



EBEA NEWSLETTER

East Brunswick Education Association

Volume 35, Issue 7

United in Excellence

May 2014

Countdown to ...



Catherine Adriance

Lisa Balogh

Martin Bordak

Barbara Brochstein

Maria Buffolino

Laura Burmeister

Carol Carattini

Anna Cenzano

Linda Chordock

Dee Contreras

Ursula Cozzolino

Thomas Cregge

Ruth Davitt

Thomas Doerr

Jane Dougherty

Irene Duryea

Thomas Dzedziak

Paulette Fallon

Kathleen Hassan

Nancy Holman

Robert Horn

Rebecca Hossler

Deborah Krauss

Joyce Lentz

Jane Look

Arthur McAnnely

Suzanne Naturale

Shirley Neary

Barbara Pagano

Regina Paganucci

Gail Rizkalla

Linda Ronchi

Linda Scalco

Anne Schademann

Cynthia Scribner

Nancy Shapiro

Mala Simon

Colleen Singer

Kiron Sinha

Elaine Swoboda

Joseph Timko

Harriet Trenholm

Joanne Whalen

Paula Yannazzo

Michael Zielinski

SPECIAL RETIREMENT ISSUE

From the Desk of the President

It's unbelievable that we're already thinking about this school year coming to an end! Even the incredible winter weather seems a distant memory as 2013-2014 winds down. Not only did we survive the winter storms, but as is our style we were able to accomplish much along the way.

This year's calendar of social events began in late August when the Association held its 21st Annual New Member Orientation. New employees learned about the benefits of membership in the national, state, county and local education associations. The Fall Fest and Spring Fling followed at which time our attendees enjoyed afternoons of dining, dancing and socializing with district colleagues. Our annual leadership reception will be held later this month for more than 200 EBEA leaders in recognition of their service to the Association and its members. The celebrations continue into June as the Association hosts its "Welcome Reception" for newly appointed Superintendent Dr. Victor Valeski. The afternoon will provide our members with an opportunity to meet the chief school administrator whose term begins on July 1, 2014. Finally, this year's district retirement celebration promises to be a festive event as we help 47 retirees "count down to a happy retirement!"

Legislatively, we were encouraged with some of the successes of the November election. Though our endorsed gubernatorial candidate was not elected, we were able to keep friends of public education in control of the Legislature. Fortunately, so many legislators continue to be very receptive to members' concerns about the impact of TEACHNJ and AchieveNJ. The Senate and the Assembly continue to post bipartisan legislation to establish task forces to analyze the implementation of the Core Curriculum Content Standards, the teacher evaluation system/the use of SGPs in the summative evaluation, and the PARCC assessments. Be sure to read this month's Reporter about the current status of these bills.

Let's also remember that many of our members attended workshops and meetings sponsored by the EBEA, MCEA and NJEA. Advocacy sessions, instruction and professional development opportunities, privatization meetings, training seminars and conferences provided participants with a wealth of information about issues affecting all public school employees.

Finally, be sure to read the collection of retiree tributes in this newsletter. Those not included in this edition will appear in our June issue. Until next month when we say hello to summer!

Ruth Davitt

On your

Retirement

For your dedication
and hard work,
you deserve
the best retirement ever.

Enjoy this new journey of your life.
Cherish every moment and have fun!

Cathy Adriance, CJHS Science Teacher

Cathy's distinguished teaching career began in East Brunswick in 1975. Over the course of the last 38 years, she primarily taught biology and physical science at Churchill Junior High school. She has been an integral part of the 9th grade science department as well as a go-to person for advice and assistance whenever anyone needed it. As a teacher and a mentor she has influenced thousands of students. Cathy dedicated her time to helping students see the beauty in things like the human heart, the anatomy of a chicken wing, the delicate structure of plants, and even the oddly large eye of a sheep. She always created a nurturing environment and provided students with an engaging and rich learning experience.

As a colleague, Cathy was always a reliable resource who was always willing to help out anyone without question. She made a point to make any new staff member feel comfortable and welcome and was always encouraging. In addition, her tireless effort and dedication to her craft was unparalleled. She showed a true passion for education and it was evident in every lesson she has developed and implemented throughout her career. For these reasons and countless others, she will be sorely missed by not only the science department but by the entire district.

Cathy is truly one of a kind. Everyone who knows Cathy knows that she is special and we wish her the best in any future endeavors. She will spend her retirement enjoying her grandchildren with her equally wonderful husband Ken and will be relaxing at her vacation home in the Poconos.



