

“What Have You Done For Me Lately?”

SHEA is very glad you asked!!!

SHEA sets goals for achievement around NEA’s Three Core Principles. The following is a comprehensive list, categorized accordingly, of what SHEA accomplished on your behalf from August 2006 – August 2009, as a part of our ongoing effort to make your membership in SHEA meaningful!

How did we do?

PROMOTING QUALITY SCHOOLS

SHEA helps get the word out that it is very important to encourage student attendance and take accurate roll on September 22, the official count date that, in part, determines our State funding for the year. This year, we will also be promoting the 2010 Census, which will help determine State and Federal Education funding.

SHEA members hold voter registration drives at parent teacher conferences, the elementary school carnival and other community events, registers many new voters, and provides advance ballot forms to all who would like to take advantage of that option.

SHEA members attend monthly BOE meetings and also have their own monthly meetings to work on your behalf. (which you are more than welcome to attend, by the way!)

SHEA members write letters to legislators, State BOE members, and even the Commissioner of Education dealing with issues that directly impact our profession. We also have been known to send out the occasional alert to other members asking them to do the same.

SHEA members travel to Topeka, host luncheons for the legislators that represent Spring Hill and lobby on your behalf. Further lobbying occurs at legislator forums attended by SHEA members, and also at our OWN meetings, when legislators are invited to attend and speak with us.

SHEA members have developed positive working relationships with the area press corps, and community as a whole. We notify the press about student and teacher achievement in the Spring Hill Schools.

SHEA is an active member of the Spring Hill Chamber of Commerce. Members attend luncheons and Chamber events in an ongoing effort to positively network within the community.

SHEA campaigned vigorously in an attempt to regain USD 230’s Capital Outlay Levy. Ads were placed in the local paper and on Price Chopper receipts– yard signs were distributed – and members spoke at community meetings on behalf of this initiative – to mention but a few of their efforts. This year, SHEA also interviewed and endorsed candidates for the USD#230 BOE election.

SHEA makes financial contributions to the District’s Camp Invention, which helps Spring Hill children, who might not otherwise afford the tuition, attend science camp.

SHEA provides posters, certificates and bookmarks for members wishing to celebrate Read Across America with their students.



STRENGTHENING THE TEACHING PROFESSION

SHEA provides REACH training for new teachers that are interested in improving their leadership skills – as well as “I Can Do It” Seminars and lots of other workshops benefiting educators.

SHEA members represent Spring Hill at monthly Crossroads Uni-Serv meetings, State Regional Assemblies, Western Region Leadership Conferences, and the National NEA Conference in Philadelphia, Washington D. C. and San Diego. Next year, SHEA will represent you at the RA in New Orleans.

SHEA developed an Instructional Advocate program to be implemented in each building, which provides experienced teachers from the association to assist our members with instructional matters.

IMPROVE THE WELL BEING OF MEMBERS

The negotiations team meets and negotiates our contracts. As a result of SHEA negotiating a two year contract in 2008, Spring Hill certified employees received one of the highest salary increases in the state of Kansas for the 2009-2010 school year. We have earned RESPECT at the table, which will pay us dividends in the long run. Spring Hill USD 230 employees now receive **12 sick days** per year as a result of the efforts of the SHEA bargaining team.

SHEA has been instrumental in implementing the District’s “A Healthier You” Program in conjunction with Blue Cross Blue Shield.

SHEA members represent Spring Hill at state and local bargaining and school finance conferences and trainings in order to better represent our teachers in negotiations.

Prior to 2006, SHEA was the only local in the state that did not have continual enrollment payroll deduction. Now, SHEA members are not required to fill out enrollment paperwork every year, as we were successful in implementing continual enrollment in our district. We updated our SHEA Constitution to reflect this important change.

SHEA was instrumental in creating the district’s new Sick Day Buy Back Policy. Not only are we allowed to accumulate more days before the district buys them back, but the days are bought back at a higher rate AND the district will begin buying back days for employees that are preparing for retirement in such a manner that it may count towards KPERs.

We host beginning of the year luncheons for all the new teachers in the district, and for our teachers in all five buildings. SHEA officers attend the District new teacher luncheon, and briefly speak at the opening convocation for all the teachers in the district. SHEA also recognizes our member retirees and Teachers of the Year recipients.

SHEA puts out a bi-monthly newsletter full of teaching tips and lots of valuable information. SHEA also now has its own website (www.springhillnea.org) SHEA also provides bookmarks and lots of informational literature to its members.

SHEA members spend hours on behalf of its members fielding questions, finding out information and acting as advocates with building and district administrators. We have worked on issues such as plan time, leave, special needs students, insurance coverage, teacher discipline, evaluation, parent complaints, and a myriad of other topics.

Groundwork has been laid on behalf of paraprofessionals in our district to allow them to have a professional organization of their own under the SHEA umbrella.

SHEA celebrates American Education Week and Teacher Appreciation Week by providing treats and certificates to our members, administrators and district support staff. SHEA also provides treats for our members for Parent-Teacher Conferences and around the Holidays. This year, every SHEA member received an embroidered polo shirt proudly displaying the SHEA logo.

SHEA implemented the Golden Goose Award in all five buildings to recognize colleagues who are helpful and encouraging to other teachers in the district.

SHEA makes contributions to assist the public schools in our state like Chapman and Greensburg, – devastated by tornado, and Seneca – whose elementary and middle schools burned to the ground in 2006.