Nearly 150 Brave Nor’easter #3 to Attend NJFEA Conference!

Thank you to everyone who braved nor’easter #3 to attend the NJFEA Conference at Monmouth University on Tuesday, March 13th! Nearly 150 students, advisors, and guests participated in the conference — a testament to the dedication and commitment of our aspiring future teachers! All of our scheduled presenters were on hand despite the weather.

We extend a very special thank you also to Mr. Steven Beatty, NJEA Secretary/Treasurer, for his participation and welcome message to all who attended, and to Dr. John Henning, Dean of the School of Education, Monmouth University, for his commitment to the conference and his presence throughout the day!

We look forward to seeing many of you again in the warmer spring weather for the May 30th NJFEA Conference at Stockton University. For more information about the May conference, including the link for online registration, see the conference flyer.

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NJFEA Urban-Suburban Student Exchange Program

By Neha Aluwalia and Sreenidhi Viswanathan

On February 9th, NJFEA members of West Windsor-Plainsboro High School South ("South") were honored to host Memorial High School ("Memorial") students through the Urban-Suburban School Exchange program sponsored by the New Jersey Future Educators Association. Both student groups were extremely excited to gain exposure to different academic experiences and new perspectives on education.

South students began the program with a brief presentation on the history of their school, unique in its open classroom concept and diverse student body. To the surprise of their urban counterparts, majority of South’s classrooms are housed in an open space that are partitioned by moveable dividers. High School South was one of the first schools in New Jersey to implement an open classroom concept in their building layout. While many students struggle to adjust to the distractions and noise level this design brings, most can agree that it fosters a greater sense of community and collaboration across faculty and students. The suburban students were also sure to note their distinct district demographics, boasting a majority of immigrants and first-generation students from Asia. More than two-thirds (66.75%) of the student body at South are Asian, 22.5% are Caucasian, 5.2% African American, and 4.5% are Hispanic. The students from Memorial, majority of whom are Hispanic, were surprised to hear the demographics, but were able to clearly witness the power of South’s diversity when they were later lead on tours around the school.

Memorial and South students enjoyed participating in icebreaker activities and eating lunch together. They were then divided into tour groups and given full access to the school building. Favorites of the Memorial students included the school’s indoor pool, new theater and music department, and having the opportunity to speak with teachers inside their open classrooms. Many South faculty specifically requested that Memorial students were brought to their classrooms and made concentrated efforts to welcome these students to both their individual classrooms and South’s Pirate community.

During these tours, South students hoped to show Memorial what made South so special to them—the Pirate community. The student-faculty relationships and faculty-to-faculty relationships forge special bonds that make the Pirate community so unique. The ease of learning in this school comes from the support and expertise that South teachers provide in the classroom. They are constantly challenging Pirate students and leading them to success.

All future educators were finally brought together and were presented an education panel by South faculty. Representatives from the school’s administration, educators, and guidance departments detailed their career paths and explained their motivations for entering the education field. Students especially enjoyed hearing the various routes and career changes made by South staff. Assistant Principal Paul Hamnett described his education experience, stating “My route to South wasn’t completely standard, but I discovered my passion and love for

Continued on page 3.
NJFEA Urban-Suburban Student Exchange Program

Continued from page 2.

education through coaching. You never know where you’re going so keep your options open and know that the field of education can be very rewarding.” This panel made education appear more flexible and approachable to those not fully committed or aware of their interests in a school community; participants felt more at ease knowing that they had options and different areas to explore through higher education.

Students expressed an appreciation for the Urban-Suburban School Exchange by allowing them to expand their horizons beyond the “bubble” of their school districts. Whether learning about Memorial’s strong ESL program for new Spanish-speaking students or South’s unique architectural design, students were able to gain a new perspective. “It was indescribable, an eye-opening experience” reflects South student Visal Anandakumar.

While South and Memorial students bonded over this incredible opportunity, few other schools across the state and nation maintain a Urban Suburban School Exchange. South students felt this exchange with students of different socioeconomic, racial, and academic backgrounds to be extremely informative. This exchange helped students gain a newfound appreciation for their school and the many opportunities it has to offer.

