FAQ ABOUT EDUCATORS RISING

What is Educators Rising?

Educators Rising is an organization that helps make sure teachers have the experience and skills they need to be ready for the classroom. Starting with high school students, we provide passionate young people with hands-on teaching experience, sustain their interest in the profession, and help them cultivate the skills they need to be successful educators. The result is a pipeline of accomplished teachers who are positioned to make a lasting difference — not only in the lives of their students, but also in the field of teaching more broadly. For a visual representation of the pipeline, see the infographic on p. 5.

Educators Rising is an evolution of the Future Educators Association (formerly Future Teachers of America).

Why is the Future Educators Association transitioning to Educators Rising?

It's time for a new approach to teacher recruitment and development. By taking what’s great about FEA and expanding on it, we can raise the bar for what aspiring teachers know and are able to do.

We’re revamping our program to deliver the most opportunities at the lowest cost to students and teacher leaders. This includes:

• Investing in technology to provide cutting-edge opportunities for connecting and learning;
• Forming partnerships with top teaching organizations to offer valuable professional learning resources;
• Removing national member dues; and
• Reinvigorating our brand to reflect you: a powerful, passionate network of people committed to developing highly skilled teachers for the 21st century.

Check out the infographic on p. 6, which offers an overview of what’s changing in August 2015.

How does it work?

Educators Rising is a national network of students and their teacher leaders who are inspired and excited by the teaching profession.
At the national level, Educators Rising supports the implementation of cocurricular high school programs where students explore the teaching profession and gain hands-on teaching experience. We provide teachers and school leaders with the resources they need to establish and teach these classes.

In addition to these school-based programs, we help students and teachers connect and deepen their learning through the EdRising Virtual Campus, a cutting-edge online community that offers rigorous resources to support the development of great teachers.

**Who are Educators Rising “teacher leaders”?**

When we say “teacher leader,” we mean you. Educators Rising teacher leaders, formerly known as “advisors,” are passionate, smart, skilled educators who have joined the Educators Rising network and are teaching cocurricular programs. You are the ones leading the effort to recruit and prepare the next generation of America’s great teachers!

**What support is available to Educators Rising teacher leaders?**

As an Educators Rising teacher leader, you have access to a network of talented professionals engaged in the same work. Through the Teacher Leader Community, a private section of the EdRising Virtual Campus, you can connect at any time with peers and access powerful program resources. Whether you need information to help convince your principal or superintendent to start an Educators Rising program, guidance on a curriculum, or learning materials for your students, we have you covered.

**What benefits will change?**

Good news! We’re getting rid of national member dues and expanding what we offer to the Educators Rising network. Though we aren’t publishing the Go Teach print magazine anymore (we’re moving all this content online), we’re keeping many strong programs and building on those. (Check out the infographic on p. 6 for a quick snapshot of what’s changing in August 2015.)

**WHAT’S STAYING**

- Competitions
- National conference
- Honor society
- Prospective Educator Scholarships
- National student officers
- Original articles and resources on teaching and preparing for college

**WHAT’S NEW**

- EdRising Virtual Campus
- Micro-credentials/achievement badges for students
- Video library of National Board Certified Teachers in action
- Teacher leader resources and online discussions
- Partnerships with postsecondary institutions
- National community service projects
What is the EdRising Virtual Campus?

It’s a dynamic, free online community with one goal: to help students become great teachers. It will serve as the hub for all Educators Rising information and activities. It includes:

- Videos of National Board Certified Teachers in action
- Original content — like engaging articles and videos — to help students develop their teaching craft and prepare for college
- An opportunity for students to earn competency-based micro-credentials
- Online events with accomplished educators
- Information about the Educators Rising National Conference, national competitions, and other programs
- Teacher Leader Community — A private section within the Virtual Campus where you can connect with other Educators Rising teacher leaders and access curricular resources that immerse students in teaching, complete with hands-on experiences

You can also use the Virtual Campus to help you manage your chapter. When students are online, you can send them messages about upcoming events and deadlines or Virtual Campus resources. And when you’re ready to add your students to the honor society, this is where you’ll do it.

When will FEA be replaced by Educators Rising?

In August 2015, we will become Educators Rising. We’ll launch the EdRising Virtual Campus, and you and your students can join our network and begin to explore.

How will the Educators Rising national office support teacher leaders during this transition?

We want to make it easy for you to adopt the new Educators Rising brand. Here’s what you can expect:

- In April, we’ll mail you a toolkit with details about how you can prepare for the transition. We’ll include a timeline for these changes, instructions for joining the national network, and information about how to access Educators Rising templates so you can update your materials. We’ll also include Educators Rising flyers and stickers that you can use to answer questions from your students and principal and create excitement about the upcoming switch.
- In May, we’ll host two webinars to answer your questions. We’ll send more details by email as we get closer.
- In August, we’ll mail you another package with step-by-step instructions for joining the EdRising Virtual Campus, a guide to all the new materials you and your students have access to, support for updating your materials to reflect the new Educators Rising brand, an overview of all the major Educators Rising events and programs that will happen throughout the year, and promotional materials that you can use to recruit students. We’ll also share ideas for kicking off Educators Rising at your school.
- In August and throughout the year, you can get ongoing support in the EdRising Virtual Campus teacher leader section. It’s a private community created just for you where you’ll find a cache of
resources, peer recommendations about Virtual Campus materials, and online discussions.

- Still have questions? Just give us a call at 800-766-1156 or email us at fea@pdkintl.org. We’re always happy to help you!

**How do students and teacher leaders join Educators Rising?**

It’s free and quick. To become part of the network, each person follows these easy steps:

1. Visit the EdRising Virtual Campus, which will be available in August 2015. We’ll email you the link in August so you can share it with your students.
2. Answer a few questions to set up an online profile.
3. That’s all! You’re in. Explore the Virtual Campus, and let us know what you think.

**Can a student join Educators Rising without being part of a chapter?**

Yes. If the student’s school does not offer an Educators Rising chapter, students may join individually through the Virtual Campus and take advantage of its opportunities.

**Will joining Educators Rising’s national network automatically enroll students at the state level?**

No, if your state has an official Educators Rising affiliate (previously an FEA state affiliate), you’ll need to sign your students up with them separately. Though we will continue to work closely with state directors to provide support and programming to you, our enrollment processes will be separate.

**If there is no charge to join the national network, how will teacher leaders pay state dues?**

If your state is going to collect dues, they will be collected directly by your state director. You can check with your state director (if you have one) to find out how this will work.

**My FEA program is extracurricular. Will we be allowed to affiliate with Educators Rising?**

Of course! Educators Rising is committed to creating quality opportunities for high school students to pursue careers in education and helping them develop their teaching craft. Though we believe cocurricular pathways are most effective at providing sustained clinical experience, we support educators who are interested in using Educators Rising resources to help students explore the profession in thoughtful and rigorous ways.
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FEA brand

STAYING

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Honor Society
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NEW IN AUGUST 2015

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National community service projects

ON THE HORIZON

Expanding the EdRising Virtual Campus to support the journey through college and first years on the job
College-campus-based, student-led chapters