

# AEA TODAY

Serving Teachers in the Alpine School District

# Leadership Message

"In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends." — Martin Luther King Jr. As educators, we pour our heart and souls into helping our students every year. We joined this profession to make a difference in the lives of children and help our nation become a better place by educating future voters. Currently, our jobs are becoming harder every year due to more and more mandates on public education and teachers. These attacks against teachers are negatively affecting our profession and harming those we teach.

As members of AEA, we are the educators who need to make sure we keep teaching a profession. It is time for us to accept that these attacks on teachers and public education will not stop unless we step up and make our voices heard. We are the ones who need to fight to keep funding, respect, and support all teachers need to help students.

If we remain silent, then those who seek to destroy our profession and public education will win. We cannot be idle in the battle to save public education; we must be strong and loud in our defense of public education. The legislative session is just two months away from now. Be active in the political process that shapes and changes what we are able to do in our classrooms. Make your voice heard to every neighbor, friend, and family member about how educators need to run public education and not politicians who are not trained in our field. Actively recruit non-members of AEA to join us in our defense of public education. Research and find out more about how public education is under attack.

We are the faces of public education and we need to stand up and shout that we won't stand for these attacks anymore. When we don't vote; when we don't voice our opinions; when we don't reach out to other educators to join AEA, when we don't fight back; we will lose what we love- the ability to help our students.

# **UEA Convention**

The UEA Convention was held over Fall Break this year. Here are some highlights and quotes from the convention.

## Becky Pringle, NEA Vice President

Of all the civil rights we've fought so hard to achieve in this country, the right to learn is the most fundamental. We need leaders coming into and staying in the profession who know and understand the critical role our organization plays in providing opportunities for students.

#### Dr. Jenny Severson, Quantum Learning

Every day teachers are either creating a classroom of efficiency, learning and growth or getting bogged down in management and design flaws.

#### **Education Policy Panel**

8 percent of school funding comes from the federal government, but a greater percentage of regulation comes from them. – Becky Pringle

The best thing (the Legislature) could do is to butt out and figure out how to get another \$1 billion into the system. – Jim Dabakis

Every school district needs to figure [collective bargaining] out for themselves – Greg Hughes

## 10 Minute Meeting

- AEA Annual Christmas Movie
- Book Drive for the Festival Of Trees
- PD Offered by AEA
- Insurance Update
- Getting New Members

# **Upcoming Dates**

# **AEA Rep Meeting**

December 7, 2015 Lehi High School

#### **Evaluation Training**

December 8, 2015 PDC #316

#### AEA Annual Christmas Movie

December 12, 2015 Thanksgiving Point MegaPlex

# **Assessment Literacy Training**

January 20, 2016 PDC #316

### Board Member Spotlight

BetteJo McLelland has been serving as the AEA Board member for Region 4 for the past 10 years. She also serves on the Negotiation Team representing the Association. She is the Building Rep at Grovecrest Elementary. She has taught in the Alpine School District for 25 years. She is known as "Mrs. Mac" to her first grade students in Pleasant Grove. She loves music and has served in the past as the choral director at her school for 13 years. She appreciates the Alpine Education Association and enjoys working with the other members of the Board.

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