

TTT Flashes - #4 2024-2025

May 5, 2025

District 205 Faculty Association



Message from the President

Faculty,

As we are now in the “home-stretch” of the school year, I always like to reflect on how the year went, things that went well, things that could be better, and begin thinking about what changes to make for the following year.

With that, as a Faculty Association we are always striving to better serve our members and our students. Recently, we applied for and were accepted to be a Year Round Organizing Targeted Local! We are just one of 6 locals across the state of Illinois to be chosen to get additional assistance during the 2025-26 school year!

Congratulations to the following local associations on being selected as Targeted Locals for the upcoming 25-26 school year!

- Effingham Educational Support Professionals Association
- Urbana Education Association
- District 21 Education Association
- McHenry County College Adjunct Faculty Association
- Faculty Association of District 205
- Oak Park Teachers' Association

Year Round Organizing (YRO) is a motivational member engagement campaign to increase membership and engagement through various activities in every region and to enhance IEA visibility in schools, worksites, and communities to recruit potential members, reassure new educators, and retain existing members. We are very excited to begin this work and will be looking at increasing our membership in our Faculty Association Committees this

upcoming school year. Please consider how you may add value to your Faculty Association during the upcoming school year.

Another success this year was our 1st Annual Solidarity Rally back on March 18th. We have had rallies before, but this was something special and unique. In attendance were 85 educators from across our district and region. It also included members from all 4 of our District 205 labor unions. Special thanks to everyone that made it out! If you missed it, one part was political action. Go to our Faculty Association website to see how you can help! <https://d205fa.org/fa-updates>

I hope everyone has an amazing Teacher Appreciation Week! Even on the days you don't feel appreciated, know that you are making a difference in the lives of your students. Your Faculty Association appreciates your hard-work and dedication to your students, as well as your profession. Have a great end to the school year!

In solidarity,
Mark Danielson
D205 Faculty Association President

IMPORTANT DATES- MAY 2025

FA Elections- 5/7

Rep Council Meeting (final one of the year)- 5/14

Retirement Tea- 5/15 Thornwood Lower Level Library (Flyer is attached)

Final Exams- 5/19 through 5/21

Records Day- 5/22

First Day of SUMMER 5/23/2025



Ray Price Scholarship Winners

Congratulations to this year's recipients from the Class of 2025!

2025 Ray Price Memorial Scholarship - About the Recipients

*Harmony Davis is the 2025 **Thornridge** recipient of the Ray Price Memorial Scholarship for future educators. She has been active in volleyball, softball, cheer, Spanish and science clubs, Girl Scouts, Polished Pebbles, Trio/Upward Bound, and the Student Board, while completing hundreds of community service hours. An AP and IB student, Harmony plans to attend Howard University and hopes to re-engage students as a middle school math teacher.*

*Edgar Gonzalez is the 2025 **Thornton** Ray Price Memorial Scholarship recipient for future educators. A passionate IB student and aspiring high school history teacher, Edgar has been actively involved in chess, student council, soccer, National Honor Society, Rho Kappa, and Scholastic Bowl. He hopes to return to District 205 after graduating from Illinois State University. Edgar intends to make a meaningful impact in a history classroom and beyond, supporting students as both a teacher and mentor.*

*Devin Craig is the 2025 **Thornwood** Ray Price Memorial Scholarship recipient for future educators. Devin has balanced his academics with football and being a member of the Student Board while here at our district. Devin is passionate about civic engagement, African American history, and equity. These passions will guide him as he pursues his studies to become a high school history teacher at Jackson State University.*

*Yaquelin Muñoz is the 2025 recipient of the Ray Price Memorial Scholarship for **vocational** students. Yaquelin plans to attend Tricoci University to become a licensed cosmetologist after graduating from **Thornwood**. Passionate about beauty and self-expression since childhood, she has honed her skills through hands-on experience with friends and family. Yaquelin looks forward to empowering others through her work while continuing to grow in a constantly evolving industry.*

Donations are accepted

Ways to donate:

- Mail a check to the association office:
Faculty Association of District 205
500 Armory Drive, Suite 109
South Holland, IL 60473
OR drop it off with a Building Rep/Member of the Ray Price Scholarship Committee
Make checks payable to Ray Price Scholarship Foundation
- Donate with a credit card, debit card, or create a Paypal account



paypal.me/RayPriceDistrict205

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Proposed Bylaws Changes

Proposed changes to our Faculty Association Bylaws have been posted on the Faculty Association website. Go to <https://d205fa.org/contract-%26-bylaws> to view the changes that will be voted upon by the Representative Council on 5/14/25. Speak to your Department Reps if you have any questions or concerns. The changes were proposed by our Bylaws committee to align with model IEA language. Highlights include:

