



REGION 6 VIEWPOINT



IEA-NEA Region 6 1012 Plummer Drive Edwardsville, IL 62025
Phone: (618) 656-0010 or 800-462-6213

Chair: David Watts

Vice Chair: Bobby Rickman

UniServ Director: Fred Glover

September 2023

Watt's Happenin

WELCOME



Welcome back to the 2023-2024 school year. I would like to take a moment to introduce myself as your new Region 6 Chair. Although this is my first time as your Region Chair, well actually second; I was elected in 2014 but only served 2 months before becoming an NEA Director, I am not a stranger to the IEA Board of Directors. I am a 22 year veteran teacher in the Roxana School District teaching 7th grade science. I served as one of your NEA Directors from 2014-2021 representing you on the NEA Board of Directors in Washington DC. Throughout this I have learned so much regarding IEA and NEA to advance their mission building strong schools, unions, and advance their cause in racial and social justice.

IEA has a new leadership team this year and I am looking forward to seeing what President Al Llorens, Vice President Karl Goeke, and Secretary-Treasurer Gina Harris have in store to advance our union. I would be remiss without giving a huge thank you to former Region 6 Chairs, Freddie Hatfill, Annice Brave, and John Stosky who have been integral in making me the leader I am today. Thank you for your service to IEA and Region 6 over the last 15 years and I hope to continue your strong leadership to our members. I want to invite anyone to our Region 6 council meeting especially our local presidents and region council representatives. Your attendance is important to strengthen our association.

If you have any questions, concerns, or want to get more involved, please do not ever hesitate to reach out to me at david.watts@ieanea.org or the AMAZING staff at the Edwardsville IEA office; our phenomenal administrative assistant Kim Lager at kim.lager@ieanea.org.....also when she sends you emails please read them; and our Region 6 UniServ Director Fred Glover at fred.glover@ieanea.org. I am thankful to both of them for all of their work they do for Region 6. I am excited to begin this new position and I wish you all a great beginning of the school year. In union there is strength and in strength there is union.

David Watts
Region 6 Chair

Rickman's Reflections.....

Involvement is one of the most important parts of unionism. That is the area where we struggle sometimes in education, of getting our members involved. Well, you may be thinking, how do I fix it? As president of the largest local in Region 6 and being a wall-to-wall local, it starts with identifying people in your local who might be eager to get involved but have never been asked. Our new Region 6 GPA is a first time activist on our Region 6 board and it took a simple ask by a member to join in on the fun. Your members may not be ready to attend an IEA conference or a Representative Assembly just yet, but maybe you invite them to a regional training, a meeting in your building, or just share some picture of a fun time you had at a union event. You have to start small to dream big.

This fall and spring there are a number of opportunities for our members to join in. Whether it is the Early Career Fall Blitz which is open to anyone in years 1-10 of their education journey, IEA One Conference, EMELT, or Summer Leadership. There are a number of ways to get your members engaged as well as many IEA scholarships and other funding resources such as \$1,000 grants for your local. If you know a great grant writer, that could be your first hook.

Bobby Rickman
Region 6 Vice-Chair

REGION 6 NOMINATION FORM

For Delegates to the
2024 IEA RA – March 14-16, 2024

NOMINATION:

I wish to nominate (*name*) _____

of (*local*) _____ for position of:

(SELECT FOR ANY AND ALL POSITIONS — MARK WITH AN “X”)

IEA RA Delegate

Signature of Nominator: _____

Date: _____

ACCEPTANCE: I hereby accept this nomination and certify that I’m an active member in good standing in the Association.

Signature of Nominee: _____

Nominee Address: _____

Nominee Phone Number: _____

*Nominee **Personal** Email Address:* _____

Date: _____

Mail or fax to: IEA Region 6 Elections Committee
Attn: Region 6 Elections Chair
1012 Plummer Drive, Suite 400
Edwardsville, IL 62025
OR
IEA Fax #: (618) 656-9478

**NOMINATION FORMS MUST BE
RECEIVED NO LATER THAN
5:00 p.m. on October 30, 2023.**

**Ballots will be distributed after
November 6th.**

Election Day is December 6, 2023.