

January 2012

JESS Newsletter

HAPPY NEW YEAR

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BUTTON UP! Do You Have Your Button Yet?

Button up! no longer means to stay silent. Putting your button on allows you to be continuously supporting YOUR union.

The union made a bulk purchase of these buttons (Blue, JESS We Can! & Red, RALLY We Will!) so that we can begin handing them out to our members.

Buttons can be placed on your lapel, bag, cork board, or wherever it will be noticed.

These buttons are small gestures that mean a lot. And they show that we support each other with just a glance.

BUTTON UP!



JESS Executive Board 2011-12

- **PRESIDENT:**
Cricket Curtain
- **VICE-PRESIDENT:**
Billy Richardson
- **TREASURER:**
Pamela Tippetts
- **SECRETARY:**
Molly Hillis
- **PARLIMENTARIAN:**
Jennifer Johnson
- **COMMUNICATIONS:**
Jennifer Knaggs
- **EMPLOYEE REP COORD:**
Denise Scanlon
- **APEA/AFT REP:**
Pete Ford

New JESS Website!

(also a CaféPress shop to buy your JESS gear)

We have a new JESS website! The state AFT group is hosting it on their server.

You can access the new site at:

<http://ak.aft.org/JESS/>

The site includes links to articles, events, contact info for the executive board, and much more. Feel free to explore and suggest.

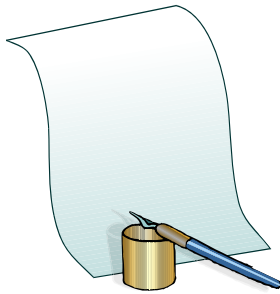
I would also like to add pictures of JESS employees in work situations as well as at social events.

(Submit photos to Jennifer at jennifer_knaggs@jsd.k12.ak.us)

The website also includes a link to the CafePress JESS Store. You buy whatever JESS gear suits your fancy. There are different pieces of apparel and items that are customized with the JESS logo or different JESS sayings. Check it out:

http://www.cafepress.com/jess_local_6096

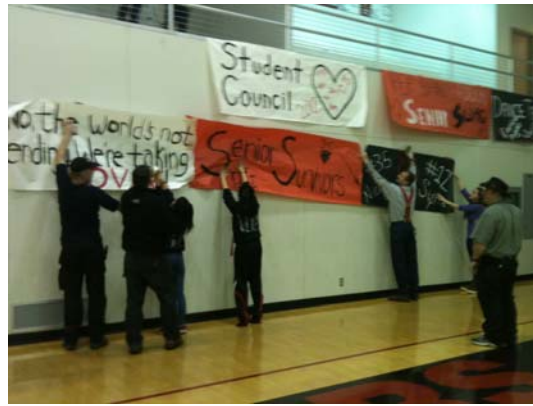
DEAR JESS



Dear JESS,

When can members expect to see "the school district opening proposals that must be submitted for public review and comment before substantive negotiations between the union and district can begin. Proposals become public documents and are available to anyone interested and the subject of an open agenda discussion item at a School Board meeting."

~ Wanting to Stay Informed



JESS Maintenance Staff helping JDHS Students hang homecoming posters.

Dear WANTING TO STAY INFORMED,

The proposals may be obtained from District office once they become public. The plan, at this time, is to present JESS proposals at the January School Board meeting, Tuesday, January 10th. Then on Wednesday, January 11th, 6 – 7 pm, at Dzantik'i Heeni, the Negotiation Team and

Support Committee will be on hand to answer questions and have copies of the proposals available for members. Also, as in the past, we will provide copies to the JESS board, to employee reps and to any member who request a copy. Thank you for wanting to stay informed.

~ JESS

Dear JESS,

What is the difference between being a JESS Member and an Agency Fee Payer?

- Signed, Curious

Dear CURIOUS,

As a JESS Member, the person has opted to be an active, participating member of JESS and be involved in JESS' decision-making processes. The member is eligible to run for and hold office, offer opinions and input regarding JESS business and business decisions and is eligible to participate in training provided through JESS and its affiliations with APEA, AFT and the AFL-CIO.

The agency fee-payer, however, opts out of membership and out of participation or activity in JESS and JESS' business. Nevertheless, because JESS provides labor representation to all bargaining unit employees (that is, those JSD employees whose positions are included in the JESS bargaining unit), each bargaining unit member is required to pay their proportionate share of the costs of representation. Since the agency fee-payer opts out of membership, their agency fee reflects only that portion of dues which is spent on "representational services" (as that term is defined in a large number of court cases). Generally, representation services con-

stitute about 92-94% of the JESS dues dollar.

Because he/she is not a member, the agency fee-payer is not eligible to vote in JESS elections, to hold office or provide opinion or input regarding JESS business, such as development of negotiating proposals. The fee-payer is also not eligible to participate in activities or training conditioned on membership, including the various membership- "perks" such as auto rental, lodging and purchasing discounts. The fee-payer is eligible for all benefits provided through collective bargaining and reflected in the contract.

