



Inkwell

Eau Claire Association of Educators



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Celebrate Our Differences Ron "Duff" Martin, ECAE President

Go Old Abes! Husky Pride! From Locust Lane to Sam Davey, from Robbins to McKinley and Lakeshore and on to Northwoods and then Roosevelt—all over Eau Claire, we can be proud of our schools!

I have enjoyed visiting every single school and site in the district this past year. I have enjoyed meeting staff, getting a tour of the building, and learning about what makes your school so unique and special. The tax payers and education consumers of this community should be proud to know that we have so many exciting and wonderful things going on in our schools. We need to celebrate the differences we offer at our sites. What happens at Sherman Elementary is a little different than what happens at Longfellow Elementary or Meadowview Elementary, because the staff at each site is committed to providing the very best for the young people they work with. Who really knows their students and families better? So as our district moves to a model of "one" I hope our central administration does not lose sight of the diversity that each school offers and that being different is okay. South Middle School doesn't need to do the things that DeLong or Northstar does—each can be successful in it's own way.

By involving the staff, parents, and community members every one of our schools has the opportunity to truly address the needs and concerns of the young people and families they service. Yes, we are a school district of one, and we haven't forgotten that we are the Eau Claire Area Public Schools, but we must never forget our individual identity. An identity that allowed for neighbors to gather at a central location and celebrate being a family, a neighborhood family. After all, isn't that part of the public education system?

So, we celebrate the 100's of ECAE members who are making a big difference at their schools in the lives of the young people and families they service. We celebrate the variety of programs that are working in our schools—we know this by the data generated from the "Elementary and Secondary Education Act" test results and the satisfaction of the parents and young people serviced.

I am proud to serve as the president of the Eau Claire Association of Educators, because I have had the opportunity to see first hand how hard each of you work to make this community a better place to live and raise a family.

Educationally Yours,

Ron "Duff" Martin

Congratulations!

The following persons were elected to the WEAC-RA on April 23-25, 2010, in Green Bay: Gretchen Beckstrom, Brent Bergstrom, Sue Fulkerson, Chris Hambuch-Boyle, Phil Hurlburt, Angie Knutson, Janet Krause, Pamela Larson, Laura Lokken, Ron "Duff" Martin, Kathy Peterson, Emilee Planert, Mary Stoflet, Pat Telisak, Lynn Verdon, and Michelle Zimmerman. Two seats remain open from cancellations. If you are interested please let Duff know ASAP.

The following persons were elected to the NEA-RA on July 1-6, 2010, in New Orleans, LA: Chris Hambuch-Boyle and Kathy Peterson. Ron "Duff" Martin was elected on the statewide ballot for a term of two years!



Important Dates:

- 04/05 BOE Meeting
- 04/08 Exec. Board Meeting
- 04/14 Educator Support Seminar
- 04/19 BOE Meeting
- 04/21 BR Meeting
- 04/22 Earth Day
- 04/23-25 WEAC RA Green Bay



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Math Curse
By Jon Scieszka
Illustrated by
Lane Smith

Math has never been as funny as in this tale of a student “cursed” to see the world through mathematical eyes. Jon Scieszka, aided by the quirky imagery of Lane Smith, dishes out famous formulas and figures with a large helping of humor.

Viking Press
www.penguin.com



NEA’s Read Across America—Building a Nation of Readers

April Is Math Awareness Month

Carole Galloy

Tip of the Month: Looking for more math picture books? Try *Sir Circumference and the Dragon of Pi*, or *The Grapes of Math* and *Math for all Seasons*. Older readers can look for *The Number Devil*, *The Man Who Counted*, or Danica McKellar’s *Kiss My Math*.

Link of the Month: Drop Everything And Read, www.dropeverythingandread.com, celebrates the April 12 birthday of beloved author Beverly Cleary. The site offers reading tips, interviews, and activities for young readers.

Activity of the Month: Celebrate the second annual Lorax Project Student Earth Day (April 22) and do your part for the planet. You’ll find green tips and resources, plus lesson plans, toolkits, and links to Lorax Project Student Earth Day events around the country. Go to www.theloraxproject.com.

April Literacy Dates:

- April 2 International Children’s Book Day www.ibby.org
- April 12 National Drop Everything And Read Day www.dropeverythingandread.com
- April 30 El Dia de Los Ninos/El Dia de los Libros. [Www.ala.org.dia](http://www.ala.org.dia)
- April is also National Poetry Month www.poetryfoundation.org

Read Across America
www.nea.org/readacross

Read Across America at Eau Claire Schools

Photos and articles submitted by Pam Henning, Ann Salt and Amy Detrick

Pam Henning reported that Kurt Kotenberg, WEAU meteorologist, visited Chippewa Valley Montessori Charter School to help celebrate Dr. Seuss’s birthday and Read Across America. Pam said, “He read Dr. Seuss books and answered questions from the students about himself.”



Meadowview Media Specialist Ann Salt said, “We had a fantastic week for Read Across America.”

First and second graders received a free book from community organizations.

A torch run led into the Opening Ceremony for our Reading Olympics theme.