Martin Bordak, EBHS Science Teacher

Marty Bordak already had eight years of teaching experience in Sayreville, a few years as a quality control chemist, and a multitude of life experiences under his belt by the time he came to East Brunswick High School. He has spent more than 30 years in EB, dispensing his unique blend of education and philosophy. Always willing to share his vast knowledge, his materials, experiences, and opinions, Marty gives both his students and his colleagues something about which to think. His students always leave his classroom thinking about science, culture, politics, and life in general in new and interesting ways. He will be sorely

missed, and East Brunswick High School will not be the same without his personality and wit.

Marty plans to spend his well-earned retirement with his wife, Maggie, and their son Daniel. They plan to visit his daughter, Alexis, and his grandchildren in Georgia, and to travel when they feel like it. He also plans to maintain some role in the education field to which he has already given so much.

Barbara Brochstein, Central School Aide



Having known Barbara for the past 26 years or so, I can truly say that she is one of the nicest people in my life - happy, innovative, and always for the children. She started the early morning program just to keep the early arrivals from getting into trouble. She would stay outside with them and organize games for them, and this seemed to have caught on and from then it took off. She was a lunch aide, organizing the lunch room and the recess groups and always taking into consideration what was safe and yet fun for the children. When the aftercare program began, she once again became a leader with craft and game ideas to keep the tired minds still going. She was always there to help teachers with their "busy" work, cutting out whatever was needed for a lesson, and helped in classrooms wherever needed. As a friend she was willing to listen and share and help in any way possible. I am sure all that know her wish her well in her retirement, even though I am sure she will find something to keep herself busy that includes helping children.

Maria Buffolino, EBHS Child Nutritionist

Maria, warmest congratulations and best wishes on your retirement. You have been a hardworking, dedicated individual, always respectful as you always got along with everyone. Even though you retired in January, your friendship, attitude and character still remain with us at the high school. Many of us would agree that working with you has been a real pleasure. May you continue to be blessed in retirement. May your retirement also be one that's filled with joy and happiness. We wish you the best!

Carol Carattini, Frost Teacher

You may have seen a woman in a white lab coat and a wide brimmed hat launching a rocket with her students in the middle of Frost field. Or maybe you've seen a lady sporting a tie dyed shirt with a logo of a Pi sign trailing a ticker tape of numbers and students down the hallway to celebrate Pi day. These are just a couple of roles played by Frost fifth grade teacher, Carol Carattini. Carol began teaching math, science and social studies at Frost School 19 years ago. She is a hands-on teacher who teaches with passion and enthusiasm.

Smart, intelligent and funny, Carol's quick wit and sense of humor has been appreciated not only by her colleagues, but by her students as well. Both current and former students have commented, "Mrs. Carattini is a great teacher. I've learned so much from her and I know that she really cares." Thank you Carol for being not only an inspiration to your students, but to your 5th grade team as well! We wish you all the best. Enjoy your time with your family, hanging at the beach, and all of those new great nieces and nephews too!



Anna Cenzano, Lawrence Brook School Aide

Anna Cenzano and retirement, although deserved after 17 years at Lawrence Brook School, are two things we never wanted to hear in the same sentence. It is so hard to sum up all of Anna's contributions so we won't even try. Anna has been our in-house celebrity, with her appearance on the Grammys being only a start. She has been our Picasso, Gloria Estefan, and cheerleader. She has played Mother Hen, Sigmund Freud, and even Sherlock Holmes to not only our students, but also our staff. She has more talent than we have ever seen one person possess. Anna is passionate in her beliefs in school as well as with her friends and family. A secret confidence told to Anna is a secret well kept. A friendship with her is one worth keeping because once you've been touched by her kindness and generosity your expectations of yourself and others go up.



We all wish Anna the retirement she deserves: the time to dote on her granddaughter Amelia and enjoy the weather in Florida. To say good bye to Anna may be to say good bye to a colleague, but we will never say good bye to our friend. We wish you the best of luck - keep the porch light on.

Dee Contreras, EBHS Secretary

Dee's kindness and support for our staff and students went a long way in making a difference in their lives. Many returned to visit Dee long after they left because of her ability to make them feel special and valued. Her ability to foresee and solve problems earned her the title of "the detective" among many of her co-workers. Her sincerity and willingness to help others resulted in the development of a number of long-lasting friendships with her colleagues who still miss seeing her in the H-7 office.



Dee Contreras was a secretary to a Grade Level Administrator. She was a team player and willing to help out wherever needed. She was the secretary in charge of graduation. Always conscientious and confidential, everyone who knew Dee loved her as a friend and co-worker.

