

July 13, 2009

Transformation Update

Highlights:

- **First full Transformation Team meeting since April**
- **Work groups report out on progress**
- **Communication regarding Transformation a major issue**

Overview of July 13, 2009 Meeting

On July 13, the entire UEA Transformation Team met again for the first time since April to reconnect and work on overall transformation objectives.

The meeting began with a welcome and “reconnect” briefing from UEA Executive Director Mark Mickelsen. He spoke about:

- Changes in the governor’s office;
- The state’s dwindling tax resources;
- Teachers that are suffering personal pay cuts as a result of the economic downturn;
- Fringe groups that are moving unhealthy agendas for public education;
- Moderate lawmakers who are asking the UEA to lead out on education issues; and
- The UEA’s efforts to train its members in organizing strategies.

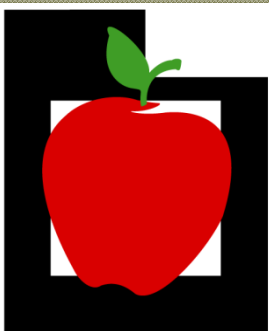
NEA Organizational Specialist Ruben Cedeño spoke about issues the NEA is facing. He said currently, the NEA is experiencing shifts in membership due to retirement. This will have an impact on how NEA resources and funds will be used by state affiliates, like the UEA. The work of the UEA Transformation Team will become more important in helping the Association reach its strategic goals.

UEA Vice President Ellen Thompson debriefed team members on the process used for Transformation data collection at the UEA’s Summer Leadership Academy, held in mid-June. At this annual meeting, there were table discussions held regarding the transformation process. Data from the table discussions was clustered into themes during the July 13 meeting of the full Transformation Team. Themes included communication, leadership, engagement, and advocacy.

Cedeño reviewed the prospectuses and our objectives. The prospectus includes the goals and objectives of each work group, a synopsis of work completed to date, and next steps and timelines. The Transformation Team will continue to focus on developing a set of recommendations to reach the UEA’s four strategic goals.

Representatives of the two work groups (Products and Services and Policy and Structure) talked about the progress of each group. The work groups have been meeting separately since the last full Transformation Team meeting in April.

UEA staff members Mike Kelley and Paul Chadwick talked to the group about the use of technology for collecting data and using the UEA website to communicate with members regarding Transformation.



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Transformation Update

Transformation Update (continued)

The Policy and Structure and Products and Services Work Groups examined the Leadership Academy table discussion data, and dealt with unanswered questions submitted by Academy participants. The work groups also began to develop survey questions about Transformation that will be shared with UEA members, beginning in August.

The Transformation Team discussed how the group can be more effective in communicating with its constituents. UEA staff members will be posting Transformation information on the website (<http://www.utea.org>).

An early August date has been set for another full Transformation Team meeting. In addition, the two work groups will be meeting separately to carry out their specific tasks.

Your UEA Transformation Team:

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Lynne Romney, romneylynne@gmail.com – Representing retired UEA members

Holly Scheuermann, holly.scheuermann@utea.org – Representing UEA associate staff

Julie Seeley, jseeley@dcsd.org – Representing rural local associations and the UEA Council of Local Presidents

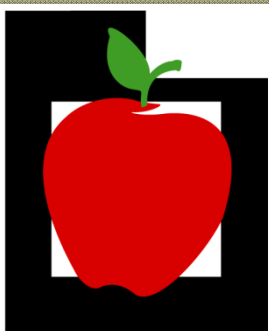
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