

APRIL 2005

# HASA NEWSLETTER



## Message from the President

I am pleased to report that the HASA contingent attending Legislative Days in Tallahassee were received in a very positive way by the Hillsborough Area Legislative Delegation. Bills representing the HASA/FASA platform are working their way through committee and council meetings and I am hopeful that they will be on the Senate and House floors for a vote very soon. Please be watchful for *Calls to Action* as committee and floor votes come up with very short notice. Member response is critical in keeping our legislators aware of the need for their support.

On another matter of great importance, HASA has been named as a component group that will be providing input as our School Board continues the enormous task of finding a replacement for retiring Superintendent Earl Lennard. It is imperative that HASA maintain a close working relationship with a future superintendent as we have for over 30 years. HASA board members will keep component groups up to date as the search develops.

As our administrative responsibilities reach a feverish pitch, I again want to thank you for providing the leadership and commitment that spotlight our great organization. Please contact me or any board member if we can support you in any way.

- Dr. Ken Allen, President

*Note: Remind your colleagues who are not HASA members that joining is easy at any time of the year! Through the magic of payroll deduction, their \$5.25 per-check dues will get them started. See the enrollment form in this newsletter or talk to any HASA member for more information!*

## Hillsborough Association of School Administrators

### Vision and Mission Statement:

*"To promote the general welfare, encourage unity, establish communications between the components, and exercise leadership forwarding the purpose and needs of the membership and of the public schools."*



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**MESSAGE**  
From the  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Things are proceeding as expected in the 2005 legislative session. FASA, HASA, and the Tampa Bay Area Coalition's legislative priorities all have bills filed both in the Senate and the House. These bills have all been assigned to committees and are now waiting to be heard.

What needs to happen next is for all administrators to do what has to be done, that is pick up the telephone and/or get on our computers and make a call and/or send an email to members of our legislative delegations, see list in this issue, and ask them to please support and/or cosponsor these bills. You will be surprised how much legislators can be motivated when they hear from their voter constituents.

Tell your legislators that the following bills are in committees waiting to be heard. Ask them to please support the bill sponsors in getting their legislation heard and passed out of committees:

- 1. EXTEND THE DROP**  
Senate Bill 788 by Senator Charley Clary from Fort Walton Beach  
House Bill 1097 by Ralph Arza from Miami/Dade County
  
- 2. INCREASE THE RETIREMENT MULTIPLIER FROM 1.6 to 2%**  
Senate Bill 1266 by Dennis Jones from Pinellas County  
House Bill 563 by Joe Pickens from Putman County
  
- 3. INCREASE THE HEALTH INSURANCE SUPPLEMENT FROM \$5 to \$7**  
Senate Bill 2266 by Al Lawson from Leon County  
House Bill 781 by Bob Allen from Brevard County

Our legislative agenda for 2005 is a very ambitious one that can be achieved if we really want it to be achieved; however, will require our help. FASA has done what needs to be done up until now. FASA will continue to do everything necessary to see that these bills move through the legislative process. What is needed now is the grassroots support. Let's not fail because of lack of our support.

- Dr. John P. Miliziano

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE !

The three priority bills that are now before legislature are at different stages in the legislative process. Senate Bill 2266 (raises the health insurance supplement to \$7) has already been heard and favorably passed by the Government Oversight Committee and will now go to the Ways and Means Committee. This Bill has a good chance of passing the Senate since it has only been assigned to only two committees. House Bill 781 (on the health subsidy issue) has been approved by the Governmental Operations Committee and the Local Government Committee. This bill has been assigned to four committees making it more difficult to survive all four committees. The other bills on the 1.6% multiplier and the DROP extension have all been assigned to committees but none have been heard as of this date.

HASA members are asked to log on HASA website [www.hasaonline.com](http://www.hasaonline.com), click on HOT MAIL, and read up-to-date information on what is going on in the legislature. Members are encouraged to read their e-mails every day for breaking news and Calls to Action. By the time you read this message, things will surely have changed for things are happening rapidly. Please stay informed.