Dee Contreras was a model secretary. She helped guide many an administrator through his/her novice years at EBHS. She was a wealth of knowledge, was extremely organized and worked efficiently. We will miss her dearly and wish her well. We know she will enjoy the extra time spent with her family and friends. Happy Retirement!!!

Thomas Cregge, CJHS Science Teacher

You know you've been teaching a long time when current students are the grandchildren of former students. After 39 years at Churchill, Tom Cregge can attest to this. Over those years he has instructed more than 4,000 children, having spent 38 years teaching 8th grade science and one year at the 9th grade level.

Tom received his comprehensive science teaching certificate from what was once Newark State College and is now Kean University. He majored in biology but never taught a biology class! Tom put himself through college by working part time as a draftsman. Until the advent of computer technology and the internet, his colleagues counted on him to prepare meticulous drawings of science equipment and experiments.

Dedication to his craft is what exemplifies Tom's career. He is most admired for the effort he put into his work despite the demands of his personal life. For example, he left his wife in labor in the hospital with twins to drop off plans for his substitute, and his first phone call upon breaking his pelvis in three places was to a coworker to ensure coverage for his classes.

Tom's parenting of three disabled children gave him a unique perspective and compassion that he put to use teaching ICS for many, many years. He also volunteered his time for Buddy Ball, the Hope Foundation, and Bible Club.

In his retirement Tom looks forward to spending more time with his greatest loves: his family, his church community, and auto racing.

We will miss his generosity, thoughtfulness, school spirit, sense of humor, and terrible puns.



Thomas Doerr, Admin./Technology Computer Technician

Tom joined the district over 7 years ago as a Computer Technician. During that time, he has provided level 2 technical assistance in every school. He has been a great asset to our district and has been a key player in the rollout of all our LCD Projector and SmartBoard installations. If you have a projector in your room, Tom probably had some involvement. Tom has taken on new tasks and challenges with a smile and positive attitude. He is looking forward to having more time for gardening, traveling and spending more time with family. We all wish him well and hope he enjoys retirement!



Jane Dougherty, Hammarskjold English Teacher

On a wintry January morning twenty-five years ago, Jane Dougherty entered Hammarskjold Middle School to begin an extraordinary career as a seventh grade English teacher; that instant, the school became a better place. Jane was the consummate professional who tirelessly created a classroom environment of warmth, seemingly never-ending patience, and a deep desire to help as she taught. Her students considered themselves fortunate to have a teacher who shared, understood, and refused to judge, condemn, or belittle: qualities that all should emulate. Their parents implicitly trusted her to be able to guide their children and teach the essential skills needed in this world today. Often, Jane was "selected" to deal with a variety of challenges and she somehow faced each of them with amazing stamina and inordinate determination. In her very special way, she strived to bring out the best in all of her students as she "gently" pushed them along a path of success. With a selfless devotion, Jane willingly went the extra mile. Making the experience in her classroom

worthwhile, interesting, and relevant was a deep commitment for her. For example, Jane is an extremely gifted writer who has the ability to create a melody of words almost instantly. Because of her wonderful modeling, her students benefited tremendously from this talent, and they blossomed into confident writers! It is no wonder that she was so admired and respected by her peers, students, and parents.

As a friend, there is nobody better than Jane Dougherty. It has been said that a friend is not a big thing but a million little things, and it seems that defines Jane. All at Hammarskjold experienced those “million little things” so generously and lovingly given by her. Our pain was her pain, and she touched our hearts with a warm and gentle hand. Our joys were her joys, and she truly delighted in our happiness. Like a pebble dropped in a pond, Jane’s immeasurable acts of kindness continually rippled throughout the school. In her little body was enormous compassion and an astonishingly beautiful heart of gold; she absolutely could not turn her back on anybody in need. Truly, this world is in need of more people like Jane. Her words and actions reflect the kind of person people should strive to be.

Although Jane Dougherty has been the epitome of educator at Hammarskjold, she has eagerly looked forward to devoting time to her more important legacy, her family. Being a wife, mother, sister, grandmother, aunt, sister-in-law, and cousin is truly the center stage for her. With welcoming arms, she is the one who provides a safe harbor for all, and she wouldn’t have it any other way! Jane and her husband, Jim, plan to live their lives to the fullest and joyously relish the time with their five grandchildren: Emma, Matthew, Colin, Keira, and baby Leah. It has been an honor for all to work with Jane Dougherty, and we wish her a relaxing retirement.



Irene Duryea, Memorial Secretary

I am honored to celebrate the retirement of Irene from the East Brunswick schools. When I arrived at the “old” Memorial school ten years ago, she presented herself as the consummate professional: organized, informed, helpful and collaborative. After the fire, our move to South River allowed me to peek into the soul of this special lady. Our quarters were “close” so our daily interactions became more than the routine of the school day. If anything, I came to truly appreciate what amazing support she gave to all members of the school community. Our rapport allowed her to recognize and prioritize student health needs at times when I was in a meeting or teaching health.

