



Pacific Area Update  
June 2020

### **Pacific Area Director**

Dear FEA Pacific Members,

Congratulations to Amy Sweeney on becoming Pacific Area Director. I have known Amy for several years now having worked with her as an FRS in the North East Asia Teachers Association (NEATA). She has always impressed me as a knowledgeable and dedicated leader and I have every confidence that she will do a great job representing us in her new role.

Please rest assured that I will work closely with Amy to make sure her transition to Pacific Area Director is seamless and representation of your interest continues without interruption. She will officially assume her new position on August 2, 2020.

I am very grateful and honored to have been able to serve you all in the various leadership roles I have been granted in FEA. I have learned a great deal from the many experiences I have had. I know that I am a better human today for having had the opportunities that I have had. Even more, I have had the good fortune to get to know many of you and have come to know you as a friend.

I wish you all the best and hope that our paths may cross again.

### **Summer Travel - RAT**

We recognize that this is a critical issue for our members. These are unprecedented times. Our ability to perform Return Agreement Transportation and leisure travel during the summer recess period is severely impaired and the circumstances impacting it are changing daily. It is extremely difficult to make reliable plans.

Please know that we have heard from a number of you and we have received some great input about RAT. We are using this to help guide our negotiations with DoDEA HQ. Unfortunately the path forward is not assured and it is going to take some time before we are able to know what the results of the efforts will be. Your patience and understanding are most appreciated.

Additionally, if you decide to cancel your RAT orders, please proceed as follows. Submit a request in TOPS to cancel your travel orders by following these steps:

1. In TOPS - Initiate a new DD1614
2. Select order type-Cancellation
3. Add SS# - submit
4. Select order # (FROM YOUR TOPS ORDERS)
5. In the comments/remarks input your remarks.
6. Submit the request.

Your request will then be processed; you will receive an email notification when your request is completed.

## **11<sup>th</sup> Payment**

FEA Pacific membership coordinator as well as FEA HQ has been working with DFAS to get the extra payment back to members. Please check your LES throughout that time to ensure you receive it. This is now hopefully in the June 10<sup>th</sup> LES. FEA HQ will let us know how this will be delineated in the LES.

## **Overseas Retro Pay**

DoDEA had informed us that overseas employees would receive their retro pay on May 29. This date has been pushed back to June 12. The retroactive salary adjustment won for you by the Association, along with your regular pay should now be computed based on your [SY 19-20 salary amount](#).

If you would like to learn more about how FEA won this retro pay for our members, please follow this link: <http://feasonline.org/passport/salary/salaryincrease.htm>

## **Good Bye Grievance**

If you are an Overseas employee who is resigning/retiring or moving to a bargaining unit outside of FEA's Overseas bargaining unit, please remember to file and elevate your "Goodbye Grievance" before your last duty day. While it will be denied, it will invoke your rights and allow FEA to represent you after you are no longer in the FEA Overseas bargaining unit. GBG attached

## **Stopping Dues Deductions**

If you are an overseas FEA member who pays dues through payroll deductions and you are transferring to a different district or separating from service at the end of the school year, you will need to stop your payroll deductions.

These teachers will need to cancel payroll deductions in their current location prior to leaving. They should submit form SF1188 to cancel payroll deductions to your FRS for elevation to the dues processor. If you are transferring, once you arrive at your new duty post, please contact your FRS.

## **Reopening Schools**

We have received numerous concerns over reopening schools when we return in August. We have raised these concerns with DoDEA on behalf of our members. Our leadership has been in frequent meetings with HQ working to mitigate risk to the teachers on the front lines and secure working conditions. The agency has received this input and has provided opportunities for us to give feedback on their plans. We realize that the situation is fluid and the plans that are made today may not fit the actual circumstances when the time comes to return. We will continue to remain vigilant to expose new concerns to the agency as they arise working to ensure the safest possible situation for our members. Please continue to read your FEA President Report and Updates as they come in to stay apprised of new developments.

### **\*FEA/NEA Retired or Pre-Retired**

If you are considering retirement this school year (or in the near future), please join FEA-Retired (FEA Pre-Retired if you are not retiring this year). The cost during SY 19-20 is only a one-time fee of \$413.75. FEA Retired membership allows you to continue with all the benefits from NEA Member Benefits programs ([neamb.com](http://neamb.com)). It includes information resources from NEA and FEA-Washington as well as coverage by the Association's liability insurance, which is helpful for those who decide to work as a substitute teacher in retirement. Your Retired Membership also supports NEA/FEA in their work to support and promote various issues affecting retirees, such as our recent successful efforts that saw [reimbursement of PCS moving taxes extended to federal retirees](#). Stay connected and involved! [Learn more about FEA/NEA Retired and Pre-Retired membership here](#).

