



NO MATTER WHICH ANIMAL YOU RIDE, Make Sure it Supports YOU!

Prepared by the ISTA Programs Department, 150 W. Market St., #900, Indpls.In. 46204

What has Political Action Accomplished? (A partial list.)

Critical Defenses: Legislators elected with PAC help **DEFEATED**

- * teacher competency testing each 5 years for license renewal;
- * pension forfeiture for accusations (rather than proof) of *undefined* misconduct;
- * private school vouchers at public school expense;
- * staff evaluations and merit pay based on student I-STEP scores
- * school deregulation which eliminated accreditation, employee leave, property tax controls, and application of many other laws and rules.

Future Needs: Elect those who'll vote to fund high standards, competitive salaries and benefits, and a secure retirement.

How much should I give to Options Guaranteed & NEA Fund? How are PAC funds used?

- \$ 2 per month.....to State and Local PACs (Options Guaranteed).
- \$ 1.25 per month.....to the NEA Fund for Children & Public Education (formerly NEA-PAC).

Options Guaranteed Budget (local & state PACs)

0% to federal candidates

- 80% local state legislative candidates
- 10% school board candidates
- 10% non-federal statewide candidates; Republican & Democratic state convention delegate fees of ISTA members, Parties' events, scientific campaign tools.

NEA Fund Budget (federal PAC)

0% to Presidential Candidates

- 73% to Congressional candidates; independent expenditures; national parties' & caucus expenditures.
- 27% bi-partisan national convention delegate expenses of NEA members; State Parties; scientific campaign tools; contingencies.

Options Guaranteed giving is on your membership form. Ask your Association Representative for a separate NEA Fund contribution form. Historically, Indiana receives \$2 back for each NEA Fund dollar raised.

How are decisions made on who receives campaign funds?

Association PAC members review candidate track records, interviews and/or questionnaires, and then vote. Only educationally supportive, PAC-approved candidates receive PAC funds. A majority of local and state (and national PAC where applicable) members must concur or there's no endorsement. PAC rules mandate bi-partisan PAC membership.

Can I OPT OUT of Options Guaranteed Giving?

Yes. Ask your Membership Chairperson or Local President for a pre-printed waiver prior to local payroll deduction deadline. Sign and return the form to them before the deadline; **OR** Send a written refund request by November 1st or within 60 days of becoming a member (whichever comes later) to: ISTA Business Department, 150 W. Market Street, Suite 200, Indpls., IN. 46204. Please include your social security number, local association name, and print your name and address to assist accuracy.

So Why Give?

Defeating attacks on public education and making progress is a continuing challenge. Contributions to PAC are an investment to elect friends of public education to public office to protect and strengthen public schools and school employees.

Contributions to local/ state PACs or to the NEA Fund are voluntary, are not a condition of membership, and are not a condition to receive membership services. This information is prepared by the ISTA Programs Department, 150 West Market Street, Suite 900, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204.

SYCAMORE DISTRICT COUNCIL 3-A
CLAY COMMUNITY CTA
NORTH VERMILLION CTA
SOUTH VERMILLION EA
VIGO COUNTY TA



INDIANA STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
UNISERV OFFICE 3-A
RUTH HENDERSON, UNISERV DIRECTOR
rhenderson@ista-in.org
JAN SHACKELFORD, UNISERV ASSISTANT
jshackelford@ista-in.org
Telephone: 812-242-8044 ~ 800-638-4368
Fax: 812-242-8099 ~ 800-434-1189

NEWSBRIEFS

OCTOBER 2008

VOTE! VOTE! VOTE!

Of all people, **teachers** should recognize the importance of electing Representatives and Senators to State and Federal offices who are "**friends of public education**" and respectful of the rights of teacher. We don't have to look very far to see the impact of elected officials on our profession.

- ⇒ **NCLB**—federal requirements on local schools including assessing Adequate Yearly Progress; allowing students to transfer out of schools; etc.
- ⇒ **PL 221**—state requirements establishing student test scores as determiners of whether a school and teachers are meeting state standards; sanctions may be imposed for under performing schools.
- ⇒ **IDEA**—federal regulations governing special education mandates, rules, procedures, etc.
- ⇒ **Charter Schools**—state creation of charter schools funded by state and local dollars which previously went to support the traditional public school
- ⇒ **Vouchers**—continued efforts by some legislators, both state and federal, to siphon off funds from public schools and send them to private and religious schools.
- ⇒ **Funding**—both state and federal dollars are needed to fund programs for students and provide salary and benefit increases for teachers.



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