

# IEA-Retired Sessions

## Consumer Fraud and Civil Rights Presentation and Identity Theft Presentation

The Illinois Attorney General works closely with community leaders and organizations to provide information about the office's services and resources to residents across the state. Protecting consumers and businesses that have been victimized by fraud, deception or unfair competition is one of the primary functions of the IAG. Through the work of the Community Engagement Bureau, community outreach liaisons are available to provide presentations about topics such as consumer fraud, identify theft prevention, and crime victim's assistance. Presentations focus on some of the most likely scams that Illinoisans might encounter such as COVID-19 related scams, fraud related to government payments and relief programs, unemployment insurance false claims, utility scams, imposter scams, home repair scams, telephone and online marketing scams, health care fraud, and many others. The IAG's office also provides guidance and practices to attendees on how to best protect themselves from becoming a victim. Through the office's assistance on identify theft prevention, the office provides resources to help Illinois residents prevent, spot, and recover from identify theft. **Presenter: Abby Eusebio**

## Cyber Security

This session is packed with helpful tips and tricks to keep you safe on the internet and keep your computer running properly. We will discuss how to avoid email scams, protect your personal information, conduct e-commerce securely, navigate the web properly, basic antivirus coverage and more! **Presenter: Kelsey Harms**

## Empowering Our Members to Organize and Advocate for Our Union Rights and Public Education

As educators/union members we all need to be empowered to:

- Use our social capital to build relationships with our colleagues, students, and community.
- Identify the differences between public education and privatized education.
- Use organizational strategies and advocacy tools to create a plan to engage and empower members to stay actively informed and to take action with their collective voices at the local, state, and national levels to protect traditional public education, unions, and retirement programs/benefits.

**Presenters: Diane Chapman and Carol Schnaiter**

## Getting the Most Out of Your Smart Phone

Do your photos come out blurry? Are the faces washed out? Do all the people in your picture look like shadows? Join the IEA Communications Department for some tips on how to take the best selfies, pictures and video with your smart phone as well as some other useful tips.

**Presenters: Jordan Hammer and Leslie Strain**

## Legislative Update

Discuss legislation that impacted IEA-R members during the past legislative session. These issues will include TRIP/TRAIL, pension funding, and legislation that impacts retirees. **Presenter: Will Lovett**

## Mindfulness and Self Care

Even educators get triggered. As educators we understand that cultivating a peaceful presence is the most valuable teaching tool we have. Once we become present to what is occurring in the moment through mindfulness practice, how can we help to cultivate meaningful shifts in ourselves, our teams and our students to optimize opportunities for learning and growing.

**Presenters: Gina Harris, Al Llorens, and Rakhi Mistry (PD = 1 Hr.)**

## Remembering Route 66

The name evokes images of gas stations, mom-and-pop motels, quirky attractions, and adventure on the open road. In this nostalgia-packed lecture, historian Leslie Goddard, Ph.D., explores the history of Route 66, the iconic road that linked Chicago to Los Angeles from 1926 until its closing in the mid-1980s. Learn why Route 66 remains so indelibly associated with the lore of the American road trip. What was Route 66 like at its pinnacle – and what is it today? **Presenter: Dr. Leslie Goddard**

## Safety Starts with You

Crime and fear create special problems within the community, especially for the elderly. Crime prevention is everybody's responsibility, not just a job for law enforcement. This course can help seniors learn how to protect themselves from crime by following simple everyday suggestions. This can help in reducing the opportunities for criminals, all while learning to be vigilant and feeling secure living within the community. Topics of discussion will be: grandparents scam, credit scams, ATM safety, home safety tips and much more. The community has a shared responsibility in crime prevention, but it starts with you!

**Presenters: Katie Yager and Reid Foltyniewicz**

## Tips to Organize Your Records NOW, Before Others Need Them

Too many papers, in too many places? Would your family know how to manage your affairs if suddenly (or gradually) you were unable to do that? If the answer is not a clear yes, then it is time to come to this session. In one hour, you will learn how to have important information where you and your family can find it. You will get a one-page guide to 32 topics you can have organized in a simple three-ring binder. It always seems too early, until it's too late.

**Presenter: Sonja Reece**

## Titanic 1912

The most discussed maritime tragedy of the 20<sup>th</sup> century was the sinking of R.M.S. Titanic in April of 1912 with the loss of over 1,500 passengers and crew. Countless books, documentaries, and explorations of the wreck have made news headlines for over 100 years. In this presentation we will look at the history of Titanic, ship construction, maiden voyage, discovery of the wreck and what good has come from the disaster. The presenter was fortunate to be part of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary memorial cruise out of New York in April 2012, visiting the wreck site. Titanic interests have captivated him since being a young boy. Even though the Titanic disaster took place over 100 years ago, it still captures the imagination of many today.

