher, taking charge of your classroom is an important component of successful teaching. Below are excerpts from an article by Gail Tillery that appeared in a recent online issue of *Teacher Magazine*. Gail is a mentoring coordinator at a suburban high school in northeast Georgia.

You are the king or queen of

your room. Students look to you to set the atmosphere and the agenda. Be their leader. Set boundaries, make consequences clear, and follow through if necessary. Students need a teacher and a leader.

Dress the part; act the part; speak the part. Set yourself apart from your students. Dress professionally—it makes you look and feel that way. If you have Face-



book and MySpace pages, take them down. Do not discuss your

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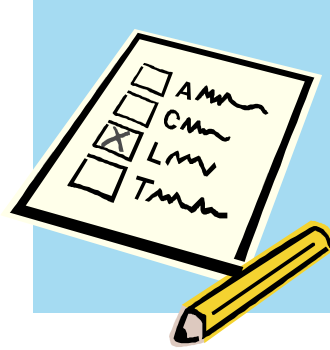
Vote!

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Helped” card or report your hours using the online form. The more hours you volunteer, the greater your chance of winning prizes—which include Amazon.com gift certificates, a DVD player, and a Des Moines weekend package that includes theater tickets and hotel.

- ☐ **Vote absentee—and encourage others to do the same.** You

may vote absentee in person at your county auditor’s office prior to Election Day. County auditors’ offices are open on the two Saturdays directly preceding the election. Some county auditors also use satellite absentee voting stations to pro-



vide absentee voting at places other than the auditor’s office. To find out whether satellite stations are planned for your county, contact your county auditor.

Detailed information about voter registration and absentee voting can be found on the Secretary of State’s Website

at www.sos.state.ia.us/elections.

Licensure

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- If a BOEE review of your records verifies that you are assigned instructional duties for which you are not licensed or endorsed, either by grade level or subject area, the BOEE may initiate a complaint against both you and the administrator responsible for the inappropriate assignment of instructional duties.

- You must disclose any occurrence of a teaching assignment for which you are not properly licensed to the school official responsible for determining teaching assignments. Failure to disclose an inappropriate teaching assignment is a violation of the BOEE ethical standards. Once disclosure is made administrators must make appropriate adjustments to your teaching assignment. Failure to do so is,

again, a violation of the BOEE ethical standards. If an appropriate assignment is not made, Iowa law requires that you report this occurrence to the BOEE for further action.

- It is a violation of BOEE ethical standards to sign an employment contract which requires the performance of duties that you are not legally qualified to perform.

Taking Charge

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private life with your students.

Realize that you are a public figure. Understand that

“Set boundaries, make consequences clear, and follow through if necessary.”

students and parents will be discussing you online and via text.

Let go of your need to be liked. Teaching is not a popularity contest. Understand that you must earn your students’ respect. Students

with a teacher who has a sense of her own power in the classroom will feel safe and comfortable and will learn to their utmost because there’s no drama and chaos in the room. Understanding that you are the leader will make your teaching experience a pleasant and rewarding one.

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ISEA

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SC8/SUN Snippets

☆☆ Kudos to the 25 SC8/SUN members who attended the ISEA Summer Conference held August 5-7 in Storm Lake. Special thanks to **Sheila Allen** (*Waukee*), **Jane Beatty** (*Chariton*), **Cheryl Benson** (*Oskaloosa*), **Kerisa Baedke** (*Waukee*), **Chris Coffin** (*Pekin*), **Helen Coffin** (*Pekin*), **Shea Cook** (*OSSA*), **Michele Cooper** (*Ottumwa*), **Michael Deatz** (*Chariton*), **J. Fink** (*Oskaloosa*), **Robin Frey** (*Winterset ESP*), **Diane Goudy** (*Fairfield*), **Lisa Greening** (*Fairfield*), **Stephanie Hauptert** (*Ottumwa*), **Carla Heisdorffer** (*Ottumwa*), **Dana Hols** (*Oskaloosa*), **Shannon Holbrook** (*Chariton*), **Beverly Jenkinson** (*Oskaloosa*), **Nicole King** (*Ottumwa*), **Julie Kordick** (*I-35*), **Becky Morris** (*Sigourney*), **Amanda Reynolds** (*Oskaloosa*), **Sue Stuchel** (*Winterset*), **Mary Jane Sullivan** (*North Mahaska*), and **Vicki Westerly** (*I-35*).

☆☆ American Education Week is scheduled for November 16-22. This year's theme, *Great Public Schools: A*



Basic Right and Our Responsibility highlights the necessity of a unified effort to build great public schools. The week begins with Open House Day on Monday, followed by Parents Day, Education Support Professionals Day, Educator for a Day, and concludes with Substitute Educators Day on Friday. An online toolkit to help in planning your celebration is available on the NEA Website at www.nea.org.

☆☆ Special recognition and congratulations to the following local Associations for attending the SC8/SUN Membership Workshops in late July: *Albia* (2), *Cardinal* (1), *Centerville* (1), *Central Decatur* (1), *Chariton* (5), *Clarke* (1), *Clarke ESA* (2), *Davis County* (2), *Eddyville-Blakesburg* (1), *Fairfield* (3), *Indianola* (3), *I-35 ESEA* (1),

Knoxville (1), *Lamoni* (1), *Melcher-Dallas* (2), *Montezuma* (1), *Mormon Trail* (1), *Moulton-Udell* (2), *North Mahaska* (1), *Oskaloosa* (3), *Oskaloosa SSA* (2), *Ottumwa* (6), *Pekin* (5), *Pella* (2), *Pleasantville* (1), *Pleasantville ESP* (1), *Seymour* (1), *Sigourney* (3), *Southeast Warren* (2), *Twin Cedars* (1), *Van Meter* (1), *Waukee* (1), *Wayne* (2), *Winterset* (2), and *Winterset ESEA* (2).

☆☆ Toshiba America Foundation Education Grants contribute to the quality of science and mathematics education in U.S. communities by investing in projects designed by classroom teachers to improve science and mathematics instruction for students in grades K-12. Visit www.toshiba.com for application information.

AN ORIGINAL THOUGHT from Malcolm X:

If you aren't willing to pay the price,
then you don't need the rewards or benefits that go along with it.