It was the addition of the “little” things that made her invaluable: the beautiful crochet pieces for new babies; a special gift made by hand; a little treat left on your desk; a delicious dessert; and of course the weekly updates on “24”, “American Idol” and “Dancing with the Stars.” As much as she has cared for, and nurtured many lives at Memorial, it is truly her family and closest friends who will continue to grow and cherish her love and kindness, particularly her sister Regina, also retiring from Lawrence Brook, her dad, nieces, etc.

Irene “Nijole” Duryea has truly lived up to the meaning of her name: victory of the people. Enjoy your retirement, dear friend and colleague.

Paulette Fallon, Hammarskjold Instructional Assistant



For the last fourteen years, Paulette Fallon has served the students at Hammarskjold Middle School as an instructional assistant. During her years at our school, Paulette has worked with students whose needs were varied and wide-ranging. She worked with both sixth and seventh grade classes serving as a teacher’s assistant in general education classes and resource classes. In every instance, her warm and caring personality enabled her to create a close bond with even the most difficult students. Her thoughtful disposition and her ability to work in so many varied learning environments made her a most valued member of the school staff. Her talent at developing a close relationship with her students helped to create a comfort zone for them in which they could put forth their best efforts.

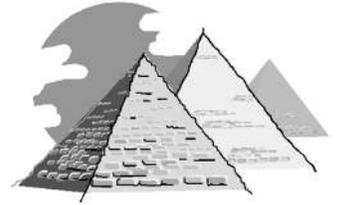
Paulette has had a significant impact upon the school community. Her hard work and professionalism are deeply appreciated and her presence, personality, and sense of humor will be greatly missed. On behalf of the entire Hammarskjold family, we are grateful for Paulette’s years of service to our children and for her being the friend to go to for so many of us. We wish Paulette a lifetime of health and happiness as she explores this next chapter of life with her husband, children, and granddaughter. We hope she remembers the doors of Hammarskjold will always remain open to her and we all look forward to her visits.

Kathleen "Kitty" Hassan, EBHS Special Education Teacher

After fourteen years as a Special Educator at East Brunswick High School, Kitty Hassan is retiring. Having served on both the learning and faculty council, Kitty has been an asset to the school community. Her dedication to both her students' academic and emotional needs cannot go unnoted. Kitty's students have always had the utmost respect and admiration for her. A student letter written to Kitty says, "I have always told people that I respect you [Kitty] like you are family."

Her ICR partners will always remember Kitty as a consummate professional; a vivacious calls-it-like-she-sees-it type of person who cares for her students and colleagues. Once you know her you never forget her quick wit and humor. Her "old school" technology and methods in the classroom have served her students and colleagues well over the course of her career.

Kitty's timely wit, endless knowledge and sense of humor will be missed. Kitty's mornings will now consist of sleeping in and getting the rest she needs to have countless hours of fun with her grandson Cooper and her soon to be granddaughter. When Kitty is not with her family, she will be taking on the role of Waldo as she continues her quest to conquer the few remaining countries she has not yet visited or destabilized (i.e. Egypt).



Rebecca Hossler, Memorial Teacher

Compassionate, intelligent, diligent --- these are words to describe Rebecca Hossler. I had the privilege of working with Becky for twelve years at Memorial School. Not only was she an outstanding educator and collaborator, but also an honest and true friend. Becky never stopped learning her craft. Each and every year she would improve upon her teaching by mastering new technology and incorporating new activities into her lessons. She was always the first teacher to set up her classroom (often in July) in order to ensure that her students would feel welcome and secure when they entered in September. Children and parents alike were ecstatic when they received their welcome letter and saw that "Mrs. Hossler" was their assigned teacher!



Becky was also the consummate coworker and friend --- always available to those in need of assistance and willing to share her wealth of materials and ideas. Her compassion for children, devotion to her family, love of animals (especially dogs), and desire to travel was well known by students and staff. Becky has plans to continue her travel expeditions in retirement. Hopefully, we will continue to see her at Memorial school where she has been spotted several times as a substitute teacher. She is dearly missed, but we wish her nothing but happiness in her future endeavors!

