



Arkansas Education Association
An NEA State Affiliate

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Donna Morey Elected as AEA's New President

LITTLE ROCK, ARK. - Donna Morey, a Little Rock, Arkansas native, was recently installed as the new president for the Arkansas Education Association. She assumed her new duties August 1, 2009.

Morey has dedicated her entire career to helping youth through physical education, and most specifically, helping youth with special needs. Before assuming the presidency of the Arkansas Education Association (AEA) in August 2009, Morey spent 27 years at J.A. Fair High School in Little Rock, where she taught adapted physical education and coached all the Special Olympics sports. She also coached girls' high school volleyball, basketball, softball, soccer and track, and taught physical education, health and various science courses.

Morey has been a Special Olympics sport/training director since 1980 and has coached at five world games, four summer games, and one winter game. Her dedication has garnered her the honor of being named Special Olympic Coach of the Year twice in Arkansas, the first time in 2000, and most recently in 2008.

Morey served as AEA's vice president from 2005 to 2009 and has also served in various capacities on AEA's Board of Directors. She has been on the Little Rock Classroom Teachers Association's (LRCTA) executive board, Civic Responsibility Committee and Human Relations Committee and has also served as an LRCTA building representative and strike picket captain. She has been a delegate to the National Education Association's Representative Assembly for many years. She was also on the Arkansas State Board of Education's Professional Licensure Standards Board, which wrote the educators' Code of Ethics, from 2007 to 2009.

Morey is also very active within her community. She has participated in the Ozark Mission Project as a camp director and a member of the steering committee, and she was a Fellow of Christian Athletes sponsor and camp clinician. She is a member of Civitan International, which

works to improve the lives of those with developmental disabilities. She is also a Certified Lay Speaker in the United Methodist Church and has taught Sunday School. She also serves as a worship leader at Woodland Hills Nursing Center as part of a program sponsored by Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church.

Morey's teaching career began in 1978 in the Pulaski County Special School District, after she graduated from the University of Central Arkansas. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Education degree in physical education and recreation for the handicapped, a Master of Science in Education degree in special education, and certification in secondary administration. She has also completed graduate work in adapted physical education and science.

Morey emphasizes that AEA members must always keep the organization's mission, vision and core values in mind, and to follow these guidelines unswervingly. "The time is always ripe to do right," she said, quoting South African leader and activist Nelson Mandela. "We need to become what our goals are – great public schools for all children and education employees. Because we need to be doing the right thing for all our members and children in Arkansas."

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