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Dear Member,

I'm writing to provide key talking points you can use in conversations with members regarding the recent and deeply concerning Future-Ready DoDEA Initiative cuts to—Educational Technologists (ETs), speech-language assessors, special education assessors, and automation clerks—totaling hundreds of positions.

We know our members are concerned, frustrated, and looking for answers. The following points will help you communicate where FEA stands and what actions we are taking:

FEA Strongly Opposes These Cuts—They Are Harmful and Unjustified

These positions are essential to student learning and educator support. Replacing ETs with a minimal number of district-level staff is not a viable substitute. The loss of assessors undermines timely evaluations, individualized education planning, and access to appropriate services—particularly for students with disabilities or language needs.

FEA Has Demanded Bargaining and Information

FEA has formally demanded to bargain over these changes and has requested relevant documentation and information from DoDEA. However, management is refusing to bargain, citing the recent Executive Order on probationary periods and federal service limitations. We are actively challenging this refusal in the litigation and elsewhere.

FEA Continues to Advocate for Less Administrative Bloat

DoDEA's sole mission is to provide a world class education to its students. DoDEA has become “top heavy” and too many resources are wasted above school level. Staffing and finances should be focused on schools.

We Are Taking This Seriously and Acting Accordingly

We want to emphasize: FEA is not sitting idly by. We are engaged at every level—legally, politically, and organizationally—to protect our members, defend the integrity of our schools, and ensure that students continue to receive the services they deserve.

Please use these points as you speak with members, respond to inquiries, and help maintain unity and clarity across our leadership. We will continue to provide updates as our efforts progress.

In solidarity,
Sharon Manuel



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