Through this program, South students have not only gained exposure to different educational experiences, but they have also gained some new friends. Future Educators from both schools bonded over their passion for education and improving the lives of students. High School South students eagerly anticipated their trip to Memorial High School on March 16th, where they look forward to reuniting with their friends and experiencing an urban school environment.

*Neha Aluwalia and Sreenidhi (“Sreeni”) Viswanathan are students at West Windsor-Plainsboro High School South. Sreeni is the 2017-18 NJFEA Communications Officers.
Upcoming in 2018!

**Important Dates in 2018**

- **May 30, 2018** – NJFEA Conference, Stockton University
- **June 5, 2018** – NJFEA Middle School Conference, Kean University
- **June 18, 2018** – NJFEA Recognition Dinner, NJEA Headquarters, West State Street, Trenton, NJ
- **June 18, 2018** – Tomorrow’s Teachers Virtual Training *(for those trained on the 10th edition who want to upgrade to the 11th edition)*
- **June 27-28, 2018** – Tomorrow’s Teachers Training, Rider University
- **July 9, 2018** – Tomorrow’s Teachers Virtual Training *(for those trained on the 10th edition who want to upgrade to the 11th edition)*
- **Summer 2018 TBD** – Leadership Training for 2018-19 NJFEA State Officers

*Remember to register and apply early for Center for Future Educators/New Jersey Future Educators Association events and programs. Spaces are limited and fill quickly! We look forward to seeing you!*

**Calendar Highlights: Summer Teacher Academy Experience Opportunities**

- **June 1, 2018** – Orientation for the Urban Teacher Academy, The College of New Jersey
- **June 25-July 6, 2018** – Urban Teacher Academy, Stockton University
  - [Brochure and Application Instructions](#)
- **July 9-20, 2018** – Urban Teacher Academy, The College of New Jersey
  - [UTA Brochure and Application](#)
- **July 16-27, 2018** – STEM Teacher Academy, Rider University
  - [Brochure and Application](#)
NJFEA Showcase

Shawnee High School, Lenape Regional High School District, Medford NJ

Future Teacher Showcase: Danielle Berson is a senior at Shawnee High School who will be attending The College of New Jersey beginning in the fall 2018. Danielle is the president of the Shawnee High School NJFEA Chapter. She is also active in the Executive Council, the National Honor Society, Renaissance, and Students Actively Concerned. Danielle works at LifeTime Fitness in the “Kids Academy.” Danielle aspires to become a 4th grade teacher.

NJFEA Chapter Showcase: Shawnee High School’s NJFEA Chapter worked with the Media Center, Consumer Science Class, and FCCLA to host 60 area preschool students on March 6th for Read Across America. Reading books, game playing, and crafts were part of the event. The chapter also conducted a program with the high school’s multiply disabled after-school group. Further Shawnee High School’s NJFEA Chapter planned and implemented a spring event for the local moms’ group, which involved coloring, crafts, snacks, story time, games, songs, and a spring hunt.

Shadow Day 2018, Academy for Education and Learning, MCST

The Academy for Education and Learning at Morris County School of Technology in Denville hosted its first Shadow Day on February 2, Groundhog Day. This event consisted of 30 participants, 15 students and 15 teachers, who paired up to co-teach for a day. The students and teachers began the day bright and early with breakfast together in the teachers' room and then joined together again during lunch. Prior to Shadow Day, the future educators co-planned with their cooperating teachers in order to successfully plan out each class that they would teach on Shadow Day. All participants raved about the great experiences they had working together!

Teen Teachers Tournament

The first Teen Teachers Tournament held on February 9th provided an opportunity for juniors from Morris County School of Technology's Academy for Education and Learning to collaborate with their host Union County Vocational High School's Teacher Education Academy. Students integrated to create mixed teams of three and competed in three Educators Rising contests; Impromptu Lesson Planning, Public Speaking, and Creative Lecture. Eighteen teachers from Union County Vocational Technical School district volunteered their lunch time to help judge the competitions. The day ended with first place winners, lots of new networking opportunities for these future teachers, and renewed passion for our profession.
What it Means to be a Part of the NJFEA!

