

August 2015 Highlights

Welcome back to Highlights for those of you familiar with us and this format. If you're a new branch president or public policy chair, we're happy you're joining us and look forward to working with you.

While it may seem a little early to be reaching out to you, we're excited to tell you that AAUW-PA received another Public Policy Impact Grant from national. Our priority issues are Get Out the Vote (GOTV) and Pay Equity/Gender Equity in all its manifestations.

As we draw closer to September, it's time to think about GOTV campaigns. If you have begun your coalition building list, voter registration events offer a good opportunity to partner with friends and/or new allies at new sites. Please email advocacy@aauw.org to report on upcoming events, such as voter registration drives and to fill out the [event report back form](#) once your event is over. When you report on upcoming events, remember too that promotional items are available – you might want to ask for “It's My Vote” buttons and stickers to have during your voter registration drive. Be sure to have AAUW Action Network sign up sheets available too.

If you have not yet begun your coalition building list, now is the time. In May, branch presidents received worksheets to help with this process. These worksheets were part of the SWAG bag materials distributed at the Summer Retreat in Lewisburg. Just in case these materials have not been passed on, they are attached to these Highlights. For some of you, our survey letter is old hat, but for those of you who are new to the office you hold, this coalition building letter is attached as well. It will give you the background you need to proceed with your public policy efforts.

Pennsylvania legislators are home for their August break. Now is the time to schedule in-district visits to discuss issues such as fair funding for education and the importance of passing a budget that everyone can live with. Take a partner(s) and remind our representative and senators - Compromise is possible when people negotiate in good faith.

We applaud the West Chester – Chester County Branch for their “Connect the Dots in AAUW” theme this year. We learn from the branches and we hope they learn from us. We're not above taking the “Connect the Dots” idea, thank you WCCC, to say “We'd like to be part of connecting the Public Policy dots for you.” We're not a Program in a Box, but we are here as a resource for you. Do you need a personal visit from your Public Policy Co-Chairs? Let us know and, where possible, we'll try to work out a date and time.

Help us to help you in your public policy efforts this year.

“Wherever you are is the entry point”

Kabir

IMPORTANT DATES

August is:

Family Fun Month

May Your Reading Be Heaven Month

National Immunization Awareness Month

2 – International Friendship Day

6 – National Root Beer Float Day

13 – International Left-Handers Day

15 – National Best Friends Day

18 – National Ice Cream Pie Day

19 – World Humanitarian Day

21 – Poet's Day

24 – National Peach Day

26 – Women's Equality Day