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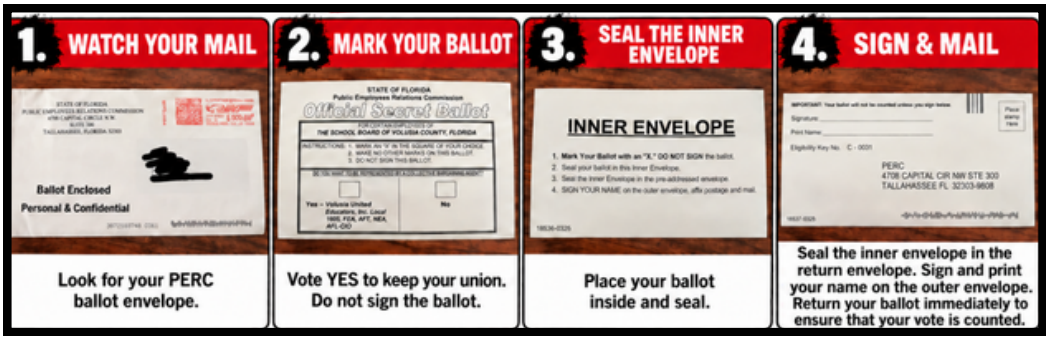
Solidarity Report

"You may not control all of the events that happen to you, but you can decide not to be reduced by them."
~ Maya Angelou

Support Staff PERC Election - Begins Wednesday!

The election to determine if VUE will continue to represent office specialists and paraprofessionals working in VCS will begins **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH**! Ballots will be mailed to the home address on file with the HR department to paras and OS working in the district as of August 31st. Ballots should begin arriving in mailboxes on /about Saturday Nov. 7th. Please be on the lookout for this envelope. It is a plain white envelope and it can be easily confused for junk mail, we have included a picture below to help you identify it when it arrives. In order for your vote to be counted, your ballot must be received in Tallahassee no later than the morning of December 2nd, however, there is no time to waste. Pictures of the election documents are below. Remember: **VOTE YES** and return your ballot right away. It is just that easy. Keep your contract, keep your rights, keep your voice, and KEEP OUR UNION!



VUE Petition: Sign Today!

It is time to turn our frustration into action. We, the employees who support students and make this district run, are tired of working harder for less. It is time to put our collective power into action. We are asking that EVERY employee working for VCS sign our petition today. The petition clearly states:

WE CALL ON THE MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL BOARD TO DIRECT
THEIR BARGAINING TEAM TO BRING FUNDING AND PROPOSALS
TO THE BARGAINING TABLE THAT MEET THE NEEDS OF THE EMPLOYEES.
IT IS TIME TO STOP DRAGGING YOUR FEET, AND REACH A FAIR AGREEMENT.

If you have not yet signed the petition, please contact your steward or VUE member representative. We are working to gather thousands of signatures across the district. We've waited long enough. Let's settle our contracts and put more money in the pockets of the employees. Please call the VUE office if you need more information on how to access the petition, (386) 238-1605.

Our Union- Reaching Our Goals

For the last 3 years, our union has been fighting to reach the membership requirements created when SB 256 took effect. Since that time we have recruited well over 1,800 new members, won the election to unionize the Trades & Service Professionals within VUE, and continued to represent our members with excellence. However, due to circumstances, the continued attacks on public education, and the problematic working conditions within VCS, our membership density has stayed flat. For example, stewards and members recruited more than 700 new members last year, but our density for instructional remains at 53% and support remains at 32%.

We are so close to reaching our goal for instructional and we can reach 50% for support this year, if we make this our focus. When you do the math, that's 20 new instructional members and 11 new support members per week to reach the goal by April. There are about 2,000 potential members working in our schools and classrooms. If each of us decided to talk to one person about joining, our membership would exponentially increase.

Now is the time to do this work. The contract election for instructional will begin mid-November. Let's make this the final year that we have to do this. Talk with a colleague today and share why you belong to your union. Don't wait until it's too late. For more information on membership, click HERE.