By Heather Sutton and Charlotte Whritenour

“Being a part of the New Jersey Future Educators Association allows aspiring teachers such as ourselves to experience different academic settings and teaching styles that will further our knowledge of the educational approaches of various school atmospheres.”

~Heather Sutton, Hopatcong High School NJFEA President

Perhaps the greatest advantage of being a part of the New Jersey Future Educators Association is the exciting opportunities offered outside of the daily high school setting. In addition to the functioning classes and activities at the district level, these include myriad conferences with other state chapters at a variety of universities. Another opportunity that sparked the interest of us, the Hopatcong High School Future Educators Association, was the opportunity to take part in an urban/suburban school exchange program.

As the HHS FEA we had the opportunity to spend a day at The Passaic County Technical Institute as part of the urban/suburban exchange on February 13, 2018. The event was sponsored and supported by the NJFEA and Mr. Larry Fieber, State Director of the Association. We were given the chance to see what an average school day is like in an environment vastly different from our own. Those differing factors included not only location but school population and academic pathways as well. Observing and in turn, understanding the ins and outs of other school systems, helps students further themselves in the classroom and beyond. As touring students we were able to observe the different school settings while the gracious students of PCTI orchestrated the tour and exhibited tremendous pride in showcasing their school and Future Educators program.

Small student groups of Hopatcong students and Passaic County Tech students set out on an expedition of the school together, giving the PCTI students an opportunity to highlight their school, favorite classes and the FEA. After the school tour, we got an exclusive, in depth experience of the child development program, which is coupled with their school’s NJFEA program. As part of this, the students were also able to observe a lesson that a PCTI student planned and taught to nearby preschool students. Finally, a social luncheon was provided in the fully functioning student run restaurant within the Culinary school. The event was truly an amazing experience. The Hopatcong students enjoyed their time with the PCTI students and are looking forward to having them at Hopatcong High School to complete the exchange.

Heather Sutton, President
Charlotte Whritenour, Secretary
Hopatcong High School Future Educators Association
Tomorrow’s Teachers Class Showcase

Matawan Regional High School Tomorrow’s Teachers Course

Tomorrow's Teachers is a new full-year course offered at Matawan Regional High School in Aberdeen, NJ. Tomorrow's Teachers educates junior and senior students who have an interest in becoming future educators.

Thus far, the class, and instructor, Mrs. Tara Lisciandro, have explored a variety of teaching methodologies and learning modalities. Most recently, the future educators were introduced to "Random Acts of Kindness" (RAK) in schools. Collectively, the class agreed to take part in a project to spread schoolwide. The students worked feverishly to each write out 150 Post-It notes. Every Post-It note contained words of kindness and famous inspirational quotes. After three days of writing and researching, the students walked the building, placing the notes on every locker throughout the school. Within one hour more than 1100 lockers were "decorated" with a RAK Post-It note.

While the course teaches students about basic education and presentation concepts, it also demonstrates a necessity to understand school culture and the concept of community learning, diversity and communication.

Mrs. Tara Lisciandro is a teacher of Italian in the World Languages Department and the Tomorrow’s Teachers Instructor at the Matawan Regional High School in Aberdeen, NJ.
Guns in Schools

By Sreenidhi Viswanathan, 2017-2018 NJFEA Communications Officer

Guns are not the answer. Teachers cannot be expected to have the same level of expertise and ability to discriminate as law enforcers in situations where a gun comes into play. A person in law enforcement has far greater exposure and experience in situations with guns and even then they come under scrutiny for their lack of judgment. So how can we expect a teacher whose full-time job is to educate students to now have the same ability to discriminate or better than those of law enforcers, whose full time job is to know exactly how to act in situation where a gun may come into play.