Deborah Krauss, Chittick Media Specialist

When June comes and Debbie retires, East Brunswick will lose a quintessential career educator. A teacher for 33 years, Debbie began her teacher career path in college, attending Seton Hall and graduating from Kean University. After a 6-year stint as a high school librarian in Roselle, Debbie joined the East Brunswick Public Schools where she has worked for more than 25 years as a media specialist, first at Memorial and currently at Chittick. Meanwhile, Debbie continued her own education, earning a master's degree from Rutgers University in library science. Debbie likes to say she is a teacher at heart and that the media center is her classroom.

In addition to teaching, Debbie is Chittick's unofficial event planner and some-time puppeteer, playing Joy on Chittick's own character education puppet series, The Charlie Chittick Show. She plans many of the school's special events and without having to ask, all Chittick staff know that the holiday-themed rubber ducks and clever notes they occasionally find in their mailbox are from Debbie.

Yet despite all the time she has dedicated to teaching, Debbie recognizes there is more to life than work. Debbie is looking forward to spending more time with her family, including her husband Ron, a retired New Brunswick elementary teacher; her two sons; daughter-in-law; granddaughter; and her family puggle. And, because Debbie is not one to rest, she has already given thought to the niches she may fill in the work world.

Chittick School will be different without her. She has given the students, faculty and staff of East Brunswick many wonderful memories. Debbie is a great friend and colleague and seeing her smiling face behind the circulation desk will be missed.



Jane Look, Irwin Teacher

Jane Look enjoyed a wonderful teaching career, teaching first grade at Irwin School from September 1988 and retiring in December 2013. Jane was a gifted teacher, who worked tirelessly to help each of her young learners reach their full academic potential. She always set the bar very high for her students to achieve academically and motivated them to persevere until they met success. Jane was truly able to meet the needs of all of her students whether their problems were academic or behavioral; she had a plan to help them move forward with their learning. She also worked very closely with her students' parents and encouraged them to invest time in supporting their children's education. Jane was a teacher that always used best educational practices and was eager to learn new teaching techniques. Jane's award winning grants brought in thousands of dollars worth of materials to enrich the learning of many students. In addition to being an outstanding first grade teacher, Jane was a mentor to all of the teachers she worked with at Irwin School. She was always very professional and made time to assist her colleagues whenever they needed her support. Although Jane is greatly missed at Irwin School, she is truly enjoying her retirement and a new opportunity to spend time with her grandchildren.



Arthur McAnneny, Hammarskjold Physical Education Teacher

Artie McAnneny retired after teaching Physical Education for 37 years. Artie Mac is also a proud alumni athlete of East Brunswick schools.

Artie actually started his teaching career in Spotswood, but was soon recruited by Principal Rick Gonier at Lawrence Brook School. Artie taught elementary PE at Lawrence Brook School for 12 years before transferring to Hammarskjold Middle School where he taught for another 23 years.

Artie served on the EB coaching staff for football and wrestling. During his years as an EB athlete and an EB coach Artie developed special relationships with many East Brunswick coaches. Artie was always a popular teacher among students and staff.

Artie is a devoted husband to his wife, Sandy, and is proud of his 2 daughters, Kaet and Bethany. Artie looks forward to spending his retirement traveling and taking weekend trips with Sandy. They also look forward to eventually relocating to Delaware.



Suzanne Naturale, Lawrence Brook ESL Teacher

It is a very difficult transition for children to leave their homeland and move to a new country. Suzanne Naturale eases the stress of this transition. With her warm, gentle personality, she welcomes these children who are often frightened, shy and confused. Within days, these children find a home in her classroom. She has been a wonderful asset to Lawrence Brook, not only to the ESL program, but also as a major contributor to our annual multi-cultural festival. She will be truly missed.

As Suzanne moves on to the next phase of her life, she will be busy with her other interests, traveling with her husband John, reading, and spending time with her sister, brother, and nephews. We all wish Suzanne a well-deserved, fun-filled and relaxing retirement.



Barbara Pagano, CJHS Instructional Assistant

Barbara Pagano started working twenty-five years ago in the district as a kindergarten aide. She worked at Memorial School when the autistic program started with only one teacher from Douglas Learning Center! Barbara then followed her students up the grades until she landed at Hammarskjold Middle School. There she continued working with the autistic and special education classes. Barbara eventually ended up at Churchill Jr. High School, where she worked in resource and special classes. Mrs. Pagano enjoyed the children and was constantly baking cookies for them on special occasions. Her "boys" still ask why she left!

Barbara has retired to help care for her beautiful granddaughters, Delaney and Kinsley. She will eventually retire to Pennsylvania with her husband Steve when he decides to throw in the towel too! There she will spend her time with her family; daughter Carly and her husband, and her son Marc.