### **Problems? Here is where to Start!**

If you find yourself confronted with an issue pertaining to pay or entitlements, or other concerns, please start with the secretary at your school for guidance.

Also, you can inquire about your pay and allowances by following this link at a school work station: <https://globalservicedesk.ds.dodea.edu/workcenter/tmtrack.dll?shell=srp#catalog> and submit a ticket.

Or, identify your need by subject below and follow the link:

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Contact:</b>
Pay, staffing, personnel record, Position Information Forms (PIFs), and approved Academic Salary Lane (ASL) inquiries.	<a href="mailto:usarmy.ria.chra-nc.mbx.dodea-recruitment-communications@mail.mil">usarmy.ria.chra-nc.mbx.dodea-recruitment-communications@mail.mil</a> <i>(include last name in subject line)</i>
New hire, in-processing, and employee forms/paperwork inquiries	<a href="mailto:usarmy.ria.chra-nc.mbx.dodea-recruitment-divis@mail.mil">usarmy.ria.chra-nc.mbx.dodea-recruitment-divis@mail.mil</a>
Overseas entitlement inquiries	<a href="mailto:usarmy.ria.chra-nc.mbx.dodea-overseas-entitlements@mail.mil">usarmy.ria.chra-nc.mbx.dodea-overseas-entitlements@mail.mil</a>
Employment Application System (EAS) applicant inquiries.	<a href="mailto:usarmy.ria.chra-nc.mbx.dodea-eas-applicant-inquiries@mail.mil">usarmy.ria.chra-nc.mbx.dodea-eas-applicant-inquiries@mail.mil</a>
Link for USA Staffing/USAJobs announcement inquiries.	<a href="https://portal.chra.army.mil/hr_public?id=app_inq">https://portal.chra.army.mil/hr_public?id=app_inq</a>
DD Form 1164 for non-temporary storage of household goods.	<a href="mailto:NTS@dodea.edu">NTS@dodea.edu</a>
Travel and allowance inquiries.	<a href="mailto:TravelAllowance.PolicyRequests@dodea.edu">TravelAllowance.PolicyRequests@dodea.edu</a>
<b>CHRA HR Phone Directory is also included with this document for your convenience.</b>	

Additionally, you can contact the following HR Representatives for your area:

Pacific Area HR Supervisor		
Leigh Johnson, Supv. <i>(Starting February 16, 2020)</i>	315-634-8395	<a href="mailto:Leigh.Johnson@DODEA.EDU">Leigh.Johnson@DODEA.EDU</a>
Pacific East Team:		
Marilyn Avery, HR Specialist	315-225-1646	<a href="mailto:Marilyn.Avery@dodea.edu">Marilyn.Avery@dodea.edu</a>
Kaylee Digiando, HR Specialist	315-225-1644	<a href="mailto:Kaylee.Digiando@dodea.edu">Kaylee.Digiando@dodea.edu</a>
Pacific West Team:		
Thalia Austin, HR Specialist	315-755-1196	<a href="mailto:thalia.austin@dodea.edu">thalia.austin@dodea.edu</a>
Lilliana Clayton, HR Specialist	315-755-1198	<a href="mailto:liliana.clayton@dodea.edu">liliana.clayton@dodea.edu</a>
Pacific South Team:		
Susan Maravich, HR Specialist	315-634-1451	<a href="mailto:susan.maravich@dodea.edu">susan.maravich@dodea.edu</a>
Monique Garner, HR Specialist	315-634-7021	<a href="mailto:Monique.garner@dodea.edu">Monique.garner@dodea.edu</a>

If you have tried to find solutions from the sources listed above and are not making any progress, contact your FRS. Provide to her/him a timeline of your efforts to date to resolve your concern and any correspondences you have had with DoDEA’s Human Resource personnel. Your school leader will elevate your concerns to the appropriate FEA representatives.

Lastly, If you find yourself confronted with disciplinary action for conduct or performance, please see your FRS for guidance

Thank you for your membership!

Jamie



James Sellers  
Pacific Area Director  
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