The classroom is a sacred place and needs to be protected but that protection does not come from a gun. Teachers often pay out of their pockets to fund their classrooms and create the comfort in a classroom that students readily enjoy. Contaminating this space with a gun can be detrimental to a vital learning environment for a student. As a high school student, I would not feel comfortable knowing my teachers carry guns in school. A school is no place for a gun. Teachers teach, their job is not to protect the lives of their students. Is this a world we live in now? Where students fear for their lives coming to school? It is true that an educator is a child’s biggest advocate in their lives, however they are not a protector. They provide guidance, love, and care and this tender and pure relation can be tarnished by the presence of a gun. Guns are regarded with fear. They are a weapon for destruction. Is that what we are teaching students? That destruction is the only way? I know I may sound idealistic but, in the long-run, what message are we leaving with students if they believe that violence is the only way to safety?

Mental health and gun laws are the root causes to such tragedies occurring in the most sacred space in our communities— our schools. Efforts should be focused on changing gun laws nationally and increasing talk about mental health. Provide teachers the time and resources to be able to connect and help students who may have mental health issues or may be falling through the cracks. All it takes is one person to care and to show some love to change how someone thinks. Teachers need resources not guns. Teaching is a hard job as it is. It doesn’t need to be made harder with the presence of guns in a classroom.

We cannot fight violence with violence. Violence can pause the action but it will not stop the action from reoccurring. What does stop the action is changing the person’s perspective and appealing to their humanity. As we see in history achieving this change through non-violent protests and simple kindness is possible. We see the success in such movements when we see revolutions headed by people like Mahatma Gandhi or Martin Luther King Jr. or, more recently, Nelson Mandela. Yes, it takes time and patience, but it creates change, and change on a large scale. Right now we are stuck in a cycle of violence and it won’t end unless we do something to break out of it.
American Patriot Essay Contest

The QuickChek New Jersey Festival of Ballooning and PNC Bank invite New Jersey students in grades 2 through 12 to take part in the 15th annual PNC Bank “American Patriot Essay Content” by writing a short essay on the topic, “What the American Flag Means to Me.”

The Grand Prize winner will receive a visit to his or her school by a gigantic, 75-foot-tall hot air balloon in June and a special VIP package at this year’s balloon festival in July: a hot air balloon ride for two, four Blue Sky Club VIP tickets, and the opportunity to meet one of this year’s concert headliners, which in the past have included Disney teen sensations the Jonas Brothers, Demi Lovato, and Sabrina Carpenter.

This year’s winning student’s immediate classmates will each receive one complimentary general admission ticket to the Festival.

The winning student’s teacher and school principal will each receive two Blue Sky Club VIP tickets. Second and third place prizes consisting of Festival admission and merchandise will be also awarded.

All teachers in the state who submit a group of 15 essays or more on behalf of their students will receive two free general admission tickets to the Festival regardless of whether one of their students submits the winning essay.

The essays must be 100 words or less. They will be judged by a panel of representatives from PNC Bank and the balloon festival. Winning essays will be selected based on creativity, poignancy and clarity with consideration given to the grade level of the contestant. Contestants are not required to be U.S. citizens.

HOW TO ENTER

Entries should be mailed to Essay Judges, QuickChek New Jersey Festival of Ballooning, 363 Route 46 West, Suite 200, Fairfield, NJ, 07004, or emailed to pncessay@balloongestival.com.

Entries should include the student’s name, home or school address, home or school telephone number, grade, age, school name and the name of their teacher.

The deadline to enter is May 1, 2018.
Students Can Honor School Heroes

The Trenton Thunder baseball team and the New Jersey Education Association are once again sponsoring a student essay contest open to all New Jersey public school students.

The topic of the contest is “My hero works at school.” Students are encouraged to write a short, but thoughtful essay about a school employee who has positively impacted them. Essays should be no more than 250 words.

Three winners will be selected. Each winning student, the school employee he or she writes about, and a total of eight of their family members and friends will be guests of NJEA and the Trenton Thunder at the Friday, August 17, 2018, Thunder home game (NJEA Back-to-School game).