Regina Paganucci, Lawrence Brook Secretary

Look up the definition of what the ultimate secretary should be, and you will see the name Regina Paganucci. Nothing left her desk until it was perfectly done. For 24 years, Lawrence Brook School has had the pleasure of her care. She assisted four different principals, and they knew that if they asked her for something, it would be perfect. I know I am making her sound like a girl scout, because she was always responsible, trustworthy, kind and thoughtful, but she really was!

There is much more to this lady than the job she did, because she was also a wonderful friend. If anyone needed anything, she was there. She is a marvelous cook/baker, and special foods would show up for any occasion, usually accompanied by handmade cards and decorations. She made quilts if someone was having a baby, gave cookies and tea if someone was not feeling well, or quietly went about helping a child in need.

Regina's European background left her with a taste for travel, and the number one thing on her Bucket List will be a trip to Paris. Join me in wishing her many happy trips, and a lovely and healthy retirement.



Linda Scalco, EBHS Guidance Counselor

Linda Scalco has been a valued member of the School Counseling Department in EBHS since 2008. She brought with her a wealth of information and experience, enriching not only her students, but also her colleagues. Linda began her career in higher education as an Admissions Counselor. She rose through the ranks in various counseling positions leading to her appointment as Director of Career Planning and Placement. After various positions in the corporate world and eventually an early retirement, Linda returned to her first loves – education and counseling.

Since joining the EBHS Counseling Department Linda has not only managed her own caseload, but also served as the District Homeless and Military Liaison. She has been a member of the Student Services Committee and, this year, served as co-chair of the highly successful College Fair. She continues to teach at Brookdale Community College and will pursue other education opportunities in her retirement. She is a devoted mother to son, Dan, a recent graduate of University of Pittsburgh. Her most recent outpouring of love took the form of an animal rescue that helped her to make her retirement decision! When Linda takes on a responsibility one can always count on a successful outcome. Linda is far more than a listing of her accomplishments; she is a caring, compassionate, capable woman with a zest for life and a sincere interest in the well-being of others. Her sense of humor, friendship and loyalty has enriched us all. She is an integral part of our department and will be missed!



Anne Schademann, CJHS Media Center Secretary

Anne Schademann has been the heart and soul of the Churchill Jr. High School Media Center for twenty-six years. During her time here she has guided and supported thirteen media specialists, she survived three (almost four) complete library renovations, and has facilitated our evolution from school library to media center. From card catalogs and print books to computers, iPads and eBooks, Anne has mastered them all.

Anne has been the media center's walking card catalog, post-it note, and resource list. She has also been instrumental in building our book collection, staff members rely on her for building book carts and organizing activities such as the cookie exchange and media center picnic; students turn to her for the perfect research book, and media specialists depend on her to keep the media center running smoothly.

Anne's kindness, generosity, and sense of humor have been felt by everyone. She always keeps the library candy jar full, remembers bits and pieces about staff members' interests and hobbies and surprises colleagues with small gifts and mementos. Her daring personality has enabled her to evolve with the times from embracing her kindle to trying new foods such as chicken feet and thousand year old eggs. Her creativity and love of literature is evident in our media center displays, creating the warm welcoming atmosphere we have today.

Anne has not only been the "exemplar" of the perfect secretary she has also been a wonderful, caring colleague and friend. Thank you for putting up with our type-A personalities and supporting our crazy ideas! It will not be the same without you!!

May your retirement be filled with Game of Thrones episodes, warm sunny days on the beach, and steamy romance novels on your Kindle!



Cynthia Scribner, Chittick Teacher



John Steinbeck said, "I have come to believe that a great teacher is a great artist and that there are as few as there are any other great artists. Teaching might even be the greatest of the arts since the medium is the human mind and spirit." Cynthia, you are one of those teachers. Today, we are all here to illustrate our appreciation and thankfulness for your twenty one years of hard work and dedication. Your students cherish your knowledge and passion for teaching the "Gifted and Talented" curriculum. You have opened up students' minds by showing them the marvels of intellect and you have made a substantial difference in the lives of those who worked with you.

Best of luck with your new adventures in Georgia. The doors are now wide open for you to pursue your lifetime dreams of writing, traveling, painting, and photography. You will have the opportunity to embrace your family, friends, and the entire world from a different perspective. You are free to explore the unthinkable!

Mala Simon, Hammarskjold School Aide

Mala Simon began working in the EB school district in 1988. She began working in the main office and ended her career in the Student Services Department. While working in Student Services, Mala always had a way of making the children feel comfortable and putting a smile on their faces. She was very attentive to the counselors and got the job done. Always being a team player, Mala also worked in the Department Chairperson's office for a year. Mala has been a wonderful asset to the Hammarskjold family. She is missed by all.

