

May 2016

# SANTA ROSA PROFESSIONAL EDUCATORS



## May Calendar

- May 2nd - Teacher/ESP
- May 6th - Appreciation Week
- May 5th - National Teacher Day
- May 10th - SRPE Awards Banquet  
6:15 PM
- May 11th - Rookie of the Year  
Celebration
- May 12th - Executive Board Meeting  
4:15 PM
- May 19th - School Board meeting  
9:00 AM

## State of the Union

In just a few short weeks we will close out this school year. Many culminating events at the district, school, and grade levels are in full swing. SRPE's annual Awards Banquet takes place May 10th at the Benny Russell Center located in Milton. This event begins at 6:15. Dinner is provided compliments of SRPE. Please contact Anna Neese, [SRPE.Office@SRPEducators.com](mailto:SRPE.Office@SRPEducators.com) no later than May 5th for your reservations. All members are invited to attend.

During our banquet program we will honor our 2015-2016 Everyday Heroes. Members were asked to nominate coworkers who inspire, motivate, and encourage the youth of Santa Rosa County to excel. Nominations were received for Valerie Ceravolo (Oriole Beach Elementary), Renee Hannah (Milton High), Kathy Clark (Holley Navarre Middle), Sally Nowling (Gulf Breeze Elementary), and Sandra Perdue (S.S. Dixon Primary). Join us as we honor these individuals.

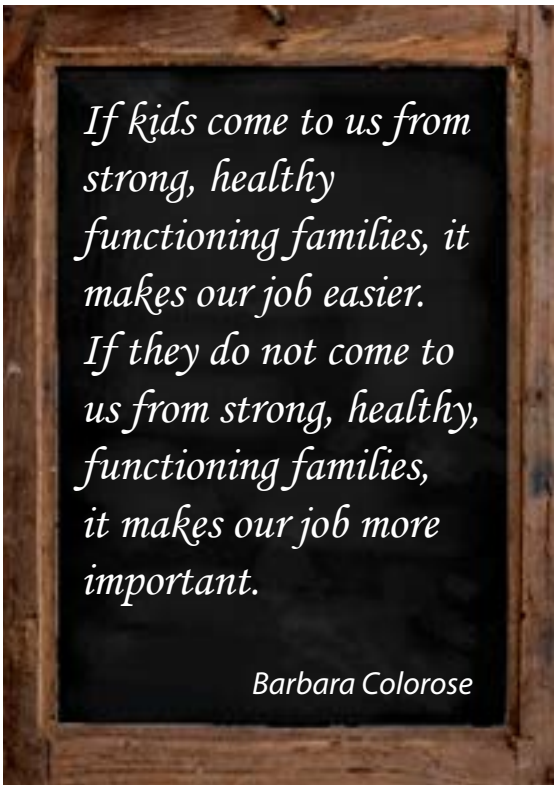
Each year two deserving seniors are awarded scholarships from our SRPE Scholarship Trust. Participating seniors are asked to return an essay on "What part of public education has been the most influential factor in preparing you for your academic future?" as part of their application process. Our Trust chairperson, Susan Crawford, will announce our 2015-16 Scholarship recipients at the banquet.

According to the Florida Department of Education's annual evaluation report, more than 98% of the state's teachers earned "effective" or "highly effective" ratings for the 2014-15 school year. About 37.5 % of teachers earned the highest ratings last year. These figures are down from 42.4 % the previous year.

While the state trend is showing a decrease in in E/HE ratings, Santa Rosa County has shown an increase. In 2014-15 72% of our teachers received a HE rating up from 67% for the 2013-14 school year. This is significant for teachers applying for the State's Best and the Brightest teacher scholarship bonus.

With ratings and evaluations finalized, you'll see a salary improvement reflected in your May pay check as well as a second check containing your retroactive improvement dating back to July 1. Just in time for summer!

Your union is here to protect you, improving your working conditions, and negotiating increases in your salary and employment benefits. Your union values your dedication, and SRPE is dedicated to you.



## PERC Update - A Victory!

Three SRPE members filed an administrative complaint with PERC in regards to the process taken in disaffiliating from FEA/NEA/AFT.

SRPE defended our process as being appropriate, fair, and consistent with our governing documents. SRPE was confident in our position. As we anticipated, we received word from our legal counsel that PERC ruled in favor of SRPE.

## SRProEducators.org is Growing!

As a planned, our website, [www.SRProEducators.org](http://www.SRProEducators.org) is expanding. We've added a resource page full of discounts, deals, and benefits. Be sure to register for our member forums under our [Get Active, Get Involved](#) page.

You'll also want to check out your SRPE membership's [Professional Liability Insurance](#). A comparison of coverages can be found under our Resources link.



**Congratulations to our  
SRPE Members  
Who Are  
Rookie of the Year  
Nominees!**

**April Bardin**  
Rhodes Elementary

**Brandon Czubinski**  
Holley Navarre Middle

**Cari Taylor**  
Holley Navarre Primary

### **What Has SRPE Done for YOU Lately?**

Each day, SRPE is called upon to assist members with a variety of employment issues. Remember, if you are called into a meeting you feel may lead to discipline, SRPE members are entitled to union representation. Do not hesitate to call!

#### **Working Conditions:**

- Placement Review Committee
- Disparate treatment
- ESE Concerns
- Professional Ethics
- ESP Evaluation Issues

#### **Professional Practice:**

- DUI
- Alleged criminal activity
- Unlawful use of work hours and board property

#### **School Board Policy 6.27**

*Professional Conduct for the Education Profession in Florida 6B-1.006*

Self reporting (m) of any arrest involving child abuse or the sale/possession of a controlled substance 48 hours not an admission of guilt nor will the notice be used against you in any proceeding.

## **Member Spotlight: Heather Owens, WBMS**



Mrs. Owens's 6th, 7th, and 8th grade gifted classes from Woodlawn Beach Middle School authored a historical fiction book called, *Throwback Thursday; A Collection of Short Stories* from WBMS.

The stories are a collection of historical fiction from the minds and imaginations of many bright, young students at Woodlawn Beach Middle School. They span

the time of thousands of years and involve characters from around the globe. Each story pulls elements from the time period it takes place in, yet has its own unique twist. These students are excited to have a Kindle edition published and ready for your viewing!

## **In the News**

### [Sit and Stare?](#)

#### [Volusia County Re-evaluates Post-test Options](#)

Parents complain about children not being able to read when they finish state assessments.

### [Florida Clamps Down on School Construction Spending](#)

At the urging of some Florida Lawmakers who said school districts were spending too much to build campuses, the state has tightened rules on construction costs.

**SRPE**  
6798 Caroline St.  
Milton, FL 32570

[rhonda.chavers@srpeducators.com](mailto:rhonda.chavers@srpeducators.com)  
[SRPE.Office@srpeducators.com](mailto:SRPE.Office@srpeducators.com)  
[SRProEducators.org](http://SRProEducators.org)

Tel. 850 623 5877  
Fax: 850 623 5827