Each winning student and the school employee he or she writes about will participate in pre-game ceremonies and receive commemorative certificates. (Participants should be available to attend the game – no substitute dates are available.)

Entries must include the student’s name, home address, parent’s name and phone number, school name and address, teacher’s name, and grade level.

Send entries to:

NJEA-Thunder Essay Contest
Attention: Dawn Hiltner
PO Box 1211
Trenton, NJ 08607-1211

Submissions must be received by May 26, 2018.

Thank a Teacher

A brighter tomorrow starts in the classroom today.

America’s teachers make a big impact in the futures of our nation’s kids – giving their time, talent and knowledge to create a brighter tomorrow. We all remember a favorite math teacher, coach or music instructor whose enthusiasm inspired us to try that much harder to achieve our dreams.

Join us in sharing a thank you with a special teacher who touched your life – and give them the chance to make their educational vision a reality for their classroom and community.

Learn more and “Thank a Teacher” at: https://www.farmers.com/thank-americas-teachers/thank-a-teacher/.
2018 NJFEA Student Achievement Awards

Purpose:

The purpose of this award is to recognize three (3) outstanding New Jersey future teachers for achievement and demonstration of leadership, service, commitment, and excellence to promoting and/or representing their NJFEA chapters and/or Tomorrow’s Teachers course electives in a professional manner.

General Information:

To qualify, an award recipient must meet the following qualifications:

- Be a current high school junior or senior with a minimum GPA of 3.0.
- Be an active member of NJFEA or enrolled in a Tomorrow’s Teachers course.
- Complete and submit the below application by Friday, May 18, 2018.

Award:

Each winner will receive an award of $1,000; and an invitation to a special awards dinner at the New Jersey Education Association on Monday, June 18, 2018.

Mail, email, or fax your NJFEA Student Achievement Award Application to:

Mr. Larry Fieber
Executive Director
Center for Future Educators at The College of New Jersey
School of Education/202D
P.O. Box 7718
Ewing, NJ 08628-0718
Fax: 609-637-5065
fieber@tcnj.edu

See the application on page 12.
# 2018 NJFEA Student Achievement Award Application

## General Information

**Student Name:** ____________________________________________________________________________________

**Student E-mail:** ___________________________________________   **Student Phone #:** ________________________

**Home Address:** ____________________________________________________________________________________

**High School:** ______________________________________________________________________________________

**High School Address:** ____________________________________________________________________________________

**NJFEA Adviser or Tomorrow’s Teachers Instructor Name:** _____________________________

**Adviser/Instructor’s Phone #:** _______________________

**Adviser/Instructor’s E-mail:** _____________________________

1. Provide complete well-considered responses on a separate sheet of paper to each of the items below (a. through c.). Be sure to respond to each item. Attach additional sheets of paper as necessary.

   a. Provide a 300-word essay explaining why you are interested in becoming a teacher. Specify what subject and grade level you are planning to teach.

   b. Select one of the following two questions for response:

      Provide a 400-word essay describing your experiences and/or contributions with your local NJFEA chapter, NJFEA state-wide organization, or Tomorrow’s Teachers course elective. How have your experiences impacted your decision to teach and how they helped to prepare you for your career?

      Provide a 350-word essay describing an NJFEA school or community service project in which you participated this year. Describe the objectives of this project and its overall impact. What were some of the personal challenges and/or rewards that you experienced while implementing this project?

   c. Read an education journal article about a current issue and provide a 300-word summary of the journal article. Be sure to include the name and date of the journal and the title of the article.

Please include your high school transcript and two letters of recommendation with this application. Recommendations can be from a teacher, administrator, or counselor.

**Parent/Guardian Signature:** ________________________________  **Date:**___________

**NJFEA Adviser or Tomorrows Teacher Instructor:** _______________________________

**Signature:** ________________________________  **Date:**___________

**Student Signature:** ________________________________  **Date:**___________
NEW JERSEY FUTURE EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION (NJFEA) STATE OFFICER APPLICATION 2018-2019

QUALIFICATIONS FOR NJFEA STUDENT STATE OFFICERS:

Be a current high school sophomore or junior.

