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PROFESSIONAL EDUCATORS OF IOWA

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EARLHAM AND MORAVIA DECLARE FREEDOM FROM UNION!

Greetings!

What a headline! This week Earlham and Moravia teachers declared their independence. They now have the freedom to include all teachers in the bargaining unit, not just the union teachers. What this means is that the local association is in control of bargaining and is not subject to edicts, orders, or rules from a national, state, or regional union. The teachers in these districts can presently determine who represents them at the table in what is best for their community, their district, their working conditions and their students.

This is unprecedented in the state for two districts in one year to decertify the union. Last year Twin Cedars of Bussey removed the union and then formed their own bargaining unit. Six years previously the teachers of Pomeroy-Palmer formed their independent unit when the ISEA decided there were just a few union members there. Pomeroy made lemonade out of the ISEA move and have had some of their best contracts ever. That is the expectation of Earlham and Moravia since they will be working on a local level with an inclusive staff. NO MORE exclusion!

Leader Jennifer Knight of Earlham said, "I am thrilled that we will now be working locally with a teamwork approach between teachers, administrators, and the school board for the best interest of our students and their success."

Leader Darrin Carson of Moravia said, "What is really neat is that all but one teacher in the unit voted. Essentially, everyone took part in this process. This isn't about excluding anyone for local decisions; this is about decertifying a union so everyone can be included and have an opportunity to be included."

FIND OUT HOW TO BE INDEPENDENT IN YOUR DISTRICT.

Contact our office today!

Kudos to all who worked so diligently for positive changes in their districts. Many if not most of the things in life that are most valuable take time, patience, and perseverance. Leaders and their respective teams in each of these districts demonstrated those exact characteristics.

Sincerely,

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