



Note from the President

I hope that 2009 has been good to you and your family. My year got off to a great beginning with the arrival of a grandson, Levi Smith, born on January 5, 2009. He resides in Raleigh with his parents, Melissa and Caleb. March 2nd is the birthday of Dr. Seuss and educators are encouraged to celebrate "Read Across America". Dr. Seuss hats were distributed at the February AR meeting and Dr. Seuss books were given as door prizes to members in attendance. If your school will hold special events for "Read Across America", please send the information and pictures to me at Lake Norman High School and it will be included in a future newsletter. Our annual NCAE Convention and Representative Assembly will be held March 26-28, 2009 at the new Raleigh Convention Center. We have a record number of members planning to attend and learn more about their professional organization. Finally, watch for NCAE election ballots to be distributed March 31-April 2 at all schools. Please vote and return your ballot to your AR immediately, so all votes can be tallied and sent to Raleigh on time. Thank you for your continued support of me and your hard-working Executive Board. We appreciate the opportunity to serve you, the educators and support staff of Iredell-Statesville Schools.

- Kaye Taliana, ISAE President



ISAE Legislative Brunch



Representative Grey Mills

Senator James Forrester

On January 24, 2009 the Iredell-Statesville Association of Educators hosted a Legislative Brunch at the Iredell Public Library in Statesville. Eight state legislators were invited to attend. Those in attendance were Senator James Forrester of Stanley and newly elected Representative Grey Mills of Mooresville. Thirteen local members participated in the event, which was a round table discussion on current issues in the 2009 legislative session. Prior to the Brunch a planning meeting in conjunction with NCAE's input helped identify the most important issues for discussion. They included 1) the recruitment and retention of teachers, including salaries and benefits 2) class size, especially with the current economic situation

and the possibility of losing positions 3) Health insurance and the protection of cost and coverage 4) a salary schedule for ESP (currently there is a range of pay, not a scale) 5) Continuation of support for the National Board Certification at the state level 6) Retirement benefits, and 7) Appreciation for and continuation of the paid personal leave day annually.

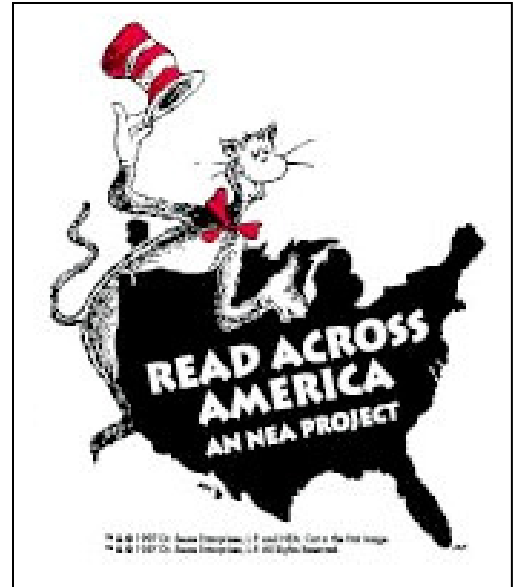
Everyone in attendance presented their topic of discussion with examples and current information. This will be a tough year for the state budget due to the economic situation. Our hope in hosting this Legislative Brunch is that we provided our legislators with information that will help them make the best decisions when it comes to issues of education.

Respectfully submitted, Nettie Gambill - Association Representative, Lake Norman Elementary School

Read Across America Day – Monday, March 2, 2009

The National Education Association (NEA) annually sponsors Read Across America. Approaching its tenth year, NEA's Read Across America focuses the country's attention on how important it is to motivate children to read in addition to helping them master basic skills. NEA launched the Read Across America program in 1997. The nationwide reading celebration takes place each year on the birthday of beloved children's author Dr. Seuss, who epitomizes a love of learning. Dr. Seuss's use of rhyme makes his books an effective tool for teaching young children the basic skills they need to be successful.

NEA offers tons of ideas for how to celebrate Read Across America day at <http://www.nea.org/readacross/>. It's always a great idea to have guest readers come in to read a Dr. Seuss book to your kids. If you have older students, you could bring your class to an elementary school to read for the day. Other suggestions available online include science experiments and math problems based on Dr. Seuss books. It's also always a great idea to have your class, school, or community service club sponsor a book drive during Read Across America week.



Let us know what you do and send us pictures of the day at ncae@iss.k12.nc.us! Resource Kit including posters can be ordered at <http://www.nea.org/readacross/>.

ISAE Yahoo Groups



Yahoo groups is a great place to store documents and share information. Since your iss email should only be used for iss business, we decided to create this yahoo account. Go to <http://www.yahoo.com/> on the left side click on Groups and type in isaencae, then follow the prompts. If you need help, please email Barb at thorson@vnet.net

NEA Member Benefits



Buy None, Get One Free from Hertz!
That's right, the #1 name in car rentals is giving you a weekend day completely free—even if you book only one day! (Note: taxes may apply.) The offer is good on economy through full-size cars from now until March 31, 2009. Take advantage of this unbelievable offer at neamb.com/hertz/freeday and be sure to use CDP Code #50655.

NCAE Future Teacher's Scholarship: Applications Due April 30, 2009



Do you work with a teacher's assistant currently pursuing his or her teacher's certification? Do you know a graduating senior who aspires to follow in your footsteps? If so, please take the time to pass on the information about the NCAE Future Teacher's Scholarship. NCAE will award one scholarship of \$1000 to a graduating senior who aspires to become a teacher and one \$500 scholarship to a teacher's assistant currently pursuing his or her certification. Please see your AR for application materials and information or visit <http://iss.schoolwires.com/ncae>. Please turn in all applications to Kaye Taliana at Lake Norman High School by April 30, 2009.