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Hi Member,

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**FEA Member Spotlight: Dr. Michael A. Pope**



Dr. Michael A. Pope, a middle school science teacher at Zama American Middle-High School, centers his teaching on student agency, global relevance, and personal connection. His recent induction into the National Teachers Hall of Fame reflects not only personal achievement, but the collective impact of students and educators, especially within DoDEA.

The National Teachers Hall of Fame (NTHF) recently highlighted Dr. Pope's recognition [here](#).

For more information about the National Teachers Hall of Fame, Induction Week, and the Education Summit 2026, visit [nthf.org](http://nthf.org).

Drawing on experiences like his Fulbright fellowship and NEA Global Learning Fellowship, Dr. Pope developed the G.L.P. (Global, Local, Personal) model to make learning meaningful and student-driven.

Throughout his career, he has emphasized the “power of one,” believing that a single teacher can profoundly impact a student's life. His classroom practices, including ethical gamification, aim to transform students into confident thinkers and problem-solvers.

He encourages educators to pursue growth, embrace lifelong learning, and focus on meaningful connections with students, as these moments can create lasting change.

We look forward to sharing more from Dr. Pope in the Spring Journal, which is now in the works and will be released in a few weeks. **If you'd like to spotlight yourself or someone else in the weekly FEA newsletter or the Spring Journal, please reply to this email with a photo and a few details.**

**Goodbye Grievances: Why They Matter and How to Take Action**

A goodbye grievance is a critical step for departing Overseas educators (in Europe or the Pacific regions). It is the only mechanism that allows FEA to continue supporting members in retirement, particularly if issues arise later, such as debt letters. Without a goodbye grievance on file, FEA's ability to assist a member after separation is extremely limited.

This makes timing and awareness essential.

For Overseas members preparing to retire or separate, filing and properly elevating a goodbye grievance ensures continued access to union support during a period that can often bring unexpected administrative or financial challenges. For those who are not currently members, it is important to understand that membership is required in order to file a goodbye grievance and access this protection.

If you are planning to retire or know a colleague who is, now is the time to take action. Filing a goodbye grievance is a simple step that can make a significant difference down the line.

If you have questions or need assistance, please reach out by replying to this email or emailing [FEAAdmin@nea.org](mailto:FEAAdmin@nea.org). We are here to support you, not just during your career, but beyond it.

In solidarity,  
Federal Education Association

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