

Thompson Education Association
October Newsletter

What's new

(For more information, contact your Building Rep)

Nominations for the NEA Foundation Award for Teaching Excellence are due by 1/10/2004. This competition is open to all NEA members (teachers, education support personnel, and higher education faculty and staff.)

No Child Left Behind: CEA will educate members and the public about NCLB. CEAs concerns with the current law are based upon the shortfall of funding and that "one size does not fit all" since children learn at different rates and in different ways. CEA has an online petition regarding amending No Child Left Behind. You can participate at:

www.cea.org/nclb/petitionform.cfm

A New Indoor Air Quality Bill was passed into law this summer. There are several changes to existing laws. Elementary teacher Michelle Bibeault recently attended the CEA meeting about this topic. Watch for more information or contact Michelle.

President: Carol Rossetti

Building Reps:

Elementary: Carol Kudzal

Middle: Kristi Durocher

High School: Guy Daigle

For contract issues:

Elementary: Lisa Rice

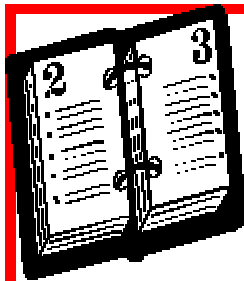
Middle: Bill Delmonico

High School: Val Krogul



Please consider TEA Executive efforts. We need involvement from members. Maybe the you can play. S building rep or Carol Rossetti. Why not you?

NEA



Schedule of Events

*Executive Board Meetings: Thursday
November 13, December 11*

Air Quality meeting: Friday, October 31

*CEA Heroes in Education: Tuesday
November 4*

*American Education Week: November
16-22*

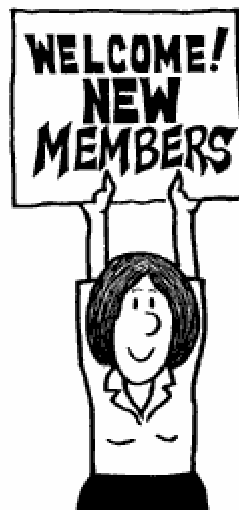
*CEA Northeast Women's Leaders
Conference: January 22-23*



There are many sweet moments in our careers as educators. Watch for your surprise from TEA during American Education Week.

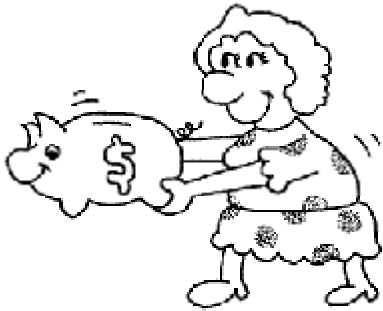
TEA will again place an ad in the local paper in observance of this event.

**NEA has materials online and downloadable artwork you to use. Visit <http://www.nea.org/aew/>
This year's theme is **Great Public Schools for Every Child: America's Promise.****



TEA welcomes Carlye Anderson, a substitute teacher of physical education at Thompson Middle School. We hope you enjoy working with us at Thompson.

We have several other new faces in substitute positions. Look for names in upcoming editions.



Money Matters

Are you too poor to save for your retirement?

For many people, especially those just starting out, the challenge of checks far enough to cover their bills seems to leave little room for money left over at the end of the pay period, say a paltry \$20 or so, enough to justify the effort of putting it in the bank. Far easier to believe you've saved enough to make a real contribution, correct?

Actually, no. In truth, thanks to the "miracle of compounding" just about any amount of money investment program can eventually grow to a substantial sum. In the end, say the financial expert **tual size of a savings nest egg depends less on the size of the contribution as on when it is in shell**, the sooner one starts saving, the more time the savings have to compound.

For example, \$50 per month, or \$600 per year, amounts to about \$2 per day, or the cost of a store-bought sandwich. Invested monthly in a tax-deferred retirement plan at an average annual 9% return, over 30 years a day could generate retirement saving of more than \$100,000.

When people learn how routinely saving a little can add up to a lot over the long term, it is easier to increase the amount they are already saving. Many financial experts contend that the average person can chop their spending by 10% without any meaningful effect on their lifestyles. Jane Bryant Quinn says that people set an initial goal of 5% and up it to 10% after they see how little difference it makes. For someone with earnings of \$30,000 that would amount to monthly saving of \$125.

Our school offers a 403b plan that is available to all employees. It is very easy to start up, with automatic payroll deductions. Get the paperwork from Bev Houle and begin to **pay yourself first**.



CEA's Holiday Bear Project

Bear down for a worthy cause by sponsoring a needy Connecticut child. Your efforts will help the child bear up during the holidays.

The Connecticut Education Foundation's Holiday Bear Project is a program that sponsors members with needy public school students who may be facing a bleak, cold winter season. The CEF would like your participation in our holiday gift-giving program this year.

This information was taken directly from CEA's website. Visit www.cea.org for information about this and