



Dates to Remember

- ❖ December 14th: SEA Rep Council
- ❖ December 15th: SEA Gear Day
- ❖ January 18th: SEA Rep Council
- ❖ January 19th: SEA Gear Day
- ❖ January 20th: 'Zippedy Doo Da' Winter Social (3pm @ Zippes on Via de Ventura)



Hot Topic - Blackout Days

Last year the district spent more than \$2,000,000 for substitute teachers; this, at a time when more than 2.2 billion dollars has been removed from Arizona State Public Education (say Scottsdale Unified School District) budgets. Most education dollars descend (no pun intended) to teachers in the form of salaries and benefits. Reduce the budgeted amount and **it is going to impact YOU**. It is no great leap then to understand that most of that budget reduction is (or will be) coming out of your pockets in the form of reduced salaries and benefits. SEA fights to protect your salary and benefits every day. Let's be clear. We understand your displeasure regarding the Blackout Day policy. WE HEAR YOU. As you read this, SEA is fighting for the implementation of a better general leave policy; a policy that preserves benefits that we have worked long and hard to achieve while finding a way to sustain a reduction in the consumption of general leave days.

Visit Flicka's in December for \$3 burgers on Mondays and \$1 tacos on Tuesdays



News

Thanks to all who came to see our President Andrew Morrill at Coronado! In very brief summary:

- AEA guiding principles are: quality public education for all; fairness, equality, and respect for all; teaching as an esteemed profession; and learning as a community commitment.
- The classroom is the "nucleus" of education and that's where we should be investing.
- Steady increase of funding to public education is proven to increase quality of neighborhoods and communities, measured by per capita income, home ownership and higher education degrees.
- Voters support public education in single ballot issues like bond approvals and capital overrides, but they don't necessarily go on to vote for candidates who share their support for public education.
- Community stakeholders are very happy with their local schools and become less happy as they move out from there – to state, region, nation.

Victory, Victory is Our Cry

- SEA has successfully advocated on behalf of 35 members since August.
- SEA successfully influenced revisiting Governing Board changes that had already been approved regarding the 2012-2013 calendar.
- SEA provided *immediate* local and state-level legal counsel to a member in need.

Meet an SEA Executive Board Member - Rony Assali

- 5th year Math Teacher at Arcadia H.S.
- Hobbies: Karaoke, card/board games, crossword puzzles.
- I am very proud SEA member because we are the only group that is still fighting for people's rights. As teachers in an undervalued profession, we are all in this together and nothing shows our strength and unity like the SEA.

Resources: Check out these websites for valuable resources!

- Need Help?..... www.aeahelpdesk.org
- Member Benefits..... www.neamb.com
- AEA information..... www.arizonaaea.org/

Visit Us at www.SEA.com and Like us on Facebook!

Member Perks

As an SEA member, you have the opportunity to receive substantial savings on name brand appliances like KitchenAid, Maytag, Whirlpool, and many more. See NEA Member Benefits 'Everyday Living'.