Have a cumulative G.P.A. of 3.0 or better.

Be a current and active member of NJFEA or Tomorrow’s Teachers.

Be recommended by your NJFEA chapter adviser or Tomorrow’s Teachers instructors.

Demonstrate leadership on your high school campus and/or in your local community.

Be willing and able to serve for the full term and fulfill the duties of your NJFEA officer role, as described on the attached “Term of Service and Duties of NJFEA State Officers.”

Application Deadline: FRIDAY, May 18, 2018

Mail, Fax, or E-mail Signed Scanned Application to:

Mr. Laurence R. Fieber, NJFEA State Director
Center for Future Educators at The College of New Jersey
School of Education Building, 202D
P.O. Box 7718
Ewing, NJ 08628-0718

Fax: 609-637-5065
E-mail: fieber@tcnj.edu
Student Name: ____________________________________   Soc. Sec. #: ________________

Home Address:  _______________________________________________________________

E-Mail: _____________________  Home Phone: ______________  Cell Phone: ____________

Shirt Size:  ☐ Small  ☐ Medium  ☐ Large  ☐ XLarge

School District:  _______________________________________________________________

School Name:  _______________________________________________________________

School Address:  ______________________________________________________________

_________________________________________   Grade: __________  GPA: __________

Advisor Name:  _______________________________________________________________

Advisor E-Mail: _________________________________  Advisor Phone: ______________

Position you are seeking (check one):
☐ President    ☐ Vice-President    ☐ Secretary    ☐ Communications Officer

What level(s) of education are you interested in teaching? (Check all that apply)
☐ Early Childhood    ☐ Elementary    ☐ Middle School    ☐ Secondary

What subject (e.g., math, science, etc.) and/or specialty area (e.g., special education, gifted and talented education, etc.) are you interested in pursuing in the field of education?

Subject Area:  _____________________________  Grade Level:  ____________________

Specialty Area:  _____________________________

Answer the following four questions on separate sheets of paper and attach all sheets to your application.

1. Describe your involvement in your NJFEA chapter or Tomorrow’s Teachers course elective.
2. What skills/interests do you have that qualify you for this position?
3. What is your vision for contributing to and promoting NJFEA as a state officer?

List volunteer activities and other activities you are involved in your community.

Attach the following to your application:

• Two (2) teacher recommendations
• Resume
TERM OF SERVICE AND DUTIES OF THE NJFEA STATE OFFICERS

Officer candidates will be selected and students notified of the results of the selection process on or before **Friday June 1, 2018.** Officers will serve from **July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019.**

**President** - shall preside over and conduct meetings with accepted parliamentary procedure; appoint committees as needed; represent NJFEA at special events; to assign to his/her officers responsibility for all projects, including publishing of the state newsletter. He/she shall also develop with his/her officers a Program of Activities for his/her term of office and will make himself/herself available if necessary in promoting the general welfare of NJFEA.

**Vice-President** - shall serve in any capacity as directed by the President; serve as the official parliamentarian; to accept the responsibilities of the Presidency as occasions may demand; to make himself/herself available in promoting the general welfare of NJFEA; be responsible for planning special programs as determined by the NJFEA Student Executive Council. In the case of the office of president becomes vacant by resignation or otherwise, the Vice President will become the acting interim President until the term has been completed.

**Secretary** - shall perform the duties common to such an office, such as keeping an accurate record NJFEA Executive Council meetings; answer all NJFEA student correspondence; keep up to date roll of all members; keep a copy of the Constitution and by-laws with the amendments properly entered; provide a list of old and unfinished business and potential new business before the start of each meeting; notify the members of the NJFEA of special meetings; and after each meeting send a copy of the minutes to each state chapter.

**Communications Officer** – coordinate officer contributions to the NJFEA newsletter, communicate chapters activities, events, and other NJFEA related information; promote growth and development of communication within his/her region in accordance with the Program of Work during his/her term of office; make himself/herself available as necessary in promoting the general welfare of NJFEA; and assist Executive officers in carrying out their duties as needed.

