

March 12, 2020

LICENSE RENEWAL CLASSES AVAILABLE!

All classes are open to the public. Seating is limited. Enroll today!

peiowa.org/courses/

ETHICAL EDUCATORS JUNE 11-12

Terry Gladfelter
Bryan Stearns

With the increase in litigation and risk, it is important for educators to know the legal and ethical boundaries while working with students.

FINANCIAL PLANNING FOR EDUCATORS JUNE 15-16

Mike Johnson

As a former educator at Southeast Polk, Mike understands financial planning through the lens of a teacher and now as a financial planner. His expertise will provide financial knowledge that is practical for those who are entering education to those thinking about retirement.

DYSLEXIA: DIFFERENT BY DESIGN JUNE 18-19

Elizabeth Hoksbergen

This interactive course will examine the unique neurobiological profile and cognitive characteristics of dyslexia.

A VIEW FROM THE HILL



The first cabinet meeting in US history met at George Washington's home on February 25, 1793. On February 25, 1847 the University of Iowa was established. The Beatles began recording their Abbey road album on February 25, 1969.

February 25, 2020 is also significant to Iowa educators because the Iowa Senate passed [SF2360](#), the bill to improve classroom discipline in Iowa. From the floor of the Senate, the bill's primary author, Senator Amy Sinclair said, "This bill is truly about creating a safe learning space for all students and all teachers."

The highlights of the bill include a mechanism for teachers who are experiencing threats or violence. This bill strengthens reporting requirements on administrators related to school violence, by requiring violence reports be made to the Department of Education on an annual basis.

This version of the proposed law provides for a system for teachers to report to the BOEE if actions are not taken to assure a safe classroom environment for students and teachers. An important consideration is that teachers reporting violence would receive whistleblower protections.

More than 63% of teachers who responded to our 2020 Legislative Survey have witnessed room clears in their school within the last year. In many cases the room clear procedure is written into the student's Individual Education Plan. This bill prohibits room clears written into a student's IEP. A teacher continues to have the right to clear the room for the safety of students or teachers. If a room must be cleared, though, the parents of the student involved must be notified and meet with the teacher and administrator. If a student's behavior is extreme enough to cause a classroom clear, that student's IEP must be reevaluated.

Teachers have long avoided placing their hands on a student for any reason for fear of a lawsuit. SF2360, while upholding the prohibition against corporal punishment, acknowledges that in the case of a violent student, sometimes that student needs to be physically restrained and removed. Under the provisions of this legislation, teachers will be held immune from criminal or civil suits brought from the contact and they will be protected for disciplinary action from their district.

The bill sets up therapeutic classrooms with services for highest needs students. \$1.6 million is being allotted to provide these classrooms as well the transportation to and from the students' home classrooms.

The bill has since passed out of the Appropriations Committee and is in the House.

February 25, 2020 also witnessed the signing of [SF2164](#) by Governor Kim Reynolds. The bill provides funding for transportation costs to schools with higher than average busing costs. Today, the average per pupil transportation cost is approaching \$350. Over 200 schools exceed those costs. Central Decatur in southern Iowa has the highest costs in the state at \$1,096 per pupil. Previously, schools had to make up the deficit from their own general fund. Now, Central Decatur will be receiving \$748 per student to make up the difference. Last year Iowa's school buses traveled 41.5 million miles for regular school routes and 15 million more for school trips.

PEI Member Hesh Alsafi Nominated for Lifechanger of the Year Award!

Hesh Alsafi was recently nominated for the 2019-2020 Lifechanger of the Year Award. Hesh was described as selfless and an educator who truly worries and cares about his students. He works at McKinley MS in the Cedar Rapids district, but also has created after school programs and summer programs to help students improve their grades. He coaches football, soccer, and basketball and makes it his personal mission to see that kids have the resources they need to be successful.

CONGRATULATIONS MR. ALSAFI!



CAREER SAVERS

JUNE 25-26

Nathan Arnold, Terry Gladfelter, Bryan Stearns

Topics covered will be classroom management, Code of Professional Ethics, teacher evaluations, legal issues, master contracts, teacher handbooks, school board policy, effective communication skills, and documentation.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

RIGHT UNDER YOUR NOSE!

