



# AEA TODAY

Serving Teachers in the Alpine School District

## Leadership Message

Change is Difficult

Over the last couple of months we have noticed some changes starting to happen within the district. We started by receiving a long list of those who have reached the opportunity to retire, followed by new administrators announced and changes in administration across the district. The one change that many of our more experienced/senior teachers have been anticipating actually happened this year with the announcement of Superintendent Henshaw's retirement, effective July 1, 2015.

We all live with change every year with a different set of students, parents, and some administrators. Along with that comes different issues such as behaviors, etc. We are somewhat experienced with change, and for the most part handle it very well. With change happening with our Superintendent position many are stressed and concerned of what the future holds in Alpine School District. Those teachers that have taught most of their career in Alpine can agree that it is great to be employed by Alpine School District.

As in all districts, we have our issues but overall it's the best district in the state. We can attribute that to our School board and Superintendent past and present administrators, teachers, and Alpine Education Association.

I would like to assure you that Alpine School District will still be a great place to work and teach. The board will hire a great Superintendent and as the Association builds our relationship with them, we will continue to represent you and believe that the future is bright for Alpine.

- Mike Gowans President

## Legislative Review

There were a lot of positives this year during the legislative session. Of the 120 education-related bills, only 58 passed. Many of the unfavorable bills did not pass. Some of the important bills that passed were:

- HB2 Budget ó growth funded and 4% WPU
- HCR7 ó Resolution to minimize excess testing
- SB97 (3S) ó Raise basic property tax rate, new money goes to education

For more information visit UEA's Legislative Summary at

[http://www.myuea.org/issues\\_action/uea\\_under\\_the\\_dome.aspx](http://www.myuea.org/issues_action/uea_under_the_dome.aspx)

## End the Year Strong

As the school year is nearing an end, here are a few websites with tips to help you finish the end of the year strong.

NEA Today - [How to End the School Year on an Upswing](http://neatoday.org/must-reads/how-to-end-the-school-year-on-an-upswing/)

<http://neatoday.org/must-reads/how-to-end-the-school-year-on-an-upswing/>

Vicki Davis - [How to Make It to the End of the School Year](http://www.coolcatteacher.com/how-to-make-it-to-the-end-of-the-school-year/)

<http://www.coolcatteacher.com/how-to-make-it-to-the-end-of-the-school-year/>

Edutopia - [Get a Start on Ending Your Year Right](http://www.edutopia.org/blog/get-start-end-your-school-year-right-elena-aguilar)

<http://www.edutopia.org/blog/get-start-end-your-school-year-right-elena-aguilar>

## 10 Minute Meeting

- AEA Elections
- 2015 Legislative Session
- UEA House of Delegates

## Upcoming Dates

### PRAXIS Training

Thursday April 16.  
Contact the Uniserv to sign up.

### AEA Retirement Dinner

May 15<sup>th</sup>  
Westlake High School

### House of Delegates

May 16<sup>th</sup>  
Elk Ridge Middle School

### Benefits Fair

July 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>  
PDC

### Insurance Open Enrollment

July 29<sup>th</sup> - August 13<sup>th</sup>

## Member Spotlight

Kelsey Hansen



I have been a teacher for the past 4 years. I have taught Special Ed and currently a 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade split at Forbes.

I have been a member since I became a teacher. I enjoy the many benefits that AEA has