- Allowing for the possibility of electronic voting as determined by the Elections Committee
- Cleanup language (grammar errors)
- Language requiring that the Representative Council and the Executive Board shall contain ethnic minority representation at least proportionate to the local association's ethnic-minority membership

IEA SLA (Summer Leadership Academy)

Illinois State University (Normal, IL) July 28-31, 2025

Early bird registration for the 2025 Summer Leadership Academy is \$45 and is open. On Saturday, May 10, registration will go up to \$90.00 per registrant. Once the schedule is complete, you will receive an email to select sessions and submit your payment.

If you'd like to sign up and have our local pay for your registration, please email Susan Hudson (HUDSON.SUSAN@DISTRICT205.NET). She will sign us up, and then you will get an email to select sessions and submit payment. Send me your receipt. We have a limited number of spots we can pay for, so submit yours today! Unfortunately, we don't have money to subsidize hotels at this time. PLEASE LET SUSAN HUDSON KNOW IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING BY THURSDAY, MAY 8th! Let Mark Danielson or Susan Hudson know if you have any questions! Most of the sessions are during the first two days of the SLA (7/28 and 7/29).

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>

Opportunities/News from IEA

Benefit Highlight – CustomGuide Interactive Training Courses

Did you know IEA members and staff have access to the interactive online CustomGuide training library for free? Check out this week's highlighted course to brush up your Business Skills:

- **Online Communication** – Struggling with online communication? Develop effective digital etiquette and virtual collaboration skills. Learn to write engaging email subjects, master virtual meeting etiquette, use online collaboration tools, and build strong online connections.
- **Build Confidence** – Ready to boost your self-assurance? Build confidence with strategies to excel in work and social situations. Learn mental strategies for lasting confidence, learn to use physical cues to boost confidence, excel in diverse situations, and turn setbacks into strengths.

Self-register for an account then [login](#) to access this course and more! Reach out to Kelsey.Harms@ieanea.org with any questions.

A special ENTICE workshop for teachers who want ways to do inclusive science

IL Department of Natural Resources is offering professional development training for teachers on June 4 that includes ways to make aquatic macroinvertebrate science studies inclusive for students of all abilities.

The cost is \$11, and teachers walk away with about \$50 worth of items they can use in their classroom with their students. Here is the link to the registration <https://www.enticeworkshops.com/>. We are working in partnership with Four Rivers Environmental Education Center, which is accredited by the National Inclusion Project, which means it has met the standards set by the organization for inclusive practices for individuals with disabilities.

For more information contact: lorna.shuman@illinois.gov or 217-785-0973

Update on assessment to advance an organizing culture:

As part of the IEA's continued efforts to support our members and strengthen our locals across the state, we've been taking a closer look at how we work, and how we can make sure that what we're doing supports every member, every local and ultimately builds more collective power across the state.

Over the past year, we partnered with a consultant to gather input from staff, members and governance regarding our strengths, identifying areas for improvement and exploring how we can be even more effective going forward.

We had our first in person planning meeting on Wednesday to talk more about the recommendations from the organizing report. We discussed the vision for the planning and engagement processes moving forward, so that we can have a shared, effective vision for the future.

Here's what comes next:

- In the coming weeks, the team will continue refining the goals and strategies developed so far.
- We're also creating a process to reach out, listen and continue to gather your ideas - so that the path forward is built by all of us.

Planning Team Members:

Mike Shoudy, Executive Director, representing the management team

Shawn Cooper, representing the management team

Al Llorens, President, representing governance

Karl Goeke, Vice President, representing governance

Gina Harris, Secretary Treasurer, representing governance

Dylan Swank, UD

Karen Moore, UD

Tomika Halsey, UD

Rebecca Olson, Board Member

Mike Williamson, Board Member and Local President

Meredith Hinchee, IEASO

Feana Nevel, IEASO

Angela Harkless, RSJ and Teaching and Learning

Bridget Shanahan, Communications

Chad Jordon, Government Relations

Deniece Hopkins, Organizer

Jim Matteucci, ESP Leader

Pam Lessner, Higher Ed

Maria Palmieri, Associate Staff

Alison Rohrbach, Board Member