

Tips for Recruiting a Strong FEA Chapter

With this school year just beginning to wind down, it can be tough to think about the school year that will start in August! However, it is never too early to begin your chapter recruitment plan for the fall. To help you get started, we are sharing a few pointers that will help make your recruitment efforts a success.



Methods for Recruiting FEA Members

- Plan a recruitment week around your fall kick-off meeting. Ask teachers to support your FEA chapter by displaying recruitment materials in their classrooms. Include the time and date of your kick-off meeting in the school announcements. Hang an FEA poster in a prominent hallway, and ask returning FEA members to help distribute FEA F.A.Q. cards or host an informational table in the cafeteria during lunch. (You can order these FEA recruitment tools in the PDK/FEA Online Store at www.pdkstore.org.)
- Participate in and display recruitment information at school open houses, including events like the freshman activity fair and back-to-school night. Your current FEA members are your best ambassadors; encourage them to assist you with recruitment at these events.

- Contact your school's guidance department for the names of students who have indicated an interest in teaching through career-inventory testing. Ask these students to attend your 2009-10 kick-off meeting. At your kick-off meeting, be sure share the benefits of FEA with these students. It is also important to plan an icebreaker or a "get to know you" activity so potential new members can interact with returning FEA members. Encourage existing members to invite a friend to the first several meetings of each new school year.
- Ask to include the new FEA video, "A classroom is waiting..." in your web-based or televised announcements. You can also create your own announcement for these purposes. (To view the new FEA video, visit www.futureeducators.org.)

These are just a few ways to engage potential new members. Starting the year with a visible, active FEA chapter will help you grow your program. In addition to a few recruitment events, it is important to plan fun, interactive meetings to keep your enthusiastic and dedicated members coming back. Consider how you can incorporate guest speakers and panel discussions into your meetings and include hands-on experiences, like service learning activities and peer tutoring, in your yearly activities. With well-planned, student-led programs, you will have your best year yet!

FEAConnect.org – FEA's Social Networking Site



Have you joined FEAConnect (www.FEAConnect.org)? As we begin to wrap up the 2008-09 school year and prepare for next year, FEAConnect is becoming a primary means of communication for FEA international headquarters. Many of our announcements, including information about Read for the Record and conference competitions, will hit FEAConnect first! Be sure that you and your students are signed up and logged in so you get the most up-to-date information. Go to www.FEAConnect.org now, and click on "Get Activated."



Submit a Session Proposal for the 2010 FEA Conference

Do you have an outstanding project or research to share? Do you know how to lead an engaging, interactive workshop? Do you and your students want to share your knowledge with our future educators?



We are seeking workshop presenters for the 2010 FEA annual conference, which will be held February 12-14 in San Antonio, Texas. The 2010 theme is “Ilumina el corazón y la mente. ¡Enseña!” or “Illuminate the heart and mind. Teach!” For more details and to submit a proposal, go to www.futureeducators.org. Submissions will be accepted through 5 p.m. EDT on September 14, 2009.

FEA Mission, Vision, and Tagline

Have you heard about the new Future Educators Association® mission, vision, and tagline? Have you noticed the new logo? FEA recently updated its core belief statements in order to better reflect the purpose and goals of the organization. Please take a moment to review these important updates. We encourage you to update all of your state-level and chapter materials to include this new information.

FEA Mission

The mission of FEA is to foster the recruitment and development of prospective educators worldwide through the dissemination of innovative programming and relevant research.

FEA Vision

By elevating the image of teaching, FEA will attract dynamic and diverse students who will become tomorrow's great educators.

FEA Tagline

Future Educators Association® – A classroom is waiting...



The FEA Online Store: Honor Cords and New Chapter T-shirts

The recently updated PDK/FEA Online Store (www.pdkstore.org) has a diverse selection of FEA items, including apparel, merchandise, and publications. Remember to order students' honor cords and FEA certificates before graduation! You can also get a step ahead by ordering your recruitment materials for the fall. There are a number of new resources available to you in the online store; visit www.pdkstore.org to see all the choices.



One particular brand new item may be of special interest to you! We are delighted to announce that we will now carry a “chapter” T-shirt. This high quality T-shirt can be printed with your chapter or school name on the back. You can further personalize the shirt by choosing a fabric color. If you have traditionally ordered special T-shirts for your chapter members, you can save time and money by ordering your shirts from us. The cost of each shirt is \$7.95 plus shipping. We're sure you'll agree that this is quite a bargain for a shirt that is uniquely yours.

Jumpstart's Read for the Record Campaign October 8, 2009

Save the date! Jumpstart's Read for the Record date has been set for Thursday, October 8. This year's book is *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle. This beautiful children's book, translated in 20 languages worldwide, describes a caterpillar who munches his way through one red apple on Monday, two green pears on Tuesday, three purple plums on Wednesday... all the while demonstrating lessons in color recognition, counting skills, and the sequencing of days of the week. In our upcoming *FEA Communiqués*, you will receive much more information about how the Read for the Record campaign can be a success for your chapter. We know you will love the experience of reading this book aloud while striving to beat last year's world record!

