

Education Austin Update

At the Capitol

Legislators at the capitol are working hard on many issues that will impact our students, the resources we have, and importantly, our pay. Here are a few updates on bills working their way through the system:

- There is a lot of news about the senate's bill (SB 3) giving classroom teachers and librarians a \$5,000 raise. We have been arguing that this is a nice start. However, we want the raise to go to ALL public school employees. We also want more money for our schools generally. The house passed their school finance bill (HB 3). That bill will increase the

funding our district gets for each student, gives us relief from recapture, and permanently raises the minimum rates for school employees. The house and the senate will now have to put these two bills together in a compromise.

- Representative Rodriguez from Austin has authored a bill (HB 92) that will allow districts to use a community school model in a turn-around plan. This bill, which we support, has passed the house and needs to be passed in the senate.

- There is a house bill (HB 9) that will increase pension contributions without increasing costs to employees or districts. We support this bill. It is still in a committee.



Consultation Agreements

Our consultation team meets monthly with the administration to discuss policies and concerns affecting work conditions. We are currently working on details to help with the shortage of

substitutes. We are proposing higher pay for subs in order to get more subs. We are also proposing a way to pay teachers and TAs who cover classes when there are no subs. We will share

more information when we get a final agreement.

Respect NOW

Education Austin

We want our members to have a voice and be respected. Here are a few ways we are fighting every day for respect. These are a few recent victories. If you have questions or concerns, please call our office at 512-472-1124.

- We recently stopped two growth plans that we felt were not appropriate.
- We stopped the termination of a classified employee, because the administration did not follow the proper process.
- One member won a grievance.



Do you or someone you know want to join Education Austin? Here is a link to become a member today!

<http://educationaustin.org/join-the-union/>

- Curriculum Specialists who are facing a reorganization spoke out meeting in support of their positions and department at the school board meeting.



Congratulations!

Students taught by Education Austin Steward, Sean Gallagher, at Austin High School took home two awards at the UIL State Film Competition! Here is a link: <https://vimeo.com/285635763>.

We want to share more good news. Please send accomplishments to gailb@educationaustin.org. We love celebrating with our members!