Now that Mala is in official retirement, she is enjoying spending time with her grandchildren, reading, lunching with friends, and traveling. Mala will finally be traveling to her favorite location of Israel. We wish her a safe trip.



Kiron Sinha, Hammarskjold Science Teacher

I've had the pleasure of working with Kiron for only a few years though I feel like I've known her a lifetime. Her infectious smile, upbeat personality and humorous wit are what I miss the most about her, as she was the "comic relief" of the 7th Grade Science Department. Her wisdom, dedication to teaching, and expertise in science are just a few of her impressive talents. I have been fortunate to have Kiron as a colleague of mine, but it is more of an honor to have her as friend. She has a calming sense about her and a "love-life" attitude that makes you want to be in her presence. Not only is she a stellar colleague, amazing friend and awesome teacher, she is a wonderful mom and doting grandmother. Her kids and grandson are lucky to have her as a role-model in life and I feel just as lucky to know her. Kiron has always been known to celebrate life and always looks for any excuse to have a party or get together. I will never forget her grandson's one year old birthday celebration, or the venue it was held at, or the 6pm cocktail hour that she hosted in his honor, or the two hundred some guests that were in attendance - I felt like I was at a celebrity wedding! I know not to expect anything less when Kiron is involved in the party planning. Now Kiron is celebrating her retirement every day and I wish her many more years of celebration.

Thank you Kiron, for all your years of dedication as a friend, teacher and colleague.

Elaine Swoboda, EBHS Secretary/Bookkeeper

Elaine Swoboda started her career at East Brunswick High School as the bookkeeper on October 3, 1995. Elaine came into contact with all levels of staff, students, administration, central office, vendors and parents, and performed the functions of her job in a cheerful, exemplary manner. She had the confidence of all staff and whenever she saw something that could potentially be a problem, she worked with that advisor or staff member to ensure everything was in order. Staff members always knew Elaine was ready and able to help them at any time and was always available to assist at the last minute with issuing checks or getting ready a start-up box for a function. Elaine worked quietly and tirelessly and her sense of humor was welcome relief during those times when someone came to her door flustered or frustrated. You knew when you left Elaine's office, everything was okay and you could breathe a sigh of relief.

Elaine will be remembered for her work ethic, her sense of humor, her pride in her work, her flawless recordkeeping, her personable manner in which she conducted her business and her willingness to extend herself to



get a job done. Elaine plans to spend her retirement with husband Bernie relaxing, traveling, playing games on her iPhone and, most importantly, enjoying her family – son Ken and his wife Dawn, daughter Bethany and, especially her grandson, Christopher, who brings her joy each day. Elaine, we wish you a happy, healthy and rewarding retirement. You deserve it! You will be missed!

Joseph Timko, Hammar skjold Science Teacher

Ralph Waldo Emerson stated, “Men love to wonder, and that is the seed of science.” This certainly applies to Mr. Timko as Joe was always curious about science and the newest facts and theories. Joe has a plethora of reading material and he could always amaze someone in an interesting conversation about our natural world. Mr. Timko began teaching 7th grade science at Hammar skjold 24 years ago. It was not unusual to find furry creatures, both dead and alive, in his room. He sparked the students’ curiosity and desire to learn about science and so many of his former students remember his passion and can share stories about the creatures adopted by Joe’s classroom. In fact, one day in the old Hammar skjold building a bat flew in and took flight in the old science wing. The kids and teachers took cover, but Mr. Timko worked diligently to carefully catch the bat without injuring it so he could release it back into its native environment. Joe is an animal lover, always concerned for those who could not protect themselves. Teaching science was a passion for Joe. He nurtured all the students who passed through his classroom, instilling the love of science. He has a “science museum” of hundreds of artifacts, fossils, and antiques that was appreciated by 24 years of 7th grade students and colleagues. His passion will still continue in his retirement as Joe will read the science journals and spend hours in the library snuggling up with a good book. Joe plans on spending time with his sister, brother, and his two cats during his retirement. You may even find him volunteering in an animal shelter!



Harriet Trenholm, Lawrence Brook Special Ed. Teacher

Harriet began her teaching career on the college level working with deaf college students, running the deaf preschool lab and taking various classes herself. She fell in love with computers and eventually moved to business as a programmer, instructor and developer earning three patents along the way.

Fortunately, in 2003, she returned to teaching and came to East Brunswick where she has worked in the Autism program and teacher of the deaf and hearing impaired. She has spent her time in multiple buildings in order to service her children. During those years she has taught many of us (teachers) to help children with a variety of disabilities.

