

The Montage

PEA's Newsletter

December 17, 2014

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Another Year in the Books

Neil Linville, President

The end of the calendar year and first semester are quickly approaching, and I'm sure you are looking forward to spending the holidays with your family and friends. As I reflect on this past year, I'd like to take a moment to reflect on the positives we've experienced in 2014.

- We were able to settle a contract very early in the bargaining window, so early that I believe PEA and Perry Township were the first to ratify in our state. While that wasn't our goal, we feel like this year's contract negotiations went smoothly and allowed a good contract with a raise and no benefits increases to emerge. Furthermore, we continue to secure raises attached to your base salary. There are many districts that do not do this; your voice helps allow us to bargain this on your behalf.
- PEA saw a very good increase in membership. Our incentive program helped to garner new members, and as our numbers grow, so does the strength of our unified voice.
- I appointed Mike Slack (PMHS) to coordinate member events to help promote unity within our association and to allow us to remain unified. Our first event at Vino Villa in October was a hit. Stay tuned for information regarding our next event, which will take place in the spring. We are also continuing to find ways to inform you about ways to take advantage of your membership. **See Matt Henninger's article on the next page.**
- Our student enrollment continues to increase, and we are bursting at the seams, especially in our elementary schools. This presents challenges, but it also presents opportunities for our students and teachers in the coming months/years. All teachers need to remain informed.
- We continue to hear concerns about evaluations in some buildings and positive feedback in others. We are working **WITH** administration closely to address specific issues in specific buildings.

These are highlights of the progress and continued successes we are seeing in Perry Township, all of which are due to your dedication to our schools, students, and to each other. We still have issues to address in the coming months, but just know that your PEA leadership works tirelessly to ensure our schools remain the best in central Indiana, if not our state.

Thank you for all you do, and I hope you have a blessed holiday season with your family and friends!

PEA Leadership

Neil Linville, President

Matt Henninger, 1st V.P./ Membership Chair

Danielle Brooking, 2nd V.P.

Steve Dawson, Treasurer/ HSBT Board

Kyle Hanefeld, Secretary/ Discussion Chair

Mike Slack, PEA Event Manager

Chris Allen, Web-Master

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Like us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/perryea

Special points of interest:

- **HSBT Health and Wellness Center**
6925 S. Harding Street
497-6140
- **24/7 Nurse Line** (888-279-5449)
- **Anthem Member Services**
(800-345-2460)



Opportunities to Continually Save \$\$\$

By: Matt Henninger, PEA 1st Vice President

NEA has created "Click & Save," a program for members that offers deals on various goods and services. This program features deals on hotels, rental cars, insurance, credit cards, tax services, and cell phone service, to name a few. When I first visited their website (www.neamb.com), I was very impressed and VERY overwhelmed. I didn't even know where to look first. Clearly, there were more deals featured than I would ever have time to sift through. I thought, *I'll just come back and take a look later*. Since that time, I've visited the website several times, and I continue to navigate away from the page rather quickly, still thinking to myself, *This will have to wait until later*.

I have to believe there are others out there who, like me, would love to take advantage of these savings opportunities but are also intimidated by the site. Because we believe this to be the case, our

PEA leadership team decided to seek out a member who is already using "Click & Save" and to ask her to communicate with our membership regularly. Jackie Miller, PMMS, has graciously agreed to spearhead this effort. Because she is familiar with the site, she will be able to search for ways to save and communicate those to members in a clear, concise manner. This should be off the ground by the beginning of next semester.



The Dawson Monologue

By: Steve Dawson, Treasurer/HSBT Board Member

Health and Wellness Center News

If you have tried to get an appointment at the HSBT Health and Wellness Center, you know that the schedule is very full. Because of demand, HSBT will open two more centers—one near Speedway and one on the east side. The speedway center should open March 1, 2015, and the east side location will open later in the spring.

To better accommodate patients, the hours have recently changed:

Monday	9:00-6:00
Tuesday	8:00-5:00
Wednesday	8:00-5:00
Thursday	8:00-5:00
Friday	6:30-3:30

The Health and Wellness Center does accept walk-in patients for acute care, but the wait time may be long as patients with an appointment will be seen on time. Walk-in patients will not be seen for wellness care such as physicals. For all visits, please schedule an appointment if possible. Call 497-6140 or go to www.mywebahead.com/hsbt. **Remember, there is no office co-pay for the Health and Wellness Center, and wellness coaches are available for free to help with your health goals.**

Employee Assistance Program

You have access to Anthem's Employee Assistance Program (EAP). You are able to receive face-to-face counseling, crisis consultation, legal assistance, and other services.

You will hear more early next year, but our EAP plan is changing to offer you more services. For now, access the plan by calling 800-647-9151 or go to www.anthemead.com and enter company code "Hoosier School Benefit Trust." Your use of the program is **completely confidential**; neither Perry Township nor HSBT is told who uses the program.

The Cost of Your Benefits

When determining your salary, you should include the cost of your benefits. On December 19, the last pay of the calendar year, look at the box on the bottom right corner of your paystub. It shows the amount that Perry Township pays for your benefits; you may be surprised by the amount. PEA has been able to bargain some of the best benefits in the state because of the strength of our membership.

New Insurance Cards

In January, Anthem will issue new insurance cards for everyone with HSBT coverage—not just those who are changing plans. As our AEP provider is changing (see above), that phone number will no longer be printed on the new card. Continue to use 800-647-9151 until you receive the new number.

