



# PEI

## PROFESSIONAL EDUCATORS OF IOWA

January 11, 2018

### Florida Vacation?



Learn how you could save big on an Orlando vacation as a PEI member!

### 2018 Legislative Survey

The legislative session has begun and we are preparing to take your concerns to our legislators! The Legislative Survey was sent on Thursday, January 4. If you did not receive your survey, please contact us and we will forward it to you.

Our legislative survey is a method of gathering our members opinions on various issues from across the state. The survey will end Monday, January 15, 2018 at 8:00 am. We will compile the results and issue a newsletter to you, and a report to all legislators, governor, and media. Your name is never used in survey results!

We appreciate you taking the time to let your voice be heard! We will be awarding 3 members \$25 for completing the survey. List your name on the last entry in the survey and you will be automatically entered!

### \$120 Recruitment Reward Extended to May 31!

Log in to the member area of [www.peiowa.org](http://www.peiowa.org) for details.

### Paying Monthly?

Even though PEI dues are by far the most affordable career protection you can purchase, some people still find it difficult to come up with \$240 at one time. The alternative is to pay your dues in monthly installments.



The option of paying for dues via ACH is open to all our members, even those who had not previously used Payroll Deduction.

Contact PEI for information on how to sign up.

### 2018 Legislative Session

Mark Felderman, PEI's Deputy Director of Legislative Affairs is at the capitol most days speaking to legislators on your behalf. If you will be giving testimony or attending any of the sessions, feel free to contact Mark at 515-221-2330 for assistance!



### Scholarship Awards 2018

Our 2018 scholarship awards are posted on our website at: <https://www.peiowa.org/about/peif-scholarships/>

All scholarship applications must be postdated by April 1, 2018.

## PEI Puts Students First!

How can we say we are putting students first while working on projects, legislation, workshops, and policies that are directly for educators and not the children? What do we mean when we say we put students first?

PEI will measure any education and labor bill or policy against the final outcome for those for whom our careers exist. We have long expressed concern that the education machine has become so complex that it can easily forget its real cause for existence which is our students. Absolutely everything from the bookkeeping department to the service staff to the university professors has an impact on our students. That influence can be from curriculum to social agendas and political attitudes which can affect discipline, curriculum, career choices, and lifetime outcomes. It is the intent of Professional Educators of Iowa to bring all issues back to an evaluation of the final impact of each and every related decision.



We support strong teacher salaries. Although that may seem self-serving, let's take a critical look. Teacher quality will be in direct proportion to the satisfaction levels of work circumstances. We believe this is true for teachers, administrators, professors, and support staff. A good living wage and benefits will provide a level of income comfort to eliminate potential stress. Although we are well aware that many teachers, being normal humans will always want "more for less", there is a level of income that can support a normal lifestyle for the profession. If in fact a teacher needs to work additional jobs, it can possibly take away from concentration on the primary objective of quality of instruction in a professional, congenial, and efficient manner.

What about teaching conditions? If an educator is concerned about their work environment in any aspect of safety and health, there will be a distraction from serving their students.

If an educator is concerned about materials and resources to best instruct students, it will affect what they can plan, how much they can focus, and will it use my personal funding.

If an educator feels they are continually the focus of administrative scrutiny, creative instruction and planning will be stifled. Teachers that fear for their position because of dedicated years of teaching, become pawns in the financial pool of educational funding.

It is important for administrators to insure that a climate of neutrality will allow a collegiality of all members in spite of differences in philosophical, personal, and social issues. Educators should be able to instruct comfortably while holding on to personal values while providing objective and factual information to the students. Peer pressure for conformity can be devastating on individual attitudes which translate back into the classrooms.

Placing students first lends itself to the absolutely essential working model of servant leadership. From the school board to the front line teacher, we are charged to serving our students in the best manner possible.

### PEI BENEFITS



Contact PEI for information on savings!

Contact us at:  
515-221-2330  
[info@peiowa.org](mailto:info@peiowa.org)  
[www.peiowa.org](http://www.peiowa.org)

