



Solidarity Report

“Power concedes nothing without a demand, it never has and it never will.” ~ Frederick Douglas

Ratification Votes This Week

The 2024-25 Contract Ratification votes for support and instructional staff will be held as follows:

- **Monday, September 16, 2024 -- Support Staff Ratification**
- **Tuesday, September 17, 2024 -- Instructional Ratification**

Stewards and principals have worked together to determine the time and locations for voting. This information should have already been shared with you. If you are not sure where and when to vote, contact your steward.

If you are in an itinerant position, work for VOL, or will be out of school/work on the day you are to vote, you can vote at any school near you by signing the Attestation form. The VUE office will also be available for voting.

If the contracts are ratified, they will be presented to the members of the school board for approval on September 24, 2024. The payment schedules for increases, retro, longevity and the retention supplement will be shared upon approval by the board.

If you have any questions, please contact the VUE office at 386-238-1605.



Ed Modified

Another week has gone by and we can honestly say that most teachers continue to struggle with the use of Ed Modified.

We are appreciative that Ms. Copeland continues to work with us to provide training and supports. We are extremely pleased with the decision to provide special area and elective teachers with the opportunity to track accommodations on paper and to pilot Ed Modified for the remainder of the year. As stated earlier this week, we are suggesting that as your level of comfort and fluency with Ed Modified increases, that special area and elective teachers attempt to transition to this platform.

The expectation to use Ed Modified is still in place, and perhaps this pilot phase will provide the needed flexibility to learn at our own pace, and as time is available.

For core teachers and ESE personnel, we continue to hear that neither sufficient training nor time has been provided to build templates, have clarity on expectations, and to become familiar with this system.

Questions remain about how to complete the accommodations tracking while taking attendance, providing high quality instruction, tracking behavioral interventions, assisting students, running small groups, completing logs, and the myriad of other tasks teachers do during a class period.

In this moment we have two choices; continue to stay in the place of frustration and anger, or channel that anger into action and go after what we need to be able to teach our students and have control over our work lives.

First, Ms. Copeland has agreed to meet with Stewards to discuss Ed Modified. We are working to set up this meeting within the next two weeks. We need you to share your specific concerns (be as precise as possible) with your stewards so that we can work to find solutions that meet your needs.

Next, if you feel that you have a solid understanding (level of fluency) with Ed Modified and you are willing to help your VUE brothers and sisters, please complete this short survey, <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5BC3232>.

We know that we must turn what we have into what we need to get what we want. What we have is each other. We have always faced challenges and obstacles. Challenges become opportunities when we unite and stand together to overcome them. This applies to our current situation. We will overcome the challenges of Ed Modified and we will be able to do this quicker by helping each other. Our strength and power comes from within. Now is the time to become involved in the work of our union and to show those who are watching that nothing will stop the members of VUE! Solidarity.



Supplements

If you are performing a supplemental duty (supervisory duty, sponsoring a club, Grade level/Department Chair, etc.) you should have already signed a Supplement Performance Order (SPO). According to the contract, supplements are paid for duties performed outside of the regular workday and beyond the expectations of the regular job role. The Supplement Performance Order is binding on both parties for the life of the Order and the SPO shall be completed and signed by the teacher prior to performing the supplemental duties.

If you are performing duties beyond your contractual day and outside of the scope of your job role, please make sure that you have signed your SPO.



VUE Website Refresh



Every now and then, we all could use a bit of pampering, and good makeover never hurt anyone. Well, the time has come to give our trusted VUE website a bit of TLC.

On Friday, September 20th, the VUE website (www.ourvue.net) will be refreshed. It will include new features and provide greater access to information for our members and potential members.

In order to complete the refresh, VUE members will need to reset their passwords. This will provide an opportunity for you to view the new and improved features.

Please provide feedback on the updated site to Dr. Lawrence at matt.lawrence@floridaea.org.



Annual Notification

As required by 447.305(11), an employee organization that has been certified as a bargaining agent must provide to its members an annual financial report prepared by an independent certified public accountant. On the Volusia United Educators website, members can access the financial statement that was included in our union's most recent registration renewal by clicking [here](#). If you have any questions, please contact the VUE office. We are happy to help.

Allocations & Adjustments

During the last two weeks, the VCS HR department and district leaders have been working to balance classes and determine if allocations or adjustments need to be made due to enrollment numbers from the 20 day count.

We have been advised that there will be some movement of instructional personnel, but in most cases, the movement will be contained within the current school. VUE and the HR department will ensure that the contract language that sets forth the terms of a displacement or reassignment is followed.

We have also learned that there will be additional instructional allocations provided to some schools along with allocations for additional support staff.

We do not currently have the list of schools or individuals who will be impacted by these decisions.

If you are contacted by your principal and told that you are being reassigned or displaced, please contact the VUE office at 386-238-1605. We are here to assist you with this process.



FEA RETIREES INNOVATION GRANT!

Do you have an innovative and creative idea to enhance student learning? Need a few dollars to make it a reality?

Applications are now available for the FEA Retired Innovation Grant.

Contact the VUE office today or click the following link, <https://www.vueretired.org/new-grants-2024-25.html>

All grant paperwork must be submitted by Sept. 25 at midnight.

COMING SOON!!

Florida Education Association-Retired
\$150 INNOVATIVE GRANTS

Are you an FEA member? Do you have an idea that would benefit your students? Is there a project you would like to do in your classroom that you otherwise cannot afford?

APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE AUGUST 1

See your Building Rep or contact your FEA-Retired District Director for a quick and simple application!



VUE Professional Learning

If you need ESE points for recertification, register today using MyPGS for the following courses. VUE courses are developed by members for members. Take advantage of these no cost, high quality workshops that are sure to help improve your practice. If you have questions, please contact Dr. Howard at lekita.howard@floridaea.org.



ESE Building Relationships with Students Professional Learning

Presented by Volusia United Educators
1381 Educators Rd. Daytona Beach, FL 32124
Facilitator: Paulette McKibbins-Shed & Jeffrey Turner



Course# 72229 Session# 110936 Format: Face 2 Face

Monday September 23, 2024 - 5:00pm – 8:00pm

Note: This course is designed to deepen the general education teachers' understanding of students with disabilities and their exceptional needs. It will broaden their knowledge and skills while exploring how to make accommodations as well as addressing the learning needs of ESE students. It will encourage positive interactions and supportive relationships among teachers, students, parents, and other adults who support student learning.

In-Service Points: 4



ESE Classroom Strategies Professional Learning

Presented by Volusia United Educators
Facilitator: Paulette McKibbins-Shed & Jeffrey Turner



Course# 72059 Session# 111058 Format: Face2Face

Monday September 30th, 2024 5:00pm – 8:00pm

The participants in this course will learn the requirements of establishing a quality learning environment essential for all students more especially ESE. Components include classroom structure, consistent procedures and environmental accommodations to promote learning along with other ways the environment can be tailored for ESE students.

4 Inservice Points

Student Loan Debt Relief LAST CALL

REGISTER NOW for the NEA webinar to help VUE members create a strategic plan to tackle student loan debt. Empower yourself with knowledge and take control of your financial future!

Scan the QR Code to register. The webinar will be held on Wednesday, September 18th beginning at 5:00 pm.



NEA Student Debt Navigator powered by Savi

Find Student Loan Debt Relief.

Find information about any forgiveness or cancellation programs you may qualify for, along with how much you can save.

Get Started



**September 18th
5:00 PM**

**SCAN OR
CLICK HERE
TO
REGISTER**



Don't Panic, Organize!

