

The Solidarity Report

Your weekly VUE Update

1381 Educators Rd.

Daytona Beach, FL 32174

(386)238-1605

www.ourvue.net

Issue 21 Number 5

September 5, 2023

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Spotlight: Ms. Dominica Pinckney!

- * 8th year working as a teacher for Volusia County Schools!
- * Currently teaching VE Mild grades 3-5 at R. J. Longstreet Elementary
- * VUE Steward
- * Favorite Quote: “We are all destined for greatness.”
~ Unknown

Ms. Dominica Pinckney is a rising star. Dominica brings nearly a decade of teaching experience to VCS and a passion for working with students who have special needs. Dominica shared, “*I believe that creating a positive, safe, and encouraging learning environment allows students the ability to thrive at their highest potential.*” Dominica prides herself on setting high expectations for her students and creating fun and engaging pathways to academic excellence. Her heart is dedicated to the success of her students, and she is determined to be their biggest cheerleader and champion. Dominica is also a first year steward who is working hard to learn the contract and become a fierce advocate for her fellow VUE members. She is smart, savvy, and tenacious, which are the qualities of all great advocates. Thank you, Ms. Dominica Pinckney, for your passion, hard work, and determination to always strive for success. We are encouraged by your energy and enthusiasm. We are definitely destined for greatness with you in our VUE family. Solidarity!

District Update

Upcoming Dates to Remember: We are sharing important reminders below:

- **Week of September 4th** – Middle School Open House Week (Block Out week for MS meetings)
- **Week of September 11th** – Block Out week due to Interim Reports (Wed. 9-13), PLCs may occur on Thursday, 9-14.
- **Week of September 18th** – Elementary Open House Week (Block Out week for Elem. Meetings)
- **Week of September 25th** – High School Open House Week (Block Out week for HS meetings)

Instructional Ratification

The instructional ratification vote will be held on Wednesday, September 6, 2023. All members of the instructional bargaining unit are eligible to vote. Please check with your steward for the times and location of the vote at your site.

The VUE office is also a voting site. If your school does not currently have a steward, the VUE staff are working to schedule voting at your site.

Please take a moment to review the tentative agreements here, www.ourvue.net.

If ratified, the agreement will be presented to the members of the school board for approval on Tuesday, September 12, 2023. Once approved, we will work with the Payroll Department to create a timeline for payments.

Please remember the longevity and retention supplements are paid in a lump sum. We are working to expedite providing these funds to you.

If you have any questions, please contact your steward or the VUE office, (386) 238-1605.

September Professional Learning Day

On Friday, September 22nd, the district will host the annual Professional Development Day. On this day teachers and staff will be expected to participate in trainings. At this

NOTICE
TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE
INSTRUCTIONAL BARGAINING UNIT

**SECRET BALLOT
RATIFICATION VOTE**
Wednesday, September 6, 2023

ALL members of the instructional bargaining unit, regardless of membership in VUE are eligible to vote. Teachers may vote at their local school site on the above date. Itinerant instructional personnel and teachers working for Volusia Online Learning may vote at a school site. An attestation form must be completed if you are voting at a site that is not your assigned school/worksite.

The VUE office (1381 Educators Rd., Daytona Beach, FL) will be open for voting from 8:30 am – 4:30 pm.

A copy of the proposed collective bargaining tentative agreements is provided with this notice. Please see your Building Representative if you have any questions.

Ballots will be counted by the VUE stewards at each site immediately upon the conclusion of the vote. Any bargaining unit member is welcome to observe the counting of ballots. The outcome of the ratification will be announced once all sites have reported to the VUE office.

OFFICIAL NOTICE
PLEASE POST

time, the schedule includes the following is an overview that has been provided by the district PD department.

Instructional Learning Day:

Morning session:

Professional learning on Small Group Instruction, different collaborative structures, and collaborative planning.

1 hour lunch – this cannot be a working lunch

Afternoon session:

De-escalation professional learning and Performance Matters & Data Dashboard (additional planning time will be provided for those teachers who may not need Performance Matters – mostly secondary)

Support Learning Day:

The schedule for paraprofessionals has not yet been finalized. Upon confirmation of the expectations, we will share the information with you.

Membership 2023-24

The graphic is a white rectangular box with a black border. At the top, it says "Members—need your secure eDues link? Ask your Rep or call 386-238-1605". Below this are three sections, each with a QR code and an arrow pointing to it. The first section is on the left, featuring a woman pointing at a screen, with the text "VUE Join us!" and "Better TOGETHER! Contract Negotiation Professional Development Advocate & Advance Value Work Life Balance www.curvus.net". A red arrow points to the QR code with the text "First time joining?". The second section is in the middle, showing hands holding a QR code, with the text "Stronger Together" above it. A green arrow points to the QR code with the text "Moved here from another FL county??". The third section is at the bottom, showing a group of people, with the text "Finish strong!" and "I am" above it. An orange arrow points to the QR code with the text "Finish your eDues?".