Amy Detrick sent in a Photo of Guy Costello, WEAC Vice President, and her class Mr. Costello read to us on Tuesday, March 2, for Read Across America. “He did a great job and we loved having him at Flynn!”



Duff Martin was one of several visiting readers at Meadowview.

The Cat In The Hat Comes to Locust Lane Elementary School!

This year WEAC held its Read Across America kick-off celebration at Locust Lane Elementary School in Eau Claire. Guest readers included ECASD Superintendent Ron Heilmann, WEAC President Mary Bell, WEAC Vice President Guy Costello, WEAC Secretary-Treasurer Betsy Kippers, UW-EC Assoc. Dean Dr. Dwight Watson, ECAE President Duff Martin and Early Childhood Program Support for ECASD Chris Hambuch-Boyle. In addition students were heard readings from Sheriff Ron Cramer, Festival Foods PR Asst. Nikki Huebner, City Council President Kerry Kincaid, CVCT V.P. Dr. Ellen Kirking, E.C. Human Resources Director Dale Peters, Special Asst. to UWEC Chancellor Mike Rindo and Deputy Police Chief Brad Venaas. Locust Lane students gathered in the gym for cake and a visit from their favorite guest, the Cat in the Hat himself, who towered over Thing One and Thing Two as they eyed the cake and smiled for photos.

Read Across America



Income Tax Information—ECAE Dues for 2009

Phil Hurlburt

Full Time Employees = \$648—Half Time Employees = \$329
 \$20 is estimated for PAC,
 so this amount cannot be claimed on income taxes.



If The Shoe Fits, Wear It

Do you attend the meetings
And mingle with the flock?

Or do you stay at home
To criticize and knock?

Do you take an active part
To help the work along?

Or are you satisfied
To only just belong?

When the business session comes around,
Do you pretend to be sick?

Then leave the work to just a few
And talk about the clique?

Think this over, member,
You know right from wrong.

Are you an active member,
Or do you just belong?



City Council Elections—TUESDAY, April 6

Duff Martin

U We support our Eau Claire area union brothers and sisters in their endorsement of city council candidates: **Larry Balow, Allen Myren, Mark Olson, and Dana Wachs**. The organized labor council has endorsed each of the four candidates and has asked for the teachers support in helping elect pro-union candidates. ECAE has not participated in city council or county board seats in many years. **We have not endorsed any of the candidates**, President of ECAE, Ron Martin believes it is up to each individual member, "I believe in the democratic system, one person-one vote, that's a right we have in America and I hope each citizen takes advantage of that right." So on Tuesday, April 6th keep your union brothers and sisters in mind as you cast your vote for city council.



Wisconsin NAEP Reading Scores Released March 24 WEAC Public Relations

U he National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP) 2009 reading scores were released on March 24—and we wanted to make you aware of this and share WEAC's perspective.

In sum, Wisconsin fourth-graders had an average scale score of 220, the same as the national scale score. At the eighth-grade level, the average scale score of 266 was statistically higher than the national score of 262. Achievement gaps continue to be an area that must be addressed. WEAC President Mary Bell released the following statement in response to this news: *"Wisconsin's educators are dedicated to helping every student succeed, and while the results of the NAEP scores show Wisconsin is holding steady, statistically, we know there is much work to do in order to narrow the achievement gaps, especially between students who live in poverty and those who do not."*

"The growing number of students who live in poverty, coupled with severe cuts in education funding in Wisconsin have an impact in the classroom. Our union of educators has been a constant voice to the fact that a comprehensive solution is needed in Wisconsin, including adequate funding targeted to where it's needed most and shared responsibility between parents, educators, legislators and the general public in supporting our schools. We will continue to advocate for solutions to improve student achievement, including high standards, small class sizes, high-quality professional development and balanced assessments that truly measure what students know and help teachers meet the needs of those students".

"Schools mirror our communities. It's going to take a long-term, collaborative approach—including a better way to fund our schools. We stand ready to partner in that effort."

Support the NEA Fund for Children and Public Education Kathy Peterson

U It is very important that we work to elect federal office holders who believe that every school should be a great public school and are willing to support legislation to make it happen. The way we support candidates like this is through the [NEA Fund for Children and Public Education](#), our Political Action Committee or PAC.

The fund is made up of voluntary contributions from current and retired NEA members, their families and NEA/state affiliate staff members. By law, only voluntary contributions (never dues dollars) can be given to federal candidates. And contributions made to state and local PACs cannot be put into the federal fund because they can only be used to support and advocate for candidates running for state and local office.

Every dollar contributed goes directly to electing pro-public education candidates. The contributions do not pay any administrative or fundraising costs. The funds go to help both Democrats and Republicans who are truly strong supporters of education.

In the next month or two, I may be asking you to support the NEA Fund for Children and Public Education. Please consider a contribution of \$36—\$3 a month in the course of a year—or however much you feel you can afford. It will be a very important investment in the future of public education in Wisconsin and throughout the country.

