

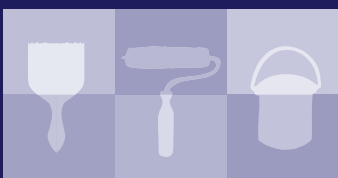
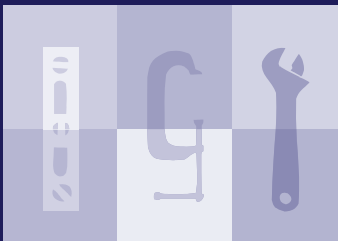
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Craig Hopes, President

Paul Sanchez, Editor

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## FEA ESP Drive Through Conference

We are pleased to announce the 2008 Florida Education Association Education Staff Professionals Regional Drive-In Conference. The goal is to provide our ESP members with important information and skills training. Those in attendance will benefit personally and professionally from the experience. ESP Regional Drive-In Conferences provide great opportunities to reach out to new members and network with current members. It will be held at the Hilton Altamonte Springs Hotel on April 19, 2008. Each conference will begin with registration at 8:00 a.m. and ends by 4:00 p.m. ***A breakfast, lunch and all materials will be provided at no cost to you.*** All meetings will be held in the hotel. We encourage participation from all our ESP members. Look for more registration material and more information to come!



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## United Health Wellness Program



Do you know your numbers for blood, cholesterol, or blood sugar? United Health Care is doing a wellness program so you can find out. This program will be running from February 11-March 28, and Central Florida Regional Hospital will be in different schools throughout this campaign. You can either call the benefits department or Uniserv to find out the location dates and times. SCPS employees who participate in the Biometric Screening and complete the Health Risk Assessment on myuhc.com are eligible for a gift card with a value up to \$40! Also, this is a voluntary program, with no obligation to participate in it and it is strictly confidential.

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## UniServ Office Welcomes New Staff!

The UniServ office has welcomed two new persons. As you call or visit, please welcome Lori Love and Kimely Lopez.

Lori, who serves as our Membership Secretary, comes from the Real Estate business and brings a wealth of computer skills to help maintain the membership database. Additionally, her daughter is in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade at Bear Lake. Kimely Lopez has previous experience with the Seminole County Sheriff's Department and, if you've called in, you have already heard from her. She is our new receptionist. Kimely's son is an 8<sup>th</sup> grader at Millennium and her daughter is in 1st grade at Hamilton.



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## Spring Membership Meeting Planned

NIPSCO is planning its annual spring membership meeting to happen together with a Professional Development Day for all Seminole UniServ ESPs. This will include lunch and refreshments. We are planning for the day to include these mini-sessions: Dealing with Difficult People, Legal Issues for ESPs, and Managing Anti-Social Behavior. These three mini-classes include information *all of us* can use, every day, because *all of us* spend time on our jobs, every day, with *other people!* Put Saturday, May 17 on your NIPSCO calendar now, and watch for more information in the near future.

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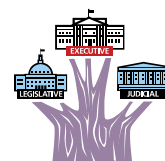
In an effort to save on utility bills, Seminole County will close on Fridays this summer. Below is a schedule of the work week, if your work 37.50 or 40.0 hours a week. The summer schedule will begin on Monday, June 16<sup>th</sup> and will end on Thursday, July 24<sup>th</sup>. If you cannot work the extended hours, you may file for vacation or personal leave. The days that the worksites will be closed are June 20 and 27; July 4, 11, 18, and 25. If you have any questions, please call us at the office and we will be able to answer any questions you may have.

<b>37.5 Hours</b>			<b>40 Hours</b>		
<b>Days of the Week</b>	<b>Summer Hours</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>Days of the Week</b>	<b>Summer Hours</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
M-W	7:00 am—5:25 pm	60 min.	M-Thursday	6:45 am—5:45 pm	60 min.
Thursday	7:00 am—5:15 pm	60 min.			
M-W	7:00 am—4:55 pm	30 min.	M-Thursday	7:00 am—5:30 pm	30 min.
Thursday	7:00 am—4:45 pm	30 min.			
M-W	7:30 am—5:25 pm	30 min.			
Thursday	7:30 am—5:15 pm	30 min.			

### Legislative Update

One week to go until the start of the 2008 legislative session! Gov. Crist has his priorities, and the House and Senate are taking aim for their chance at the 2007-08 budget. Proposals by both House and Senate would cut the FEFP by \$237.2 million. The governor’s proposed legislation would require school districts to spend at least 65% of their operating funds on direct classroom expenditures - although there is no indication this makes any difference whatsoever – it won’t fully fund schools or help poor schools, and its supporters have given millions of dollars to voucher programs. Additional proposed legislation would:

- Require the DOE to re-allocate any unused funds from MAP to participating districts to increase teacher awards.
- Beef up middle and elementary school physical education.
- Cut \$16.1 million from non-FEFP K-12 programs (more than half is NBCT funding).
- Cut \$8.8 million from public schools workforce. (And that’s everyone!)



However, the State Board of Education voted last week to include the “scientific theory of evolution” as part of Florida public schools’ science standards, bringing Florida in line with other states that have high standards for science education.

### NIPSCO To Be Represented At National ESP Conference

The annual NEA ESP Conference is being held in Baltimore this year. This annual conference is dedicated to issues and concerns of all Education Support Personnel. There are presentations, seminars, and group discussions for the many areas and positions that are represented by ESPs. NIPSCO’s Vice President Ernest Culbreth will attend. We know Ernie will come back with many ideas and lots of information to share with not only NIPSCO, but the Bus Drivers and SECA, too.

### 2008 School Calendar Establish

The 2008-2009 School Calendar has been established for both students and employees. The first day for students is August 18, 2008. Employees are on various calendars from 188 days to 223 days. For specifics about your employment calendar, please contact the Seminole UniServ office or visit our web site at [seminole-educators.org](http://seminole-educators.org).

### Bargaining 2008-09

Your NIPSCO Bargaining Team is preparing for negotiations this spring. All indications are that it is going to be a tight year financially. In light of this, your participation is critical. A bargaining survey will be sent out to all members in early April. Please make participating a priority.