

Education Changes, Annual Conference, and Board Election

July 11, 2013



Annual Conference

Friday, August 2, 2013

9:30 am - 3:00 pm

This will be a conference first! Completely within our new facility in the PEI Conference Center you can learn, relax, enjoy and fellowship while learning the details that will bring personal authority and control to your career!

The 2013 agenda will include:

- **New legal issues**
- **The Core Curriculum - Pro and Con**
- **How to protect yourself**
- **Unfair labor practices**
- **Hostile work environments**
- **The BOEE ethics brochure and *how to file an ethics violation***
- **Enhancing your professional appearance on a budget**
- **The annual silent auction **We have some AMAZING items this year!!***
- **Fabulous door prizes**

You will meet our attorney, a BOEE member, our insurance agent, our PEI Board of Directors, staff and many fabulous educators from across the state!

**ALL OF THIS
IN ONE DAY!**

Early Registration Special! Register by July 26 and take \$5.00 off!

Registration

Name	Phone	Email
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Member fee \$20.00 (includes all materials, lunch, and eligibility for all drawings)

Non-member fee \$298.00 (includes all materials, lunch, and eligibility for all drawings)

Check # _____ Amt _____

CC# _____ Exp. ____/____

Spouses may attend for the member fee amount.

The conference this year will be held in our new Conference Center within our office complex. Mark your calendar now! We hope to see you there!

PEI Board Election This year we have four well qualified candidates running for two available seats on the PEI Board of Directors. To be qualified to vote, you must be a current member in the Professional Category. Please submit your two votes to: info@peiowa.org. **Online final votes** will be received through August 1 and finalized August 2 at the convention. Votes must be validated with either your name or your member number. Votes will be confidential.

Board Candidates

Alphabetically



Linda Anderson – I've been a proud member of PEI for the past 8 years during my 13 year career. I was introduced to PEI by a former colleague who understood the need for serious guidance and support in the profession.

PEI continues as a student-focused organization that aligns with my core values which I teach daily as a Special Education teacher in Cedar Rapids: Respect, Responsibility, Effort, and Choice. I strongly feel PEI has an outstanding record of protecting these values for both students and teachers in the classroom and that they will continue to protect the integrity of the profession in the years to come. As models for our profession continue to change we need an organization that will support these values.

I will continue to support the efforts of PEI as they help us with the challenges of teaching in the 21st century and would appreciate your vote.



Donna Huston - My qualifications for board of directors includes my efforts in the move by Twin Cedars teachers to be the first in the state to de-certify the ISEA as bargaining unit in our district. We then had a vote to certify PETC to be the new bargaining unit. My work was to be the secretary and take the petitions around that were necessary to call for these votes. I worked with the president of PETC to file the necessary forms to bring this change about nearly 6 years ago. I strongly believe in a teachers right to freedom in the classroom and in choice of professional commitments.

I strongly believe in Iowa's Right to Work Law and I believe it needs to stay strong. I have worked with the bargaining unit over the past 5 years to have peaceful talks with the board of our school for new contract changes each year. I try to enlighten all teachers about PEI every year and am available for discussion anytime!



Joel Illian - A Lutheran pastor's son from Ankeny, I have lived in Iowa all my life. I graduated from Denver High School in Denver, Iowa, and received my bachelor's degree with six endorsements in secondary education from William Penn College in Oskaloosa, in 1993. I then spent the next fifteen years in the private sector operating a remodeling business in Oskaloosa and raising and homeschooling my two older children before entering the teaching profession full time 5 years ago. I have been teaching high school and middle school special education at Pekin Community School District since that time. I am a proud member of PEI and have been a vocal advocate for union alternatives and right-to-work.

I feel very strongly that PEI is the premier organization representing a positive future for education in our state. I believe that no one should ever be forced to join or financially support any organization against their will, especially if that organization supports a political agenda. I am convinced that voluntary membership in alternative organizations such as PEI is a God-given right. I know that teaching is one of the most splendid gifts and important responsibilities God can bestow on a person, because there is no greater calling than that of helping young people shape a positive future for themselves. That is why so much of my life has been spent in the service of precisely that pursuit.

I serve in my church as a Sunday school, AWANA, and VBS teacher, working in the nursery and other children's ministries, and serving as the Deacon of Christian Education. I serve in the public schools as a teacher, coach, and mentor, and am the Huddle Coach of our local chapter of Fellowship of Christian Athletes. I serve the community as a foster parent and a gubernatorial appointee on the Juvenile Justice Advisory Council for the State of Iowa. I am currently enrolled in the graduate program at Morningside College, and am nearly finished with my Masters of Arts in Instructional Strategies. I am married to a wonderful gal who stays home to raise our 5 year old son and our foster kids, and who serves right alongside me in nearly all my children's ministry areas.

I would be honored to serve the children of Iowa and those who teach them by serving on the PEI Board.



Mary Kay Overholtzer - I wish to be considered for one of the seats on the PEI Board of Directors. I have recently resigned my position at Mount Ayr Middle and High School in order to pursue new opportunities within education. I will be teaching talented and gifted at Winterset School District for the 2013-2014 school year.

As an educator for 28 years and a member of PEI since 2001, I have a good understanding in putting students first. Yet, I might add, I totally agree in the privilege of Right-to-Work, character education, local control, and reaching consensus through free and open discussion. As a member of the Iowa Board of Educational Examiners, I have become familiar with the statutes, rules, standards, and ethics that are pursued within the state of Iowa. I have become more familiar with national research and the need for alternative licensure due to socio-economic trends and our STEM initiatives with the state. As a certified master teacher, administrator and coach I am familiar with the traditional manner in which educators are licensed. I know the importance of upholding and supporting educators within our "ranks."

My ability to "think outside the box" and communicate this thinking has been developed through many state initiatives in which I have participated. I am accessible for that "personal service" that includes networking, collaborating, reasoning, and problem solving. Analysis of data, communication, and documentation are also my strengths. I am a direct communicator who appreciate working with different content areas and constituent groups. I have a willingness to contact senators and representatives when it comes to education issues. The social networking with leaders, state boards, and educators are transferable skills as a possible member of your board.

With the help of colleagues, I will continue to reinforce high expectations within education; and I believe becoming a member of your board will be reinforcement for a great organization.

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

2013 Legislative Session – Statute Changes Affecting Schools

This week the Department of Education sent guidance to Iowa school districts and nonpublic schools. It is posted on their website so feel free to direct anyone to that or share directly with others if you so wish: <http://educateiowa.gov>. We thought it might be helpful for you to see this as it is the annual summary that the Department does for districts to know how they are interpreting various new pieces of legislation that passed this year

The more you know, the more confidently you can teach

The Iowa State Fair

It is just around the corner and now is the time to get your PEI booth time slot. This year you will get a free fair pass PLUS a great new PEI t-shirt for EVERY four hours you volunteer. Contact Rob Gray at: Rob@peiowa.org or just call the office at 515-221-2330.

The fair is a great time to help build your organization and meet a lot of great PEI members as well as thousands of other fair goers! Contact us today!! Email: info@peiowa.org Web: www.peiowa.org



Social Media: 'Like' and 'Follow' PEI!

PEI has both Facebook and Twitter accounts, and we update them daily to provide you with insightful links, helpful articles, and opportunities to give feedback! 'Like' and 'follow' us to take advantage!

Contact

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"If you board the wrong train, it is no use running along the corridor in the opposite direction."

- Dietrich Bonhoeffer

