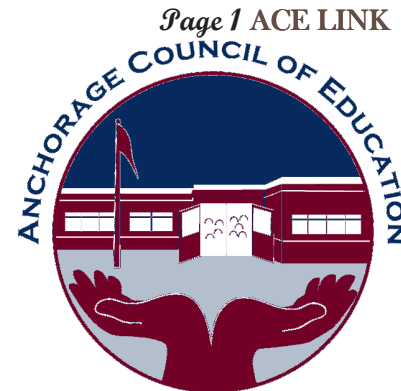


# The ACE Link

THE ANCHORAGE COUNCIL OF EDUCATION



LOCAL 4425 APEA/AFT AFL-CIO  
VOLUME 2  
November 2007

## Special Points of Interest...

## Notes from the President.

- **“Be informed with candidates running in your district and VOTE”**  
-Duane Moran
- **“...results of the election will directly affect ACE members and the entire ASD”**  
-Corinne McVee

With 2007 winding down, there are a number of important issues that you should be aware of for the coming year.

- With the 2008 Legislature starting up in January and it being an election year, it will be very important to make your voice heard with your elected legislator. Two very important issues will be maintaining adequate funding for education and the needed return to a Defined Benefits Plan for new employees entering public service. Within the State’s workforce, 45% of employees are eligible to retire within 5 years. Who will replace those workers when there is limited incentive for long term public service in Alaska?
- ACE will also be holding elections this coming spring for election of President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, and Negotiating Team. With our existing labor contract expiring June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009, being a member of the negotiating team is an opportunity to have a major voice to determine pay, benefits, and working conditions for the coming years. This is an opportunity for personal growth and to serve your fellow members. If you would like information on any of the positions coming up for election please contact the ACE Board.

## Inside Issues...

Notes From The President **1**  
By Duane Moran

Begich Middle School Ribbon Cutting Ceremony **2**  
By Merri Kae VanderPloeg

“Work That Matters” Review **2**  
By Julia Fawcett

Informing all ACE Members **3**  
By Corinne McVee

Congratulations **3**  
By Jen Madsen

- One of the major projects that the APEA (Alaska Public Employee Association) staff is currently working on is a membership data base that will provide access to public voting records. This will provide the critical information to the 24 union locals under APEA/AFT on what voting district our members live in. With this information we can more effectively promote labor friendly candidates and legislation.
- Finally one of the most important activities that you can do is to be sure that you are properly registered to vote in the area that you live, be informed about the candidates that are running in your district, and VOTE.

## AFT Benefits



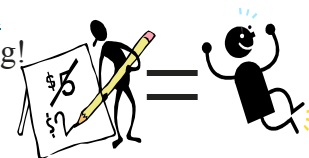
Are you getting started with your holiday shopping?  
Or are you doing some traveling over the holidays?



You might save yourself some money if you remember to access the discounts and special deals you receive as part of your union membership. Check out the latest at:

<http://www.aft.org/aftplus/discounts/index.htm>

This is a website that is definitely worth exploring!



## Begich Middle School Ribbon Cutting Ceremony



Begich Middle School opens for the 2007-2008 school year on August 10<sup>th</sup>; ACE Co-Vice President Curtis Young attended the ribbon cutting ceremony for the brand new Nick Begich Middle School. The direct descendants of Congressman Nick Begich were on hand to watch as the Anchorage School District took formal possession of the school from the contractor. This fall 1,100 students in grades 6-8 will enjoy this beautiful new school. Currently, four ACE members work at the middle school as Safety/Security Specialists. Go Snow Leopards!



Curtis Young, 1st Vice President of the Anchorage Council of Education, Local 4425, with Anchorage School District Superintendent Carol Comeau, and Mayor Mark Begich at the ribbon cutting and dedication of the new Nick Begich Middle School, home of the Snow Leopards.

## “Work That Matters” Review

I first of all want to thank all of the membership for giving me the opportunity to represent our membership at the 2007 Joint Conference in Las Vegas Nevada, June 14-17. 2007.