**Presenter: John Meehan**

## What's Happening to Our TRS Pension

Mr. Frankenfeld, Director of Outreach for TRS, will give an update on the impact of the virus on TRS investment returns and state revenues and what impact that will have on the future of pensions in Illinois. In addition, he will provide an update to the health insurance program, including some benefit improvements offered to retired teachers. He will also discuss the latest state programs to reduce the unfunded liability of the system and other issues in the capitol and in the courts.

**Presenter: Rich Frankenfeld**

## Understanding Your Media Sources

Fiction and nonfiction are not just library sections. People constantly get bombarded with unreliable information from untrustworthy sources. So how do you know what's real and what's fake? Learn to weed through the noise and evaluate sources for authenticity at this timely program.

**Presenter: Amy Franco**

## Gayla Dial – IEA Retired Hauge Award Winner

Gayla Dial, a member of the Deep South Retired chapter, has served as president and vice president of her local, organized members, has been a GPA, served on the Special Ed Committee, and is currently working with the FCPE.



# ESP Sessions

## Bargaining for ESPs During a Pandemic and Beyond

During this 1-hour session, ESPs will have the opportunity to share some of the many challenges they face in their work environment (COVID related or otherwise) and obtain ideas and resources to assist them in preparing to collectively bargain.

Presenter: Jill Lee

## Creating Safe Spaces for Transgender and Nonbinary Students as an ESP

Learn how you can help create a supportive school and classroom culture LGBTQ+ youth, especially transgender/gender non-conforming students. This session will focus on how ESPs are integral in making sure all students feel safe, supported and celebrated.

Presenter: Amy Biancheri (PD = 1 Hr.)

## ESP Celebration Forum

This year with Covid-19, ESPs faced more challenges and yet had more opportunities than ever to make a difference in the lives of our school community. ESPs did what we have always done, we stepped up, reached out, and filled the needs that were all around us. Come celebrate with us so we can celebrate you. Enjoy a dance party, hear fabulous speakers, including our IEA ESPOTY and a chance to win fabulous prizes.

Presenter: Jill Scarcelli

## Gripe vs. Grievance

The participants will learn about the steps involved before filing a grievance. The session will also cover the grievance process and provide examples.

Presenter: Tom Tully

## Introduction to Leadership for ESPs

ESP members will explore the skill set necessary for effective leadership. Participants will first look at various inner qualities such as self-esteem, handling stress, assertiveness and being resilient. Members will then explore what makes an effective leader and how to build an organizational structure that encourages membership participation. Members from the 2021 ESP Emerging Leaders Cohort and trainers will also share out on their experiences.

Presenters: Crystal Bush, Jill Scarcelli, and Ryan Danzinger

## Learn How to Join the Next Cohort of the IEA-NEA ESP Emerging Leaders Academy

The IEA-NEA ESP Emerging Leaders Academy is a leadership training program designed to help emerging ESP leaders become more effective leaders and stronger union activists. This training gives members the skills, knowledge, and resources needed to build ESP capacity and increase ESP voices at the local, region, state, and national levels.

Presenters: Crystal Bush, Linda Matsumoto, Ryan Danzinger, Tamyra Sutton, Mary Ann Rivera

## Mentoring Your ESP Members

Are you interested in starting a mentoring program to support your ESP members? We will share with you how we support our new employees: introducing them to our district, our union, and help them through their first year.

Presenter: Connie Joniec

## Membership Processing for Locals

1. Overview of membership processing
2. Membership chair responsibilities
3. The problems resulting in not keeping an eye on membership (do's and don'ts)
4. Members paying union dues, but not receiving any of the available IEA/NEA member benefits

Presenter: Dawn Hall

## Race, Racism, and the Work to Change Systems

During this session participants will engage in circle format discussion and collaboration on institutional racism and racial justice in education as it pertains to educator's personal development of the understanding of unconscious/implicit bias and ways to begin having safe, meaningful conversations to create understanding and unity with both colleagues and future students.

Presenter: Gina Harris (PD = 1 Hr.)

## The Injured School Employee: Rights and Benefits

An overview of the Illinois Worker's Compensation laws and administration, including recent "reforms." Special emphasis will be placed on real life examples involving custodians, bus drivers, cooks, secretaries, and paraeducators.

