



# For the Week of May 4, 2009

From Sheri Strickland and Rodney Ellis

## Sheri's Week:

**Monday, May 4** -I attended the NC Foundation for Public School Children Board meeting. Caleb Norkus, soccer player with the Carolina Railhawks, attended part of the Board meeting. He will be playing in the Foundation's golf tournament. Angela Farthing and I met with state treasurer Janet Cowell to share information about issues that will be discussed at the State Board meeting later this week. Angela and I meet with members of the Governor's staff to discuss members' questions and concerns about the 10 furlough hours.

**Tuesday, May 5** -Angela and I had a breakfast meeting with State Superintendent June Atkinson. In the afternoon, we met with a member of the Lt. Governor's staff for a briefing before the State Board meeting. Angela and I also attended the NC Teacher of the Year banquet.

**Wednesday, May 6** -Angela, Elic Senter and I attended the State Board meeting. The State Board's meeting was limited to one day this month because of budget constraints. We were at the State Board meeting from 7:30 until 5:00. The Board adopted the policy for the 10 furlough hours during this meeting. The Board also adopted a policy to allow local flexibility in use of funds to meet the new round of reversions. The Board also received an update on the state revenues for the last quarter of the year. The report indicated that revenues are 40% below what is needed to pay

the state's bills through the end of the fiscal year. The Board also heard the results of a study conducted by Duke graduate students about possible ways to restructure the salary schedule. The report indicated that no changes to the current salary schedule could be successful without the support of NCAE!

**Thursday, May 7** -Rodney and I had made time to do some catching up after being on the run to different places for more than a week. I worked on updates for the Board of Directors' Handbook.

**Friday, May 8** -I attended a meeting of NCAE's internal policy team. We reviewed several bills on which our GR staff has been working. Scott Anderson and I attended a production of Seussical the Musical at the Carolina Theater in Durham. The production had been postponed from March 2 because area schools had been closed due to snow. It was a wonderful opportunity for the children NCAE sponsored to be able to come to a theater and see a play. I recorded a message for a rob call about NCAE's Save our Schools Protest on May16.

### **Rodney's Week:**

**Monday, May 4** -I worked on a session I will facilitate at the Summer Leaders Conference.  
I participated in the Gaston County Association of Educators End-of-Year/Retirement Banquet

**Tuesday, May 5** -I worked on training materials to present at an AR training for Reps in Surry, Mt. Airy, and Elkin. I collaborated with John Ferguson to present information on membership recruitment and retention. The training was held in Mt. Airy from 4:30 – 8:00 that afternoon.

**Wednesday, May 6** -I worked in the office responding to phone calls and emails. I also had several impromptu meetings with staff throughout the day.  
I met with Richard Miller to review the membership plan he has developed for the 09-10 academic year.

**Thursday, May 7** -I met with Sheri to debrief after her return from DC. We met with Scott to plan for the upcoming rally scheduled for May 16<sup>th</sup>. I

traveled to Cabarrus County to serve as guest speaker for their Retirement Banquet.

**Friday, May 8** -I went to a prom for the first time in many years! The Gateway Education Center in Guilford held their 2009 Prom and invited me to attend. It was a wonderful event, students and staff had a great time and special thanks to Vickie Simmons who gave me a guided tour of the facility and gave me an opportunity to listen to staff members describe some of the challenges they face serving a unique population.