I must say I had a wonderful time in spite of high temperature days which I am not use too. Someone commented that it was “dry heat.” Well, as if that made a difference to us from Alaska.

The conference was informative in that I learned about ongoing issues which face us all as Public Employees. The most informative seminars that I went to were namely: International, U.S. Politicians Place Big Bets on Privatization, Negotiating Pension & Retiree Health Benefits and How to Avoid Workplace Situations That May Escalate to a Violent Confrontation for the Employee.

The seminar on Privatization was interesting in that it provided me with insight on how easily our employers can privatize our jobs and expect that they are further ahead by doing so from an economic front. The speaker was from British Columbia and she and her groups have been very successful in blocking privatization and outsourcing services in many departments; the results thereof in privatizing is Low Budget/Low Technical Services and High Impact on jobs. A website that she referenced was: [www.stopprivatization.com](http://www.stopprivatization.com) which also mentions the work that New York has done on this topic.

The seminar on Negotiating Pensions & Health Care Benefits was also interesting. I especially liked the fact that Health Professionals and Allied Employees have set up a program like a 401K/403B plan which allows you to contribute money on a pre-tax basis into an individual account that you can use for medical benefits when you retire. This is something that we may want to look at for the next round of negotiations for ACE. The website is very self explanatory: [www.hpa.org/retireehealth](http://www.hpa.org/retireehealth) Mike Slott is one of the Trustees and I have his email if anyone is interested in more information.

The seminar on How to Avoid Workplace Situations That May Escalate to a Violent Confrontation for the Employee was informative and full of statistics. Every year 1.7 million Americans are assaulted at work, 6 million are threatened and 16 million workers are harassed. In 2006 \$30 million was paid out in Workers Compensation Costs in New York. I asked about Alaska and the presenter didn't have any stats available. The presenter stressed the importance of documentation and behavior that can contribute in advance to workplace violence.

If anyone has any questions or would require additional information on the seminars and activities of the conference please don't hesitate to email me at [Fawcett\\_Julia@asdk12.org](mailto:Fawcett_Julia@asdk12.org) or call me at 348-5196.

Again, thanks to all of you for your support in allowing me to attend this conference.

Julia Fawcett  
Food Microbiologist, ASD/SN  
(907)348-5196, office  
(907)748-4674, cell



# ACE has a new logo!!!

Show your support for ACE. Celebrate our new logo by adding a fleece vest or denim shirt with the new logo to your wardrobe.

<b>Fleece Vest - Royal Blue</b>										
<b>Adult Sizes:</b>	X-Small	Small	Medium	Large	X-Large	2X	3X	4X		
<b>Cost:</b>	37.75	37.75	37.75	37.75	37.75	39.75	41.75	43.75		
<b>Denim Shirt (Long Sleeve) - Faded Blue</b>										
<b>Adult Sizes:</b>	X-Small	Small	Medium	Large	X-Large	2X	3X	4X	5X	6X
<b>Cost:</b>	27.75	27.75	27.75	27.75	27.75	29.75	31.75	33.75	35.75	39.75
<b>Ladies Sizes:</b>	X-Small	Small	Medium	Large	X-Large	2X	Plus 1X	Plus 2X		
<b>Cost:</b>	27.75	27.75	27.75	27.75	27.75	29.75	31.75	33.75		

To determine size – please see the information below:

<b>Adult Shirts</b>	<b>XS</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>XL</b>	<b>2X</b>	<b>3X</b>	<b>4X</b>	<b>5X</b>	<b>6X</b>
<b>Chest Measurement</b>	30-32	34-36	38-40	42-44	46-48	50-52	54-55	57-58	60-61	63-64
<b>Neck Size</b>	13 1/2-14	14-14 1/2	15-15 1/2	16-16 1/2	17-17 1/2	17 1/2-18	18-18 1/2	18 1/2-19	19-19 1/2	19 1/2-20
<b>Sleeve</b>	30 1/2-31 1/2	32-33	34-35	35-36	36 1/2-37 1/2	37 1/2-38 1/2	38 1/2-39 1/2	39 1/2-40 1/2	40 1/2-41 1/2	41 1/2-42 1/2
<b>Ladies Shirts</b>	<b>XS</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>XL</b>	<b>2X</b>	<b>Plus 1X</b>	<b>Plus 2X</b>		
<b>Size</b>	4	6/8	10/12	14/16	18/20	20	18-20W	22-24W		
<b>Bust Measurement</b>	32 1/2-34	34 1/2-35 1/2	36 1/2-38	39 1/2-41	43-45	48	47-51	52-56		

## ACE Clothing Order

Make your check payable to: ACE  
Mail completed form and payment to:

ACE Clothing Order  
3310 Arctic Blvd. Suite 200  
Anchorage, AK 99503

### Ordering Deadlines:

1<sup>st</sup> Clothing Order deadline - November 30, 2007

There is a minimum amount needed to place an order. Ongoing orders will be placed when we have reached the minimum.

Questions, please call Sharron Harris at 742-7626

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Location: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Clothing Item</b>	<b>Size</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Total</b>
		<b>TOTAL COST</b>		



## Informing all ACE Members

The presidential race is currently grabbing the headlines, but we should all keep local elections in mind as well. For example, the makeup of the Municipal Assembly could change dramatically in the spring 2008 elections. Of course, the assembly passes the school district budget each year, so the results of the election will directly affect ACE members and the entire ASD. It is not too early to be informed and get involved. Is an assembly seat going to be open in your district? I encourage you to set aside some time in your spring schedule to support the candidate of your choice.

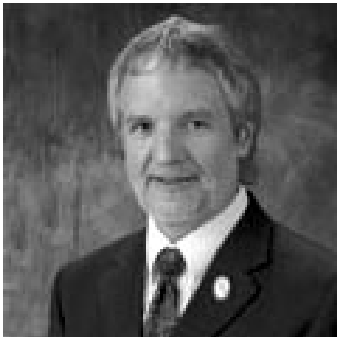
*"...assembly passes the school district budget each year, so the results of the election will directly affect ACE members and the entire ASD."*



As 2nd Vice President it is part of my job to keep up with the political scene as it affects our membership. One of my activities is to represent ACE at monthly meetings of the Central Labor Council (CLC). CLC is made up of representatives from most local labor groups. A wide variety of union-related issues are addressed each month, with a strong focus on solidarity (we're "brothers and sisters"). Local and state politics are always on the front burner. Every year, candidates running for office are invited to respond to questionnaires and interview questions posed by CLC. This spring, I will be paying close attention to the Municipal Assembly race and will do my best to keep ACE members informed about the issues.

-Corinne McVee, 2nd VP

## Congratulations



Michael Kerosky, long time ACE Employee Representative and Negotiator has been appointed by Governor Palin to the Governor's Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse. Michael is also the supervisor of the ASD Safe and Drug-Free Schools Program. As a member of the Governor's Board he will work with other appointees to advise the governor, legislature and state agencies on alcohol or drug abuse related mental health issues; on the design of prevention and treatment programs and public education efforts. The Board also reviews grant applications to the Department of Health and Social Services, and works with the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority on programs for alcoholics with psychosis.

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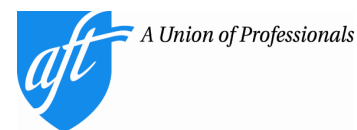
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Anchorage, AK 99503



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**Employee**

**Representatives**

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742-1910

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742-4161

**Susan Williams**  
349-4453

**Randy Laws (JROTC)**  
346-1657

**Matt Nolan**  
742-8128

**Joel Carter**  
742-6592

**Eddie Knapp**  
348-5227

**Duane Moran**  
742-3770

**Sarah Hotchkiss**  
742-4424

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winton\_delores@ask12.org

**Maxine Hill**  
269-2280