

EAST BRUNSWICK EDUCATION ASSOCIATION



Heart, Strength & Unity



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REP COUNCIL UPDATE

April 10, 2019

Hot Topics from the President...

On March 28, 2019 the EBEA and EBBOE negotiations team met starting at 4:30pm with the State appointed mediator. After over six hours, both sides came to an agreement. The process of verifying salary guides continued the next day on March 29, 2019 for approximately three hours. After much work, we have concluded the necessary components to hold a General Membership meeting on April 30, 2019. We hope all EBEA MEMBERS attend this valuable informational meeting. The following day, May 1st, members of the negotiation team will be available in your building to answer questions. Additionally, you may call the EBEA office. On May 2nd, voting regarding the contract will take place for ALL MEMBERS one-half hour before school, and one-half hour after school. Please make sure you take the time to vote. The EBEA Negotiation Team would like to thank all of you for your patience throughout this stressful process.

All after school meetings have been cancelled on April 30, 2019 to allow for ALL members to attend the General Membership meeting at 4pm at the EBHS Auditorium. Every member who works second shift will be excused from his/her worksite to attend this very important meeting. The meeting is expected to be 45 minutes. All drivers are invited to attend the meeting at 4:45pm, after your work day. EBEA will hold a special meeting for you at that time.

May 1st – NJEA Unity Events as follows: “NJEA May 1st Unity Night” for Ocean, Monmouth, and Middlesex Counties. This event will be at the Lakewood Blue Claws Stadium. Each member will receive a free parking voucher (via email upon registration), a free game ticket (at the game), a free food voucher (at the game), and enjoy a night of baseball while bringing awareness to the fact that they are fighting to **#FixTheUnfairness** and that **#WeAreWorthIt**. Mercer County will host a Mall Walk at Quakerbridge Mall. Members will walk the mall while bringing awareness to the fact that they are fighting to **#FixTheUnfairness** and that **#WeAreWorthIt**. May 15th County LAT Dinner – We need to pack this event. Assembly Speaker Coughlin is going to be there, and we need to make our voices heard!

Upcoming Events



April 29 – EBEA Contract Bargaining Council Meeting

April 30 – EBEA General Membership Meeting

May 1 – NJEA Unity Events

May 2 – EBEA 2018-2021 Contract Ratification Vote

May 3 – Child Nutrition Appreciation Day

May 7 – MCEA Teacher Appreciation Award Dinner

May 9 – Staff Recognition Awards

May 15 – MCEA Legislative Dinner

May 16 – EBEA Leadership Dinner

May 20 – MCEA “XYZs of Retirement”

May 23 – Dr. Valeski’s State of the District Address

June 2 – EBEA Day at the Track, Monmouth Horse Track. Family/Friends welcomed!

June 23 – MCEA Yankee Old Timers Game

August 3-7 – NJEA Summer Leadership



(visit our website at www.my-ebca.org for full details)

What You Need to Know...

From District-Wide Council... Clock survey feedback information was shared, and D.Ruggiero will pass to J. Schenck prior to the May meeting. HS admin has directed staff to search student bags on field trips, this raised a concern for liability. D.Ruggiero will look into search and seizure guidelines. Elementary principals mentioned limited summer building access and D.Zimbicki will continue to send out emails with information. At this time most principals have communicated this with their staff. Department chairs are bringing info to J.Boley in regard to summer assignments. If key card hours changed, email principal or D.Ruggiero and cc D.Zimbicki on it. They are only adjusting from the standard times, if you have an assignment (a Job, EMP, ASK) otherwise go around the front, you are allowed to go in through the front.

From the Educational Support Professionals (ESP) Committee... Butterfly Park Cleanup on Saturday was successful. Continue to fill out any building needs in the red binders for the head custodians. Secretaries come at 8:00am and leave at 4:00pm and others 8:30am-4:30pm. D.Ruggiero will remind principals that they are also responsible for their buildings and making sure someone is in the office available, so secretaries can take their lunch with partner secretary is absent. Child Nutrition Day will be celebrated on May 3, 2019. If you need training on how to use the new field trip form, please contact EDNA.LABOY@ebnet.org for a time. Required training is on Board time.

From the Elementary School Council... It was reported in certain schools custodians cannot give paper towels because they are an Aarmark supply and that teachers should bring in their own or should add it to the "wish list". This item was taken to D.Ruggiero. Solutions for substitute availability and student behavior issue are still being looked at. Clarity is requested for future conferences schedules for part-time teachers. Going forward, a letter will be sent out. Schools half day schedules aren't the same in each building causing traveling special issues-Reps should send half-day schedules to Jlyons1@ebnet.org for comparison.

From the Government Relations Committee... Chapter 78 and ESP bills are continuing to gather support in both houses of the Legislature, but we still need more support. Continue to current actions (Red for Ed, Facebook Fridays, calls to and meetings with legislators). Please contact EBEA if you would like to attend the MCEA Legislative

Dinner on May 15th. Your support and action are needed. Sweeny continuing to push "path to progress" to reduce employee public health benefits and remove anyone with less than 5 years from pension system. BUT he did drop a proposal of forcing retirees to pay same percentage of insurance premium as their last year of working- Presumably due to NJEA members and public members lobbying and uniting, so thank you!

