



Solidarity Report

Special Election Newsletter Solely For Members of the Volusia United Educators

"The right to vote is precious, almost sacred. It is the most powerful non-violent tool we have in a democracy."
~ John Lewis

October 26th Message from Elizabeth

Please take a few minutes to stay updated on the latest issues and actions by listening to an important message from Elizabeth. We need you to stay informed and engaged in the work of your union, especially as we bargain for increases in pay and improvements in working conditions. Click [HERE](#) and scroll to the message listed as **10/26/26**. If you have questions or need support, please make sure to contact your steward or member representative. Have a wonderful week!

School Recognition Award & Process

If your school is an "A" school, has improved at least one letter grade, or has sustained the improvement for more than one year, you are likely eligible for the Florida School Recognition Award. This financial award must be used for one or any combination of the following:

- nonrecurring faculty and staff bonuses
- nonrecurring expenditures for educational equipment and materials
- temporary personnel to assist in maintaining or improving student performance

The district's guidance on the award and the process for determining the distribution of payments can be found [HERE](#). Please know that if an agreement cannot be reached between the school staff and the school advisory council by February 1, the award must be equally distributed to all classroom teachers currently teaching at the school. We recommend that you work with administration to move through this process quickly and equitably. If you have any questions, please contact our office at (386) 238-1605.

Important VSET Reminders

The year is quickly progressing and before you know it we will be releasing for winter break. If you are working toward a Distinguished rating on your DPP, the deadline to submit your first learning cycle is Friday, December 18. Also, we highly recommend that all members consider submitting a Mid-Year Self Assessment (support staff due 12/11 & instructional due 1/8). This will allow for conversation between you and your administrator or supervisor should your ratings not align with your evaluator's assessment of your performance. We have posted the Evaluation documents and important dates you need to know on the VUE website. You can access them [HERE](#).

ESE Workgroup Committee All Call

Are you an ESE teacher or service provider who believes that things could be better or more efficient? Are you willing to step up and share your expertise on the ESE Workgroup Committee? We are looking for four (4) members to serve in this capacity. The Committee meets once a month via Teams to review MTSS, IEP, 504 processes and teacher workload. If you are interested in representing your colleagues and helping to create positive change, please click [HERE](#). Interested members need to apply before Thursday, October 29 at 4:30 pm.

One Week Left- Make Your Plan to VOTE!

In just a one week, we have the power to change the face of the Volusia County School board. We are excited to welcome Dr. Grace Kellermeier in District 3, and we have an opportunity to elect another employee-centered board member in District 1, our endorsed candidate, Brenda Beery.

If you are eligible to vote in District 1 (Deland, Debary, Pierson), the time is now to make your voice heard and to vote for change. Early voting will end on Saturday, October 31st. The polls will reopen on Tuesday, November 3rd at 7:00 am and remain open until 7:00 pm. Make sure to vote, it is our most powerful way to advocate for a better life. To locate your precinct, click [HERE](#).

VUE has endorsed Brenda Beery in this race because she has teachers and staff at the top of her priority list. To learn more about Brenda, please click [HERE](#).

