

Boise Education Support Professionals



President's Corner: Andrew Rath



BEA ESP Friends and Colleagues,

I celebrate you and all the important work you do every day to educate and care for the students of the Boise School District.

In my 14 years of teaching experience in Boise, I have seen the positive impact that you, the Boise Education Support Professionals, have on the lives of our students. I've depended on your skill and dedication to meet the needs of all children. I've leaned on you when the demands seem overwhelming. I've shared with you the joy of each student's success and the disappointment of challenges not yet met. I want you to know that you have a true friend in me, and the total support of the Boise Education Association.

Thanks to the commitment of your BEA ESP Steering Committee, there is a renewed spirit of Association involvement for BEA ESP members. A sense of empowerment has taken hold of our ESP leaders, and I fully expect that to continue to grow and provide a much stronger voice on behalf of all classified District employees. This year, our BEA Executive Board has for the first time expanded to include an ESP representative. This is a critical recognition that issues important to classified members are important to all BEA members.

I encourage you to keep this momentum by connecting with colleagues within the Association both certified and classified, and reach out to the potential members in your own buildings and around the District. Only by growing your membership and making your voices heard will you increase your influence.

Please let me know if I can help in any way.

Thank you again,

-Andrew Rath, *Boise Education Association President*

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First Annual BEA ESP Picnic



The weather could not have been more perfect for the first annual Boise Educational Support Professionals (ESP) picnic, organized by the Boise Education Association's Steering Committee. This year's

picnic was funded by a grant. Around one hundred people enjoyed sandwiches, salads, chips, cake and beverages. Held in the beautiful setting of Winstead Park on August 30, the festive time was complete with balloons and prizes for those who attended.

Families of classified staff of the Boise School District were included in the invitation. It was a fun time getting to meet and visit with our co-workers and their families. It was wonderful to have a celebration especially for the ESPs and their families.

Information was available regarding the many valuable benefits of BEA membership. Many kudos to the BEA ESP Steering Committee for a job well done.

-Suszan Kats, *Horizon*



ESP's On The Move



In September four members of the BEA ESP Steering Committee attended the National Education Association sponsored training "Organize for Power" in Seattle. The focus of the training was to provide attendees with the tools to

help identify the needs of fellow workers, share personal stories and empower them to work with their local associations. At the end of the training the attendees set a goal to grow the ESP membership in the Boise Education Association to 200 members within the next two years.

In October four members of the BEA ESP Steering Committee also attended workshops and a conference in Las Vegas.

"Never do for others what they can do for themselves." Saul Alinsky

-Rachelle Bernard, *DSC*



Wellness Updates

Be sure to read the blue Joint Insurance Committee memo that went out to all benefit eligible employees on September 27 and the Wellness Pamphlet that was mailed to employee homes for the

latest information on this year's Wellness screenings.

The number of visits for the Nutrition EAP has been increased to six visits. To schedule an appointment call 367-7484.

The number of visits for the Mental Health EAP as been increased to 10 visits. To schedule an appointment call 367-3000.

-Rachelle Bernard, *DSC*
BEA Insurance Committee



Membership Doesn't Cost — It Pays!

Among the many ways that the Boise Education Association benefits its' members are the discounts that are provided at the National Education Association web-site. These include discounts at places like Macy's, Target and others "normal" shopping stops. At a

time when we are trying to stretch our dollars, BEA membership can save you more than you pay in dues.

As a one income ESP, I look for savings everywhere I can. I don't have the luxury of paying full price

when there are discounts to be found. The BEA discounts save me money and they are easy to access through the web site. (I use the restaurant discounts for gift cards that I use as gifts.)

- Kathryn Pierce, *Hillside*

IEA Delegate Assembly



BEA/ESP members attending the Delegate Assembly in April were Christine Ronan, Hillside JH; Rachelle Bernard, DSC; Jerry Hannaman, Hawthorne; Kathryn Pierce, Hillside JH; and Linda Collins. Christine Ronan, a classroom para at Hillside JH, proposed a new business item from the floor which was approved by the general assembly.

BEA Education Support Professionals Steering Committee

The BEA/ESP Steering Committee is a group of Educational Support Professionals who are BEA members and are working within the BEA to improve the employment situation for the ESP's in the Boise school district. This includes, but is not limited to, respect for and support of ESP jobs, fair treatment in hiring, job placement, and termination practices, and a living wage. The Committee is also working on training issues and opportunities for ESP employees.

-BEA President, Andrew Rath	-Debra Brown, Horizon	-Suzan Kats, Horizon
-BEA Executive Director, Kathy Yamamoto	-Jennifer Crumley, Horizon	-Kathyn Pierce, Hillside
-Rachelle Bernard, DSC	-Mary Gordon, Whitney	-Jeanine Rishel, South
	-Bev Harrigfeld, Horizon	-Suzanne Tracey, Grace Jordan
	-Bruce Hellinga, Grace Jordan	



Upcoming Events



2010

Anyone is welcome to join us at our BEA ESP Steering Committee Meetings.

November

- 17 - National ESP Day
- 17 - ESP Social at Grace Jordan Elementary, 4:00 p.m.
- 18 - BEA ESP Steering Committee Meeting at BEA Building, 5:00 p.m.

December

- 16 - BEA ESP Steering Committee Meeting at BEA Building, 5:00 p.m.

Wellness Screening deadline is December 31.

For a list of times and locations please go to www.boiseschools.org/benefits/wellness.



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*Boise Educators Working Together
to Support Boise Students.*

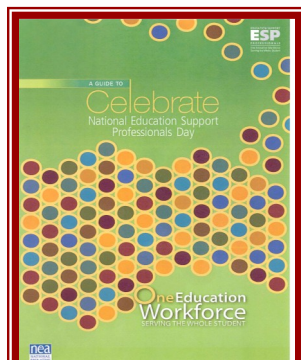
BEA Website:
bea.groupsie.com

The Boise Education Association consists of about 1,700 members including classroom teachers, paraprofessionals, administrators, custodians, counselors, secretaries and other school district employees.

We are committed to providing a high quality education for all students within the Boise School District. We work collaboratively with the community to ensure all children are prepared for a productive adult life.



Boise Education Association
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We're BEA/IEA/NEA ESPs and Proud of It!

Getting Your Money's Worth – Being a Member of the IEA.