Presenters: Jay Johnson and Russell Haugen

## The Financial Dilemma- Negotiating Health Insurance

The United States Healthcare System, for private insurers, your employer (districts) and the government are all unofficial partners in a complicated and loosely defined system. A course Negotiating Health Insurance will: introduce association leaders and negotiators to various financial concepts and dilemma's when faced with bargaining health insurance.

Presenter: Dave Jelliff

## True Colors

True Colors is a model for understanding yourself and others based on your communication style and temperament. The colors Orange, Gold, Green and Blue are used to differentiate the four central True Colors communication styles. Each of us has a combination of the four True Colors that make up our temperament spectrum, usually with one of the styles being the most dominant. By identifying your communication style (and those of others), True Colors provides insights into different motivations, action and communication approaches.

Presenters: Michael Williamson and Mary Ann Rivera

## Trauma Responsive Training for Educational Support Professionals

Interested in learning more about how to incorporate trauma responsive practices in your daily work as you come in contact with children and young adults? In this session, we will discuss and use scenarios as we consider what is the best approach when handling everyday situations with students who might be reacting negatively because of trauma. What's the best approach?

Presenter: Mary Jane Morris (PD = 1 Hr.)

## Why Should I Be a Member and What Do I Get for My Membership Dues? Members Won't Know if We Don't Tell Them!

This session will provide skills to build commitment to unionism, strengthen our collective action, retain current members, and recruit new members. Participants will learn how to conduct a new member engagement campaign as well as discuss how to effectively communicate the value of membership and the benefits it offers. Participants will also explore various communication modes including newsletters, Facebook, and websites to build a strong union local and build support from the communities they serve.

Presenter: Jill Scarcelli

# ESP Sessions Continued

## Your Mindset Leads to Your Impact

Mindset is everything! The scars we carry with us while scaling terrifying mountains or while rolling down hills, each bump and bruise have shaped us into the educators we are today. But, how can we shift our mindset to take these bruises and make them into a purposeful tool to foster our own success? It begins with a personal growth journey and ends with a pursuit toward a never-ending professional growth journey toward excellence.

#BetterYou

Participants will learn: the connection between personal growth and its ability to stifle our educational growth, tools on a mindfulness practice of goal setting, how your network can transform your impact, how to actively choose to excel. **Presenter: Rae Hughart (PD = 1 Hr.)**

## 2021 IMRF Update

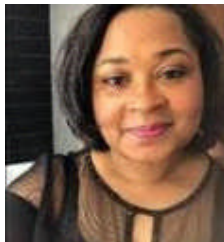
Whether you're new to IMRF or getting ready for your retirement, this session provides an opportunity to learn about the requirements for participating in IMRF along with how your benefits are determined. We'll also discuss the contributions that you and your employer are required to make, along with the Voluntary Additional Contribution Program.

Information about 2021 legislation and how it may affect you will be provided. Bring all your IMRF questions with you to the meeting.

**Presenters: Bonnie Shadid and Brian Glover**

### Debra Ward-Mitchell – IEA ESP of the Year

Debra Ward-Mitchell is our 2021 ESPOTY. Debra is a Paraprofessional and is the Assistant Director of District 205 Infant Care Center. The Center provides services for teen moms and dads. Debra is in her 37<sup>th</sup> year with District 205.



## Break Out and Chat: Engaging Students in the Virtual Classroom

We have probably all struggled while leading classes on Zoom, but we have probably all also developed techniques that help us engage our students and convey content. During this session, we will share simple methods to facilitate teaching on Zoom. For instance, there are ways to use Zoom's Chat feature to encourage participation and to approximate regular classroom activities.

**Presenter: Nicola Schmidt (PD = 1 Hr.)**

## Equity, Economic Growth and Affordability: IBHE's Strategic Plan for Illinois Higher Education

In June 2021, Illinois Board of Higher Education released its 10-year strategic plan for higher education in Illinois. Join us for a discussion of the three basic goals of that plan: closing equity gaps, increasing talent that drives economic growth, and building a stronger financial future. How does IBHE propose to meet those goals among the diverse higher education institutions in Illinois (public/private 4-year/2-year)? How might this affect your institution, your work, your students, your community?

**Presenter: Frank Brooks**

## Running an Effective Meeting

Learn how to keep your members engaged, involved and focused at your meetings. Provide well organized and lively conversations and complete the task at hand without hours and hours of meeting time. Our IEA President, Kathi Griffin will share her knowledge and tricks to help you run your meetings smoothly. "Come and learn from a real pro!"