~ JESS

Please send Dear JESS questions in care of Molly Hillis at:

molly_hillis@jsd.k12.ak.us or to Dzantik'i Heeni.

*Dear JESS responses are a collaborative effort, no one person claims to know-it-all.

You're Invited: Neg. Update Meetings

The JESS Negotiations Team will be submitting our proposal for negotiation to the Juneau School District on Tuesday, January 10.

In order to better answer questions and get some feedback, the Negotiations team will be holding a Negotiation Update Meeting at Dzantki'i Heeni Middle School at 6pm on Wednesday, January 11th. This is a time to get your copy of the negotia-

tion proposals, to ask questions of the team, and to provide some constructive feedback. Buttons will also be available at this meeting.

In this negotiations year, it is important to stay informed and part of the process. Thanks to everyone who has put in time to get this far. We have a long way to go, so GET INVOLVED! We will be looking for more members to join the Negotia-

tions Support Committee. Interested? Contact an E-Board member.

NEG. UPDATE MTG

Dzantki'i Heeni MS

Wed, January 11th

6pm

Site Visits: Its Happening!

Denise Scanlon, Employee Rep Coordinator, has made it to most of the valley sites already. She was able to make contact and deliver lanyards during her visits.

Someone from the E-Board will be finishing these visits so that we get to know our members, answer questions, take photos, as well as distribute buttons and lanyards.

If you are interested in being an Employee Representative, make sure to contact Denise Scanlon.

If you have a specific day and/or time that your site would like a visit, let us know. Otherwise we will drop in as time allows.

Next JESS E-Board Meeting:

February 8

5pm

Gastineau Elementary School

Contacts:

Denise Scanlon
(MoosePower@gci.net) or

Jennifer Knaggs
(Jennifer.Knaggs@gmail.com) or

Molly Hillis
(Molly_Hillis@jsd.k12.ak.us)

We're On The Web!
<http://ak.aft.org/JESS/>

IDEAS to STAY INVOLVED:

- Go to School Board Meetings (wearing JESS apparel, buttons, or your lanyards)
- Deliver Snacks to the negotiations meetings with the district (If you let me know in advance, I can make up a sign to sit by the snack plate. For example "Snacks by RALLY")
- Wear your buttons and use your lanyards
- Introduce yourself as a JESS Member
- Invest in a union shirt, sweatshirt, jacket, or mug. And then remember to **WEAR IT TO WORK** once a week.

http://www.cafepress.com/jess_local_6096

FINANCIAL SERVICES THAT

MEET MEMBERS' NEEDS



FINANCIAL SERVICES

Credit and Budget Counseling

Certified credit counselors are available 24 hours a day to help members with confidential financial guidance, free consumer credit counseling services and discounted debt-management assistance.

MORE VALUE FOR YOUR MEMBERSHIP

For more details and benefits, go to:
aft.org/members



AFT + is your advocate. For information on all AFT + programs, call 800/238-1133, ext. 8643, or e-mail aftplus@aft.org. The AFT has an expense reimbursement and/or endorsement arrangement for marketing this program. For more information, please contact AFT Financial Services at 800/238-1133, ext. 4493; send an e-mail to disclosureinfo@aft.org; or visit www.aft.org/benefits/disclosure.

Getting and Staying Involved

Upcoming E-Board Meetings:

Feb 8, 5pm, Gastineau School

Negotiation Update Sessions:

Jan 11, 6pm, Dzantki'i Heeni:

JESS Negotiation Proposals to JSD

Feb 8, 6pm, Gastineau School:

JSD Counter Proposals to JESS

Negotiations Support Team:

Please feel free to contact Molly Hillis if you would like be a part of the team:

Molly_Hillis@jsd.k12.ak.us

Buy JESS Gear at CaféPress:

http://www.cafepress.com/jess_local_6096

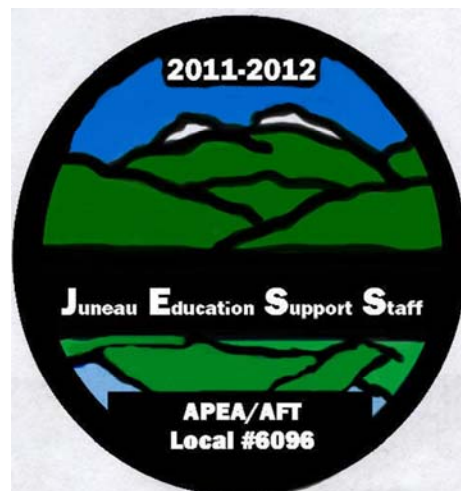
A few examples of the designs available for printing on TShirts, Sweatshirts, and Totes:

JESS
Local #6096
APEA/AFT

JESS
We Can!

RALLY
We Will!

The JESS Logo Contest Winning Design 2011-12 is available as well. More products will be available as time allows.



Remember to congratulate Cheryl Adelmeyer on her winning design!