

Florida Association of Partners in Education Newsletter

March 2014

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FAPE

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FAPE Board

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Michelle Roberge, President-
Elect
Sara Au-VP Business
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Dorothy Spradley, Secretary
Marilyn Seay, Treasurer
Linda Morris, Past President
Angelia Rivers, DOE Liaison
Rick Everitt, Ex Officio
Cheryl Freeman, Region 2
Ginger Blair, Region 3
Tanice Knopp, Region 4
Debi Efen, Region 5

President's Message

You will see in this issue a reminder/plea to renew your FAPE membership or to join FAPE this month. Exciting things are happening this year and we need your input, participation and your membership!

FAPE is confident that districts are allowing some travel for training. And we are excited to be able to offer a one day drive-in workshop in Region 4 of the state. The event will be held Monday, May 12th at LEGOLAND Florida in Winter Garden, FL. (See more information below) We hope to offer more of these one-day workshops in other regions of the state. If all goes well, the FAPE board will seriously look at bringing back the annual FAPE State Conference!

FAPE is moving forward and we hope that you will join us as we rebuild as an organization and continue our mission to enhance student learning by building and maintaining effective community and school partnerships! Join us today!

Join Today! March is Membership Month

March is the month, annually, to join or renew membership in FAPE. Current memberships expire March 31. Joining now will give you a full year's membership. Being a member of FAPE provides real change, relationships, recognition, rise to leadership, and resources. As Florida begins to move out of the recession and the Association weighs statewide interest and potential participation numbers in the decision as to whether or not Florida is ready for continuation of the Annual FAPE Partners in Education Conference, your participation in association membership will give you a voice in that decision.

Join or renew today at www.flpie.net.

The FAPE Difference

FAPE has devoted the last 38 years to networking local school districts in the pursuit of sharing successful practices that promote public involvement in education.

As A Member You Can Expect:

- * Participation in Florida's premier professional organization for school and community involvement coordinators, business partners, educational institutions, and mentoring organizations.
- * Regional Drive-In Workshop opportunities.
- * Opportunities to network and share resources with creative volunteer and partnership coordinators.
- * A dedicated team that will listen to your needs and connect you with school districts or other opportunities and strategies.
- * Regional Representatives willing and able to answer your questions.
- * Mentor Coordinators for new district volunteer or partner coordinators.
- * Training for you and your district via the FAPE website.
- * Connection to statewide school/community involvement program resources.
- * National and state publications, newsletters, updates and alerts.

Drive-In Region 4 Workshop

The Florida Association of Partners in Education is hosting the first, of what we hope will be a series of one day drive-in workshops on community involvement, May 12 at LEGOLAND Florida with a focus on science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). Designed for community/parent involvement coordinators volunteer coordinators and Title I instructors/coordinators, this one day seminar will assist district and school-based personnel with information, ideas and hands-on experience in ways to bolster STEM activities and partnerships, as well as tips on infusing STEM into all areas of curriculum.

Florida Teacher of the Year, Dorina Sackman, now a finalist for National Teacher of the Year, will be the keynote speaker, highlighting her B.E.L.I.E.V.E. message as well as speaking about her experience in her ESOL classroom at a Title I school and ways STEM can reach more students.

Partnerships between LEGOLAND Florida, LEGO Education, NASA's Educator Resource Center at Kennedy Space Center, the Florida Department of Education and the Florida Association of Partners in Education have come together to make this a reality. Cost is \$75, which includes lunch, and the day runs from 8:45am until 3:00pm on Monday, May 12. Don't miss this fun day of training!!! Registration information will be coming soon!



FAPE Board Officers to Be Elected in March

The election of FAPE Board treasurer and secretary is scheduled for March 31, 2014. Officers will be elected for a two year term, July 2014 through June 2016. The Nominating Committee, chaired by Linda Morris, Past President, submits the following candidates. Members will receive online ballots, for the purpose of voting, thirty days following this announcement.

TREASURER: Marilyn Seay, Leon, former director of the Florida Education Foundation

SECRETARY: Dorothy Spradley, Columbia District Schools Coordinator of Volunteer Programs.

Susan Walton, FLDOE, Retires

Susan Walton retired from the Florida Department of Education on December 31, 2013. We are sad that she will no longer be our contact, support and friend at FLDOE. However, we are happy that she will be able to do other fun things, like sleep in!

Susan Walton's commitment to education and volunteerism has encompassed most of her adult life. Her illustrious career in education began as an elementary teacher for grades 4, 5, and 6 in Hollywood, FL, at Fairway Elementary. For the last 23 years, Susan has worked as a consultant, then Coordinator for Community Outreach and Family Involvement, and most recently Director of Special Projects for the Bureau of Family and Community Outreach.

She initiated several statewide community task forces on intergenerational programs and family involvement. Her sustained support for community involvement is reflected in her continuous leadership and work with the Panhandle Area Education Consortium and several school district coordinators to expand community outreach training. In her tenure with the Department of Education, Susan has published several books. These include Sparkplugs, Family Resource Directory, Intergenerational Handbook, and Parent Primer.

She has been a valuable resource for school district volunteer/community outreach programs. Her strong support, commitment and leadership for community involvement in Florida's schools were reflected through her appointment by the Commissioner of Education to represent the Department of Education on various boards, associations and committees. These include, but are not limited to the Florida Association of Partners in Education (FAPE), Florida PTA and Florida School Health & Education Consortium. She was an outstanding FAPE board member and supporter!

She has been an active community volunteer working with civic organizations, serving on school committees, chairing school fundraising committees, teaching Sunday school, participating with her church in outreach activities, and has actively served on boards of homeowners' associations. Susan will be missed, but now she will have more time to volunteer!



Susan Walton

2013 Adele Graham Award

The 2013 Adele Graham Award winner, Dorothy Spradley, is a strong example of the reason this award is named in honor of Adele Graham. Like Mrs. Graham, Dorothy is a focused, committed, and consistent supporter of public school volunteerism and community involvement.

Mrs. Spradley has faithfully served the Columbia County Schools for several decades. She began her career as a fourth grade teacher at Summers Elementary School and was appointed the Curriculum Resource Teacher in 1994. Then in 1996, she was appointed the District Volunteer Coordinator, a position she currently holds.

Under her leadership, the Community Involvement Office of Columbia County has grown in its scope and generates over a million dollars of in-kind services to the families of Columbia County. Mrs. Spradley is a charter member of Take Stock in Children Regional Board, serves on the Columbia County Public Schools Foundation Board as Chair, and is a member of Altrusa International, a community service organization in Lake City. At the State level, she serves as Secretary for the Florida Association of Partners in Education. Mrs. Spradley is often requested by the Florida Department of Education (DOE) to participate as a trainer for community involvement best practices.

"Receiving this award on behalf of my colleagues in FAPE and all volunteer coordinators across Florida is truly an honor. I could not do what I do without the support of the FAPE Board, who are my role models, and my county administration and site based volunteer coordinators. I love and enjoy my job making a

difference in childrens' lives."Dorothy Spradley



Dorothy Spradley, center, receives the 2013 Adele Graham Award.

Partner Patter

Did you know that heart disease is the #1 killer of women? It is true. Watch this short/cute video so that you can learn the warning signs of a heart attack. It could save your life or the life of someone you love.

www.goredforwomen.org/justalittleheartattack