

The AAUW West Chester and Chester County Branch

February Brunch and Meeting

Hot Topics in Education with Fran Pierce

Saturday, February 11, 2017,

10 a.m.

Grove United Methodist Church

As a new administration takes office in Washington, public education is one issue that will take center stage again. We are delighted to welcome our own Fran Pierce to speak to us about issues in education that will be of interest to us all. The current popular opinion of public education is that it is failing our students and needs major reform even though reform efforts have been going on for 25 years. Fran will help us understand how this opinion was formed, and what charter schools, the single biggest result of the reform movement, have done to create the present education system.

Fran has had a busy career in various aspects of education. She has a Master's Degree in Education and extensive further training in Adult Learning Theory, Organizational Development, Leadership Development and Mediation and Conflict Resolution. Fran spent 33 years as a UniServ Representative from PSEA where she created a peer mediation program and authored a "Prescriptive Portfolio" that allows paraprofessionals in education to reach the "highly qualified status" as required by the "No Child Left Behind" law. After retirement, Fran created her own consulting business, TalkWorks, Inc., that delivers educational consultant and workforce skills to non-profits and small businesses.

Fran is an appointed member of the Chester County Women's Commission, was a member of the board of directors of the YMCA, was Program Chairman and President of AAUW, and is currently president of the Youth Council of the Chester County Workforce and Investment Board. We look forward to hearing her expertise on today's hot topics in education following our delicious brunch.

Before we hear Fran's talk, we will enjoy a yummy brunch. The food will be provided by the members. Please bring a breakfast casserole to serve 6-8, fruit, muffins or other breads. Coffee, tea, water, and juices will be provided.