**All Officers** - In addition to the duties described above for each officer position, all NJFEA State Officers will be expected to participate in the following events/activities when those activities occur during their term of service:

- NJFEA State Leadership Training (to be held in summer/early fall of 2018—TBD)
- NJFEA Executive Committee meetings
- Annual Field Trip to the New Jersey Education Association Convention
- NJFEA Annual Regional Conferences
- NJFEA Middle School Conference
- Other related special programs and activities
Teacher Appreciation Projects
- Celebrate the annual Teacher Appreciate Week
- Promote teaching and teachers on a special NJFEA bulletin board
- Host a special event (e.g., breakfast)
- Host a ‘exemplary teacher contest’
- Write letters and cards to recognize and celebrate teachers who make a difference
- Provide general assistance in classroom

School-Based/Chapter Projects
- Tutoring (peer and elementary)
- Provide teacher aide service
- Host Teacher Shadow Days
- Attend state and regional NJFEA conferences
- Schedule student exchanges with neighboring chapters to share ideas and network with NJFEA peers
- Participate in Read Across America
- Arrange a meeting with your superintendent and principal to learn about their jobs
- Host education forums (invite speakers to chapter meetings: student teachers, State Teacher of the Year, local school superintendent and board members, local chapter president, etc.)

Community Projects
- Participate in the NJFEA annual statewide service project
- Book drive for local library or local elementary schools
- Provide service for the home-bound (yard raking, grocery shopping, etc.)
- Food or clothing drives for local shelters
- Adopt-a-family at the holidays
- Volunteer at the Special Olympics
- Meet with PTA/PTO groups to learn about the importance of community involvement
- Contact state and local agencies for suggestions for helping those in need

Chapter Promotion
- Develop and keep a chapter website to present at PTA meetings and other events
- Start a NJFEA chapter Facebook page
- Utilize school newspaper, morning announcements, etc.
- Host poster campaigns throughout the year
- Take a group picture for the school yearbook
- Create a NJFEA float for homecoming, parades, etc.
- Write articles about your NJFEA chapter for the school newspaper
- Share your club’s activities with the local newspaper, radio stations, etc.

Fundraising Ideas
- Plan a special event and sell tickets: Teachers vs. Seniors basketball game; Talent show; Dance
- Hold a garage sale, car wash, bake sale, etc.
- Carnation/candy-gram sales (Valentine’s Day)
- Partner with local businesses

Note: Always obtain approval from school administration for fundraisers.
More Ideas for Active NJFEA Chapters

Sample Topics for Chapter Meetings:

- Local school board meeting issues/topics
- Teaching multiple intelligences
- Teaching STEM and STEAM
- The impact of gangs/violence on schools and communities
- How counselors can help students find their dreams
- Using smartboards for instructional excellence
- Where 21st century science teaching is going
- Autism: what future teachers need to know
- Tips for applying to college
- Tips for financing (affording) a college education
- What’s special about teaching special education classroom
- Teaching to the heart of the child
- Sticks and stones: stop bullying
- LGBTQ topics
- What’s new and exciting in early childhood education
- Teaching in urban schools: the challenges and rewards
- What it takes to become an effective principal
- What makes an excellent NJFEA chapter
- Teaching elementary school
- Teaching students with disabilities (deaf/hearing impaired, blind/sight impaired)
- Teaching linguistically and culturally diverse learners
- Distinctions between rich and poor/socioeconomic distinctions
- The needs of gifted and talented students
- Classroom management: keeping it running smoothly
- On the path to becoming a teacher: what to expect in college
- Standardized testing: does it help or hurt?
- The Common Core Curriculum: does one size fit all?

See websites below for other important education topics for teachers — and aspiring future educators:

http://www.weareteachers.com/hot-topics
http://www.teachersfirst.com/must-knows.cfm
http://www.education.com/topic/current-education-issues/
http://www.campbellcollaboration.org/education_articles/hot_topics_education.php
The Value of Membership

Begin Your Journey to Becoming Tomorrow’s Teachers — Today!