JUNE 29-30

Can you recognize symbols, clothing, concealment? Do you understand the physical affects of the substances? These questions and many more will be answered as members from the Governor's Office on Drug Control Policy, Iowa Department of Public Health, Iowa Poison Control Center, Iowa Narcotics Officer's Association, Department of Criminal Investigation, and the Des Moines Police Department present current trends in substance abuse among our students.

Scholarships Due April 1, 2020

We again are offering a host of scholarships for high school seniors, college students, and educators.

Educators can receive HALF-PRICE scholarships for the license renewal classes held at PEI.

We have added a couple of NEW scholarships this year! In partnership with AO Wealth, PEI is offering a STEM-based Aviation Education program to schools with interested students.

Student members of PEI can apply for a \$250 classroom supply award for their first year of teaching!

Details of our 2020 scholarships can be accessed by clicking [here](#).

Membership Dues Adjustment Beginning August 1, 2020

One of the responsibilities of the PEI Board of Directors is to annually evaluate our dues structure. PEI has maintained the **current dues structure for six years!**

After much discussion the board voted to raise dues \$4.00/month bringing the annual amount to \$288.

This dues adjustment will take place on **August 1, 2020**. Prior to the August 1 date we will offer a **BUY-IN** opportunity to extend the current rate (\$240/yr) from 1-5 additional years without changing your anniversary date. You can renew your membership anytime prior to August 1, 2020 calling our office at 515-221-2330 or online at <https://peiowa.org/membership/register/>.

The PEI Rewards Plan will continue! The past several years we have offered \$120 for every new Professional member recruited by a current PEI member. As of August 1, 2020, we will offer \$144 for every new Professional member brought into PEI.

If you have a credit on your account now, rejoin prior to August 1 to take full advantage of your PEI credit!

More than ever before, it is imperative that teachers and all other school employees understand how important it is to have professional representation and legal protection. Your continued membership and sharing the great news of PEI to others will continue to strengthen our statewide position of influence.

2020-2021 Dues Structure

8-1-2020

Educators, Coaches, Administrators, Nurses

1 Year Membership*	\$288 or \$24/month
2 Year Membership (save \$52)	\$524
3 Year Membership (save \$95)	\$769
4 Year Membership (save \$150)	\$1002
5 Year Membership (save \$202)	\$1238

Paraprofessionals, Drivers, Office Staff, Food Service, Maintenance

1 Year Membership	\$120
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College Students - Student Teaching

1 Year Membership	\$20
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Retired Membership Previous Members Only

1 Year Membership	\$10
Lifetime Retired Membership	\$100

* Available for Automatic Direct Payment



and



Security Monitoring and Identity Restoration

Discounts for PEI members and their family members!

Visit the member area of the PEI website for details!

Quick Links...

PEI

peiowa.org

info@peiowa.org

515-221-2330

BOEE

boee.iowa.gov

DOE

educateiowa.gov

PERB

iowaperb.iowa.gov



Employment Protection and Representation

Members are assured of critical assistance with professional rights, duties and responsibilities such as:

- Dismissal
- Leave of absence
- Assignment
- Resignation
- Awareness & Intensive assistance plans
- Letters of reprimand
- FMLA
- Unemployment
- Classroom Management
- Teacher evaluations

PEI offers legal assistance from the staff attorney on BOEE challenges.

Professional Educator Insurance Policy

\$2,000,000 liability limit per member per occurrence. \$3,000,000 aggregate limit per occurrence.
\$2,000,000 liability coverage for Civil Rights claims. **Defense costs are paid in addition to this.**

Up to \$40,000 in legal expenses for criminal charges if exonerated. Of this amount, up to \$1,000 is guaranteed regardless of outcome.

Up to \$10,000 in legal expenses for alleged sexual misconduct if exonerated. Of this amount, up to \$1,000 is guaranteed regardless of outcome.

Coverage applies to legal actions arising out of duties as an employee of an education entity.

PEI delivers UNMATCHED career protection for YOU!

Contact us at:
515-221-2330
info@peiowa.org
www.peiowa.org