**Presenter: Kathi Griffin**

## The Overdue Burden of Educational Technology in the Classroom

Technology in the classroom has become an overused burden on instructors that anytime an educator heard "the new technology for the classroom" eyes start to roll. In this session, I will discuss how to evaluate an educational technology tool for the classroom, how to best use the technology in the classroom, and how to best engage students in the classroom with the educational technology.

**Presenter: Dr. Jay Fulgencio (PD = 1 Hr.)**

## Who's on First, What's on Second, Where's on Third

Do you still feel new to IEA? Do you sit in meetings and feel totally lost by the unfamiliar terms and acronyms? So many acronyms!!! What are the true nuts and bolts of this organization and what's the pecking order of help?? Too often these conferences forget that new members are in attendance and they need guidance and help so they too can be excited and understand the ins and outs of the IEA. This session is a great place to get started and send your new members, regardless of whether they are in leadership roles. Bring all those questions with you!

**Presenter: Jill Dupy**

# Higher Education Sessions

## Adjunct Roundtable

This is an opportunity for Adjunct Faculty to gather and discuss areas of concern that they may need assistance with from other members in the same situation. It is also a chance to meet with other adjuncts and find out what they are doing in their institutions to help students gain the most from the difficult times we find ourselves facing. Members of the Higher Ed Council will be present to listen to needs the council may be able to address in the future.

**Presenter: Vivian Zimmerman**

## A Social Justice Dialogue on Race, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion for Higher Education Campuses

This session highlights the social justice work I am involved in at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville and how to ensure campuses across Illinois are working toward these efforts. It will include a round table discussion and collaboration of your ideas, your suggestions, and your best practices for your campuses. At the end of this session you will have a starting point to begin your social justice work journey on your campus.

**Presenter: Dr. Diane Hayes (PD = 1 Hr.)**

### Jim Grimes – IEA Higher Educator of the Year

Jim is intricately involved in the IEA. He has been a region chair, IPACE executive committee member, Region 67 elections chair, a local president, member of the Higher Education Council and bargaining chair.



# General Sessions

## Facilitative Leadership and Engaging Your Members

We are in a time where we need all hands on deck. Create a culture where voices are heard and all opinions matter! This session will help create a culture of trust and engagement. You will begin to learn the skill of facilitative leadership and learning to bring all the voices into building consensus in your meetings and making sure everybody is involved!

Presenter: Ben Sodergren-Baar

## The Twin Pandemic: The Intersection of Covid-19 and the Rising Tide of Hate Crimes Against Asian-Americans and the AAPI Community

There has been an alarming 1150% increase in reported hate crimes against Asian-Americans, including violent acts that have resulted in numerous deaths, with Asians serving as the scapegoat for the pandemic. This workshop will help explain and breakdown long held but erroneous cultural stereotypes and monolithic myths attributed to Asian-Americans, which contribute to the rising tide of hate speech and crimes toward this diverse, largest growing ethnic group in America. This workshop will help educators dispel antiquated and misinformed views about Asian cultural diversity and address the historical diaspora of Asian immigration events that led to ingrained implicit bias towards Asian-Americans.

Presenters: Linda Matsumoto and Crystal Bush (PD = 1 Hr.)

## School Board Elections: Communicating is Key

Join the IEA Communications Department as we explain all we can do to help you successfully promote your recommended candidates in school board races or work to pass an important referendum – from developing a communications calendar to placing social media ads to texting your members who live in your district – we can help!

Presenters: Sarah Antonacci, Bridget Shanahan, and Leslie Strain

## Keynote- Kimberly Scott-Hayden – NEA ESP of the Year

Kimberly Scott-Hayden is an inventory control clerk who also assists the supervisor of Security Services at East Orange Public Schools and is the president of the East Orange Maintenance Association in New Jersey. Scott-Hayden, who is also the 2021 Essex County ESP of the Year, the NJEA ESP of the Year, and the NEA ESP of the Year, began working in East Orange on her birthday, Dec. 18, 1995. The child of two employees of East Orange Public Schools and a proud graduate of the district, Scott-Hayden felt there was no better way to give back than to dedicate her professional life to the students of East Orange.

Since becoming president of her local association, Scott-Hayden has grown its membership from 40 to 400. Her unit now represents maintenance, security guards, teaching assistants and paraprofessionals. She has also served as an officer with the Essex County Education Association, served on the NJEA Delegate Assembly and the NJEA Executive Committee. and is currently an NEA Director.