Join YOUR New Jersey Future Educators Association and become a part of our growing network of today’s high school and middle school students across our state and nation who aspire to become tomorrow’s teachers!

Register today at: https://www.thinkregistration.com/feaaff/nj/

The benefits of membership in the New Jersey Future Education include all of the following, which are available to only NJFEA members and at no additional cost:

- **No-Cost Attendance at:**
  - Annual Regional NJFEA Conferences
  - Annual NJEA Convention in Atlantic City

- **Free Resources, including:**
  - Bimonthly Official Newsletter of the NJFEA, “The Smartboard”
  - NJFEA Chapter Advisor Handbook
  - Videos, Interactive On-Line Activities, & Programs from Educators Rising, our National NJFEA affiliate

- **Eligibility for:**
  - NJFEA Achievement Award Recognition
  - NJFEA Chapter Incentive Grants and Scholarships
  - Recognition by the New Jersey Education Association (NJEA)
  - Service as NJFEA State Officers (including Special Leadership Training for State & Chapter Officers)
  - Service on the NJFEA Advisory Board (for Chapter Advisors and NJFEA State Officers)

- **Opportunities to:**
  - Network Statewide with other NJFEA Chapters and Individual Members
  - Participate in Future Teacher Leadership Training
  - Participate in the Annual NJFEA Recognition Dinner (for NJFEA State Officers and Achievement Award Winners, their Families, and Guests)
  - Participate in Urban-Suburban Student High School Exchanges
  - Participate in Statewide Service Projects
  - Receive Advance Notification & Application Packages for Urban Teacher Academies

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**Laurence R. Fieber,**  
*State Director, NJFEA*

Center for Future Educators  
NJ Future Educators Association  

The College of New Jersey  
School of Education, 202D  
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We Want to Hear from You!

The Smartboard newsletter is one of many ways that we seek to get important information to NJFEA chapter members, NJFEA advisors, Tomorrow’s Teachers course students and instructors, and all high school and middle school students across New Jersey who aspire to become tomorrow’s teachers—tomorrow’s leaders. This newsletter is about you and for you. So, we invite you to contact us and let us know what you would like to see in YOUR newsletter. What is important to you? What do you need to know more about as you explore teaching as a future career? What do you want to know, as a NJFEA advisor, about starting and running a local chapter?

Please email Mr. Larry Fieber at fieber@tcnj.edu with your ideas.

We want to hear from you!

Recruiting Today’s Students as Tomorrow’s Teachers

The Center for Future Educators (CFE) at The College of New Jersey was established in 2010 to inspire, encourage, and recruit high school and middle school students who are considering teaching as a future career. The CFE especially seeks future educators interested in teaching in high poverty and hard-to-staff schools and/or high shortage subject areas such as math, science, special education, world languages, technology, bilingual and ESL. The CFE works collaboratively with New Jersey’s high schools and middle schools, colleges and universities, corporate, governmental, and community agencies to develop an exemplary model of future teacher recruitment.

The CFE also hosts the New Jersey Future Educators Association. Beginning on July 1st, the NJFEA became an independent organization that continues to be funded by the New Jersey Education Association (NJEA). The NJFEA remains in association with Educators Rising (formerly, FEA), our new national network for future teachers.

In addition to supporting local chapter activities, the NJFEA sponsors a variety of statewide events including annual regional conferences for high school and middle school students who aspire to become future teachers, as well as leadership and service project programs and activities. Future teachers and their NJFEA advisers from more than 75 high schools register for these events annually.

Other statewide and regional NJFEA programs for high school and middle school students, student leadership trainings, and state and local service projects are sponsored each year.

The CFE and NJFEA are funded by the New Jersey Education Association.


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We encourage your submissions for future newsletters.

Please Note: The Center for Future Educators and the New Jersey Future Educators Association reserve the right to edit, as necessary and appropriate any and all submissions.

The next issue will be Summer 2018.