- ◆ This is an 11.29 communication with WEAC members, Federal Statute CFR 100.8 (b)(4)

ECAE Elections

<u>Position</u>	<u>Current Office Holder</u>
ECAE President	Ron Duff Martin
Treasurer	Phil Hurlburt
Middle School Representative	Sue Fulkerson

Please email ECAE if you are interested in running for these offices or if you would like more information:
Carol Miller (millerc@weac.org)

Election Timeline

- Thursday, April 15th**.....Nominations for ECAE officer positions due to Carol Miller
- Wednesday, April 21st**Ballot for Spring 2010 Election set at BR meeting
- Monday, May 3rd**Ballots go to members for voting (paper ballot)
- Monday, May 17th**Election results announced

ECAE Legislative Banquet

Carole Galloy

This year's Legislative Banquet was held on March 8th at the Best Western Trail Lodge in Eau Claire. Special guests included, Senator Pat Kreitlow, Senator Kathleen Vinehout, Representative Jeff Smith, one of Arne Duncan's assistants Julie Ewert from Chicago, and WEAC Secretary-Treasurer Betsy Kippers. Our guests also included Superintendent Heilmann and several ECASD school board members—Carol Craig, Ken Faanes, Adam Shiel, and Wendy Sue Johnson. Over forty ECAE members enjoyed dinner seated with our guests and were able to chat during the meal. After dinner our legislators formed a panel and took questions from the floor. We also heard from Ms. Ewert who answered questions and promised to relate our stories to Arne Duncan. A huge thanks goes to Chris Hambuch-Boyle and the Legislative Committee, along with Bonnie McCombs and Carol Miller from the ECAE office, for all the planning and work that made the banquet such a delightful success. Next year be sure to attend this annual event.



NOTICE:

Please send your home emails to Carol Miller at: millerc@weac.org

Cleaning closets or garages?
Looking for a bargain?

BARGAIN BLITZ

List your items in the
Inkwell Bargain Blitz!

Deadline for submitting materials is the 20th of each month. Sorry, no personal ads.
Send items to Carole Galloy at: cgalloy@ecasd.k12.wi.us

SELL: Country Home nestled on a beautiful one acre wooded lot. Three-four bedrooms, 2 full baths, cherry cabinet in kitchen, newer floors, custom F.P. with cherry surround in living room finished lower level, many updates, 20' x 14' deck overlooking beautiful spacious backyard/woods with abundant wildlife, unique storage bldg./play house, quiet non-thru street, close to 2 elem. Schools, 3 min. from the North Crossing. Great location! 2010 appraisal—\$202,000. Priced for a quick sale. Asking \$184,900. Remember, "New Home Buyer's Tax Credit" expires April 30, 2010. Contact Barbara Teslaw at 835-0795.



SELL: Set in a wonderful south side neighborhood, this 2 story 2,904 sq. ft. home sports 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, formal living room with vaulted ceiling, large formal dining room, main floor family room warmed by a cozy brick FP, spacious kitchen with center island, first floor laundry area, plus updates throughout including new carpet and hardwood flooring. Contact Mike Burke at 715-579-0109.



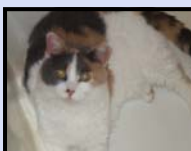
SELL: Country home, E5295 Butternut Road. So close to EC yet so private! Easy access to Hwy 53 & 93. 3+ Bedrooms, 3 full baths, first floor laundry, lots of storage, master suite w/ walk-in and balcony, log family room, fireplace, walk out, open concept, geothermal, skylights, attached 3 car & detached 2 car. Apple trees, wild plums & berries. Breathtaking views for miles! See more at zillow.com 14.7 private rolling acres, 5.5 mi. S. of Eau Claire, 3243 total s. f., \$324K. Call owner at 715-878-9111.



SELL: 2852 Third St. 4 BD/1BA Sears Craftsman Bungalow home with oak woodwork, hardwood floors, and built-ins. Other features include ceramic tile in kitchen, renovated bathroom with claw foot tub, large deck, and screened front porch. Large lot with playhouse, swing set, tether ball, and tire swing. A beautiful home in excellent condition! \$134,900. Call Linda at 271-1464 for a showing.



FREE: Beautiful adult, female, tortoise-shell cat to give away to a good home—we are relocating and are unable to bring her along. Annabelle is very healthy and smart, and would flourish in a quiet home without small children. Please call Linda at 271-1464.



Calling All Photographers!

Take photos of teachers

In classrooms for the Inkwell and our website

Send to: cgalloy@ecasd.k12.wi.us

ECAE Fundraiser For Student Scholarships

ECAE is raising scholarship money through the publication of our own cookbook.

Recipe Categories include: Appetizers & Beverages, Soups & Salads, Vegetables & Side Dishes, Main Dishes, Breads & Rolls, Desserts, Cookies & Candy, This & That.

Please type your recipe in a Word Document and send it as an attachment to Carole Galloy cgalloy@ecasd.k12.wi.us. Please include your name, your school, title of the recipe, the ingredients, and directions.

Or you can access a recipe form on our website www.ecteachers.org Print it, fill it out, and send to Carole Galloy at South M.S. through district mail.

Schools with the most percentage of recipes submitted will receive a treat for your staff!

