

# Executive Director's Notepad . . .

## We're Here for You



*From the desk of  
William R.  
Hartman Jr.,  
Ed.D., PAESSP  
Executive  
Director*

PAESSP exists for the sole purpose of helping school leaders provide a quality education for every child. We represent the largest affiliate of elementary, middle and secondary principals in the United States, as well as Act 93 supervisors and coordinators. We do this by focusing on four signature service areas including legal support and advice, staff development, Act 93 Meet and Discuss and legislative issues. *We offer a range of services for you.*

One under-utilized service is that of advice. Often school administrators face situations in which they are uncertain how to proceed. When in doubt call PAESSP – we do not claim to have all the answers, but we can serve as a sounding board, offer advice and help you network to receive the answers you seek. It is always best to be proactive, and such assistance is one of our functions.

Legal support is also an area where we can be of assistance. Each member receives \$1,000,000 of liability coverage and up to \$10,000 of support in job-threatening situations. The latter accumulates at \$1,000 per year for each uninterrupted year you are a member. In my short tenure with PAESSP, I have learned how valuable this coverage can be to members. None of us ever expect to be in this situation, but often members find themselves facing such situations through no fault of their own. It is reassuring and valuable to know that you have advice, consultation and, if necessary, an attorney to support you.

Act 93 consultation is available to groups and individuals. You may use our web site ([www.paessp.org](http://www.paessp.org)) to gather critical salary information to use for meet and discuss. Our staff is also ready to assist you in preparing for Act 93 sessions. We have samples of agreements and advice you may want to

consider including in your agreement. We hope to improve these services even further in the future by developing an Act 93 template and a database of fringe benefits.

Staff development is another area where PAESSP provides services. Each year we hold a conference where the latest leadership and curricular issues are highlighted. This year, our conference will be held at the Sheraton Station Square Hotel in Pittsburgh from October 19 through October 21. This is a great opportunity to hear from leaders in the field, talk with vendors and establish peer networks. *Mark your calendars – we hope to see you there.* We are working to improve our staff development services by considering summer institutes and regional workshops based upon the needs of our members. In this area you can be of great assistance. We need to hear from you, so when you receive one of our “two-minute” surveys via email, please respond. We promise it will only take a minute or two of your time and help us better meet your needs.



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Legislatively, we are active at the state and national levels. The debate currently in progress related to reauthorization of NCLB has been shaped, in part, by our input. We have produced a White Paper on NCLB and coordinated our efforts with the entire Northeastern United States to influence this legislation. We have met with numerous congressmen and senators and expressed the view of principals on your behalf. At the state level, we continually meet with legislators and the Department of Education in an effort to make the voice of school leaders heard. We are not omnipotent, but we do have influence, and we are a respected voice at the Department.

Finally, we offer the opportunity for you to become involved in your profession at another level. **We need you:** to serve on our board of directors and committees, to help shape and improve our services, to share your successes with your peers.

## Let Your Light Shine!

Call us at (717) 732-4999 and find out  
more about how you can  
become involved.