Now is the time to ask our colleagues, friends, and the new members of team Volusia to join VUE. We can achieve remarkable things when we work together.

The dues deductions for 2023-24 are now fully implemented for all contractual groups. At this point, if your colleagues have not confirmed their dues payment preference (eDues or check), they are no longer members of VUE. We believe that there are some who mistakenly believe that their membership is intact when the reality is that they have been cancelled because they have missed a dues payment. We are working with our stewards to inform all previous members if they have been terminated.

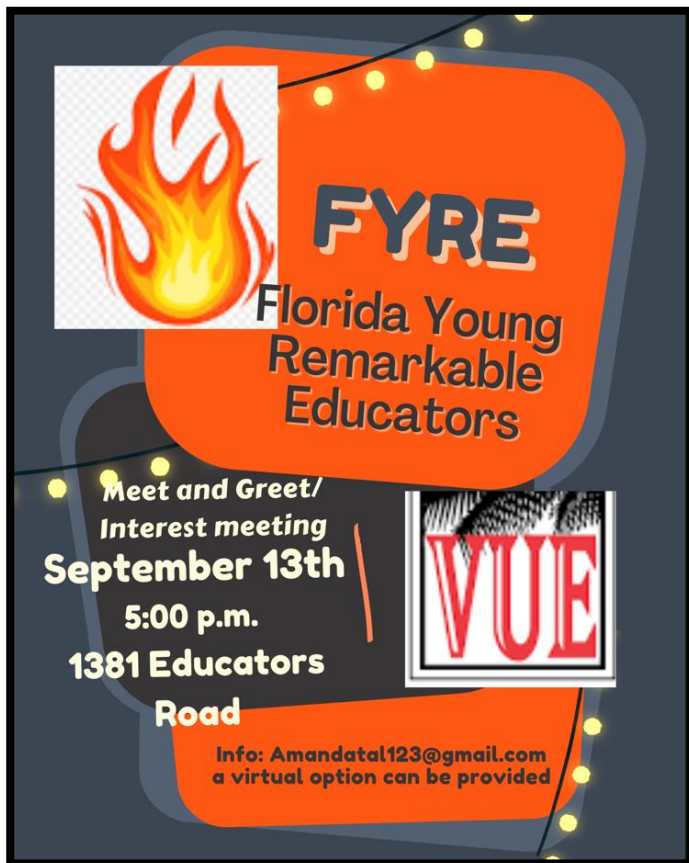
Please contact your steward, member representative, or the VUE office today (386) 238-1605, if you need to confirm your membership status. Now more than ever, it is critical that YOUR voice is leading the conversation about the

learning environment our students need to be successful. Who knows better than you, what is best for the children living in Volusia County? It's certainly not a millionaire from Olympia, Washington! No one knows better than our support professionals what our schools and worksites need in order to function efficiently and effectively.

Help us build back our membership and exceed our numbers from last year. You can use the QR codes in the flyer above to help your colleagues join for the first time or finish their enrollment. If you need information about the check pay option, please contact Beth at (386) 238-1605 or beth.friedl@floridaea.org.

VUE is strong due to our members, we are bold because of the diversity within our union family, and we know that this challenge is a turning point for our union. We will do more than survive, we will thrive! Solidarity.

VUE's FYRE Committee



Are you an early career educator who is looking for networking opportunities? Are you interested in collaborating with fellow VUE members who teach the same grade/subject as you?

VUE's FYRE Committee is the place for you. FYRE stands for Florida's Young Remarkable Educators and with the support of the Florida Education Association, FYRE's purpose is to engage early career educators through identifying and connecting their core values to FEA's union values of integrity, advocacy, respect and empowerment.

FYRE continuously engages and empowers diverse teams of early career educators through training, collaboration, networking and opportunities to experience their union in action — giving a voice to new members with which to advocate for their students, their union and their profession.

For more information on how you can engage in this powerful committee, please contact Amanda Talton at amandatal123@gmail.com.

In Solidarity,

Elizabeth Albert
President



SOLIDARITY, UNITY, AND STRENGTH!

As a member of the **Volusia United Educators** you will join with your colleagues to share your voice and expertise to shape the future of our profession.

Through **Solidarity, Unity, and Strength** of our membership, **VUE**:

- Is a leader in our schools and community on Public Education issues
- Fights to improve working conditions and pay for teachers and educational support professionals in Volusia County
- Provides top notch professional development and training for members
- Communicates weekly with our membership
- Stands for high quality Public Schools

Additionally, when you join **VUE**, you will receive many benefits from our **VUE** office and our state and national affiliates such as:

- Discount auto insurance
- Discounts on credit cards, cell phone service, car rentals, etc.
- Discount legal services
- And much, much more

In Florida you have a choice to make; you can unite with your colleagues as we make our Public Schools the best they can be, or you can stand alone.

The Volusia United Educators; Teaching Today's Children for Tomorrow's Future!

To join VUE, click the QR code below and complete the VUE Fastrack form to become a member today!