From the Nominations/Elections Committee... EBEA election results are as follows: Michael Wildermuth – re-elected as EBEA Vice President for a 2-year term, Florence Talierno – re-elected as EBEA Director of Support Staff for a 2-year term, and Lise Noppenberger – elected as EBEA Secretary for a 2-year term. Elected/Re-elected MCEA Delegates are Valerie Alimonti, Erin Crupi, Sarah Donatelli, Melissa Grigal, Caitlyn Jarosiewicz, Sara Linder, Steve Miedowitz, Kristan Shanks, Beth Shobe, Christine Smutko, Michael Wildermuth, Cheryl Willis and Theresa Yoselevich. Elected/Re-elected NEA Representative Assembly Delegates are Valerie Alimonti, Leslie Anderson, Audrey Domond, Steve Pecesky, Marilyn Ryan Weeks, Mercedeh Sampson, Beth Shobe, Cheryl Willis and Theresa Yoselevich. Please hold the building Rep Council elections by May 15th. The ratification vote for the contract will take place on May 2nd both before and after school. Please attend the General Membership meeting on April 30, 2019 at 4:00pm at the EBHS Auditorium.

From the Public Relations Committee... Use social media responsibly and be weary of friend requests. EB Public Schools on Facebook is run by Trudy Atkins. The official EB Facebook page is "East Brunswick Public Schools". Always communicate with administrators or supervisors through email, not through a social media page/account. Follow us on Twitter @EBEA575. If you are interested in joining the committee, email LNoppenberger@ebnet.org

From the PRIDE Committee... Chittick School read *Lemonade Wars* and PRIDE sponsored their 'One School, One Book' April 10th event providing lemonade, cookies, and tumblers. Learning Across the District was held on April 11, Warnsdorfer 2nd and 4th graders presenting "Oh snap! Let's Travel the Map!" to demonstrate how they worked together to research the many battles that took in NJ during the Revolutionary War. Thank you to Cara Chako and Cristina Franqui! The last LAD is on May

30th- Admin, Central, and ESPs will be presenting. The Bear Den opened "Bear's Boutique" with 150 prom dresses shoes, jewelry, and bags. Thank you to Joann Mariani, the EBHS staff and EVERYONE who helped make this possible and making this heartwarming event so magical for the girls! The Super Social dance at EBHS run by the ESP committee will be on April 25th. PRIDE will provide dinner, drinks, dessert, DJ, sunglasses, and raffle baskets. Staff Recognition Night at the JMPAC on May 9th will have refreshments and 100 outdoor wellness kits provided by PRIDE. The Sociology Intergenerational Program continues to love the lunch coolers and breakfast items. The Senior Citizen Prom was sponsored by PRIDE on April 3rd. The senior citizens received dinner, dancing, raffle basket opportunities, and keychain flashlights. Everyone LOVED IT ALL!

From the Scholarship Committee... Dine to Donate at the Art of Salad raised \$50. We are waiting to see how much was raised at the Dine to Donate at MJs. The EBEA scholarship for a future education major for \$2,400 over four years will be presented on June 10th.

From the Social Committee... Spring Fling was attended by over 200 people, the new DJ was a lot of fun, and newly tenured staff was honored- a great time had by all! A "Day at the Track", Monmouth Race Track, is coming up and there are 100 tickets available-registration due May 1st and then the event will be opened up to other locals. The Leadership Dinner is on May 16 at the Estate on Farrington Lake: everyone who attended at least 50% of meetings according to attendance records will be invited. The District Retirement party is set for June 12th at the Estate on Farrington Lake.

From the TEAT committee... There have been concerns regarding walk-throughs and the "formal nature of the visit". This is being investigated. Everyone is reminded to fill out the TEAT Survey regarding your experience with evaluation this year. Interested members can contact Theresa at TYoselevich@ebnet.org, Mercedeh at MKermanshahiSampson@ebnet.org or the EBEA office at ebea575@hotmail.com.

From the Transportation Committee... There have been crosswalk congestion improvements at EBHS for buses. This represents team work between the Transportation Committee and District Wide Council.

Actions You Need to Take...

1. Please report any building safety issues to Faculty Council. Also, record the issues on the following link: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1NnMMZxznwypULqA3YQifJznacbleH6iOhd87MXDXXGM/edit#gid=0>
2. Subscribe to the EBEA MailChimp by going to <http://tiny.cc/EBEAigital>
3. Please volunteer for the Bears Necessities Clothing Den: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/EBPSDenVolunteer>
4. Continue the fight for FAIR health benefit cost and Justice for ESPs by taking action. Visit: <https://www.my-ebca.org/news/issues-action/>
5. Complete the EBEA Survey regarding Teacher Evaluations at: <https://goo.gl/forms/8XAWdF7rjITSE95W2> Your participation in this survey is essential!