

TTT Flashes - #3 2025-2026

Oct 27, 2025

District 205 Faculty Association

Message from the President

Faculty,

I hope this message finds you well as the first quarter ends, we finish another successful testing week, and we jump into the second quarter of the school year. One of my goals is to improve communication with our membership. Recently, I was trained to use a tool endorsed by IEA to improve member engagement and communication. This tool called "Hustle" allows our Faculty Association to send out text messages from a virtual number. It is a two-way communication tool that you can reply to at any time. Please note that it does not go directly to my phone, but is checked regularly. We hope to use this to send out important reminders, get member opinions on issues, and improve the speed at which information can flow out and back to the Faculty Association leadership.

If you received a text message from (708)593-5748, that was not a scam- it was me from the HUSTLE virtual number! You cannot call that number but can text it. If you ever need to call, feel free to call the Faculty Association Office at (708)333-5522.

Here is the first message sent out on 10/7:

"Hi , <member name> This is Mark Danielson (Faculty Association of D205 President). I'm using a texting app to reach members with important union updates/info. Please note, this is not my personal cell so it is not always monitored. You can save this # as Faculty Association of D205. Can you reply back with an emoji so I know you received this? stop 2quit"

If you did not receive this text message on 10/7, be sure to email me to let me know you'd like to start receiving them. There are about 125 members that did not receive a message for one of two reasons: they opted out of IEA texts at some point (possibly by accident) or they do not have a cell phone on their IEA profile. I can assist in opting you back in. It's a great tool for us and for you to get information!

In solidarity,
Mark Danielson
D205 Faculty Association President

IMPORTANT DATES- November

Wellness Screenings-

- 10/28: Thornton High School
- 10/29: Thornridge High School
- 10/30: Thornwood High School

*Must sign up by Noon the day before. Don't forget to fast! See emails for details!

Building Member Benefits and Engagement Meetings*- November 3, 4, and 6th
(3:30-4:00p)

- 11/3: Thornridge (Cafeteria)
- 11/4: Thornwood (Performing Arts Center)
- 11/6: Thornton (T-107)

*Outlook Academy and Peace Center Members can choose any meeting to attend.

Representative Council/Executive Board Meeting- Wednesday, November 5, 2025 (South Holland Community Center, 4-5pm)

Veteran's Day (No School)- Tuesday, November 11, 2025

Thanksgiving Holiday Weekend (No School)- Wednesday, November 26-Friday, November 28

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Membership Meetings

We are hosting meetings at each school next week to learn more about member benefits, hear about how to contribute to our Faculty Association Mission Statement, and engage with members! Please try to attend. The meetings will stick to a 30 minute time limit, with time after for connecting and questions.

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2025 IEA Ethnic Minority Emerging Leadership Training

EMELT Registration is Open!

EMELT is fast approaching and is open for registration! There will be a discussion panel led by Dr. Bettina Love and Tim Wise. Please visit the link below for agenda and registration: <https://cvent.me/E07vQy>. Registration deadline is October 31, 2025. EMELT is open to all IEA Members and will have some state affiliate attendees. The hotel block for attendees is now available and posted on the website and registration page in Cvent.

If you have interest in attending, please contact me (D205 FA President Mark Danielson)!

Red for Ed

Continue to show up in **RED** every Wednesday as we advocate for public education.

From the IEA website... “Red for Ed is a grassroots movement of educators and supporters of public education who are advocating for increased public funding for education and better pay and benefits for teachers and other school staff. Red for Ed is a nationwide movement that began in 2018, but it has become increasingly visible and influential as teachers and their allies have held events, walkouts, rallies, and demonstrations demanding better funding for their schools.”

Need some new **Red for Ed** gear?

<https://shopiea.org>

Fall 2025-Spring 2027 FA Building Leadership

Thornridge

VP- Kim McNamara

Building Reps- Jason Curl, Pat Lawson, Kristen Sison, and Mike Whitman

Thornton

VP- Devin Olson

Building Reps- Joe Donka, Denise Henry, Barb James, and Lauren Malito

Thornwood

VP- Jason MacConnell

Building Reps- Christine Burger, Susan Hudson, Christina Lim, and Jen Merwald

Opportunities/News from IEA

2026 Summer Leadership Academy RFP (REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS)

The 2026 Summer Leadership Academy will be held July 27-30, 2026 at Illinois State University Bone Student Center in Normal, IL. We are looking for presenters who can deliver training sessions in the areas of bargaining, grievance, organizing, equity, political action and leadership development. Please consider submitting sessions which will help our local leaders & members prepare for the upcoming 2026-2027 school year.

The sessions layout will be similar to last year - 1, 2, 3 or 6 hour sessions to be held on Tuesday afternoon, all day Wednesday & Thursday morning. Six-hour sessions will tentatively be held on Wednesday, July 29. Anyone interested in submitting for a session should complete the [Summer Leadership RFP](#) by Jan. 15.

2026 IEA RA Professional Development RFP (REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS)

2026 IEA RA Professional Development RFP Now Available! Presenters wanted!!

The 2026 IEA Representative Assembly Professional Development RFP is now available! If you or someone you know would like to be considered to present a 1-hour professional development session at the IEA Representative Assembly on Thursday, March 12, 2026, please complete the RFP using the link below. The RFPs are due no later than December 15, 2025.

[2026 IEA RA Professional Development RFP Form](#)

Workplace Well-Being and Mental Health Survey

The Illinois Education Association (IEA) is seeking your input. Please complete this short survey examining the workplace well-being and mental health of IEA members.

At the 2025 IEA Representative Assembly (RA), members passed New Business Item #11, which directed the IEA to "conduct polling, available to all IEA members, which will compile data on educator's workplace well-being and mental health."

All data collected will be kept confidential. We appreciate your participation. The Survey will close on December 1.

Survey Link: <https://site.ieanea.org/survey/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=9l33m5m1>

Love & Community Care: Transformative Visions in Troubling Times - Virtual Series

The Equity Literacy Institute and IEA bring you a virtual four-part workshop and conversation series about how we as educators and educational leaders can maintain hope, lead with love, and embrace an ethic of community care as we continue our transformative efforts during these present times. **THE FIRST 100 IEA MEMBERS TO REGISTER WILL RECEIVE A RESERVED SPOT IN THIS VIRTUAL SERIES - AT NO COST!** Check out [this flier](#) for details and the registration link. (Those reserving a spot will need to be prepared to commit to the series dates: Oct 30, Nov 6, Nov 13, Nov 20, 6-7:15CT.)

Nourishing Neighbors - Powered by Students: Be Part of the Solution to Prevent Hunger!

Implement a project and compete for grant funds from \$500 to \$5,000! Early Challenge

Deadline: January 9, 2026, Annual Challenge Deadline: May 15, 2026. Check out this [flier](#) to get started!

Explore.Act.Tell. is a free project-based learning program that teaches 6th-12th grade students to understand and combat food insecurity in their community. The lessons and project work well in any class or club, homeschool, or community youth group. To learn more about Explore.Act.Tell. visit their webpage at <https://exploreacttell.org/>.



Calling all FA Members!

**United we win! Please join us
for a member engagement
and benefits meeting.**

November 3rd TR
November 4th TW
November 6th TT



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**November 3rd TR
3:30-4:00pm
Cafeteria**



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**November 4th TW
3:30-4:00pm
PAC**



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**November 6th TT
3:30-4:00pm
T107**