Harriet is unsure what will be next in her future. She is looking forward to some down time, but we are sure she will find something special to do. She will be missed by her students and colleagues.



Paula Yannazzo, Admin. Secretary

Paula Yannazzo started her career at EBHS in April 1997, where she worked for the English, science, math and social studies department chairpersons for 14 years. Paula also worked in the EBHS Guidance Department and completed her career in the Student Services Department at the administration building. Paula has enjoyed working with wonderful people over the years and has made some great friendships.

After 34 years of marriage she is still having fun with her husband Jeff. They are enjoying their first grand baby Noell, daughter of their son Chris and his wife Marybeth. Paula is also getting ready for the marriage of her son Nick to his fiancée Johanna.

Of course, going down the shore to her little piece of paradise on the island of Brigantine is one of the perks of her retirement.

In Paula’s own words: Retirement is awesome and everyday feels like a Saturday!

We wish Paula a continued happy and healthy retirement.



Michael Zielinski, EBHS Special Education Science Teacher

Michael Zielinski taught in the East Brunswick school system for 36 years. We, at the high school, only had the opportunity to work with Mike during his last few years in the district.

Mike was a teacher whose top priority was the success of his students. He spent many hours planning and modifying lessons for the students in his biology classes. He was often seen working one to one with students who needed more of his time in order to understand the concepts. Many days, Mike could be seen working before, during and after school with students who benefited from his dedication to their success.

Mike was a family man. His wife and his daughters were his pride and joy. He could often be heard after school saying "come on girls, it's time to go home" as they left his classroom and headed out at the end of the day.

Mikes' days at East Brunswick High School have come to an end – for he has been called Home. We at EBHS are grateful to Mike for the time and the dedication he gave to his students; and for the hard work he put in with his colleagues. You are and will be missed.

We'll Miss You

Time is a wonderful thing
To have on your side at last.
Look forward with faith to the future,
Accept with peace the past.

Time for travel, fun and adventure,
To discover new dimensions in yourself.
It is time to do what pleases you,
Take a dusty dream off the shelf.

Fulfillment is found in expression,
Priorities are yours to arrange.
Retirement is just another word,
For what can be a wonderful change.

~ Bee Ewing ~

CHEERS AND TEARS

Congratulations to:

Hillary Corburn, Lawrence Brook Principal, on the birth of her granddaughter Leah Claire (in April)

Donna Rynone, Frost teacher, on the birth of her granddaughter Kenzie Grace (in April)



Condolences to:

Betty DiFrancesco, retiree, on the death of her mother (in February)

Jessica Dellisanti, EBHS business ed. teacher, on the death of her grandmother-in-law (in April)

Jack Blalock, EBHS math teacher, on the death of his grandmother-in-law (in April)

Kathleen Kowal, Frost teacher, on the death of her father (in May)



Get Well Wishes to:

Katherine Becker-Pandit, HMS social worker

Marcus Borden, EBHS teacher

Elizabeth Caracciolo, Lawrence Brook Aide

Robert Dunn, retiree

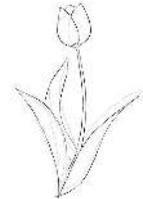
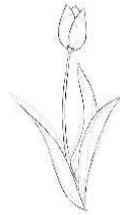
Shari Grondski, EBHS Phys. Ed. teacher

Nicole Panzarella, EBHS math teacher

Karen Raguette, EBHS secretary

Laurie Smith, Admin. vehicle driver

Jill Ventrice, Elementary teacher



THE EBEA NEWSLETTER

Official Publication of the

EAST BRUNSWICK EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

PARC Cranbury

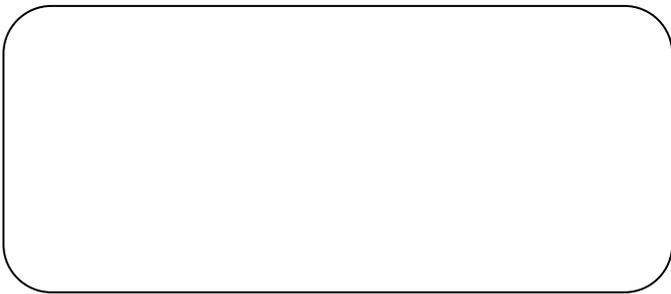
575 Cranbury Road, Suites B1 & B2

East Brunswick, NJ 08816

(732) 390-6600

www.my-ebea.org

Place
Stamp
Here



EBEA OFFICERS

President: Ruth Davitt

Vice President: Mike Wildermuth

Support Staff Director: Joan Hickman

Secretary: Beth Berzanskis

Treasurer: Dana Zimbicki

Editor: Bobbi Tu