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FALL NEWSLETTER
2011



SPRING NEWSLETTER 2011

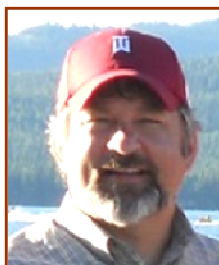


Boise Educational Support Professionals

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President's Corner: Andrew Rath



-Andrew Rath, *Boise Education Association President*

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Retreat

Over a beautiful July weekend, the BEA/ESP Steering Committee retreated to McCall for their annual assessment and planning get away. On

July 9, members met and discussed the successes from the past year including the ESP picnic, the newsletter, the referendum campaign and trainings.

Also discussed were the areas for improvement including the push to gain at least one ESP member in each building and continued training on is-

ssues related to ESP members. Attending the retreat were Rachelle Bernard, Debbie Brown, Gena Harris, Bev Harrigfed, Bruce Hellinga, Mary Gordon, Suzan Katz, Chris Moore, Kathryn Pierce and Jeanine Richel. Kathy Yamamoto served as facilitator for the retreat.



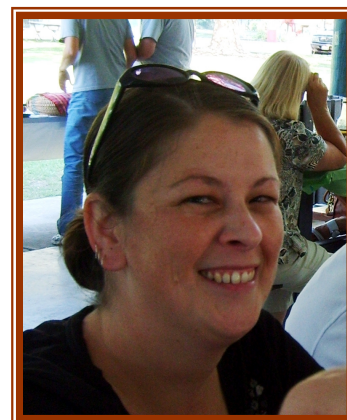
ESP's in the Spotlight

Rachelle Bernard

Rachelle Bernard has been selected to be the ESP Steering Committee Facilitator. Rachelle works in the Benefits department at the district service center and has been very active with the BEA since she joined. As Facilitator she will chair the meet-

ings and create the agenda. Rachelle has received NEA training in Seattle and San Francisco and has done fieldwork in Las Vegas and Meridian. Rachelle has also been elected to the BEA Executive Board as the ESP representative. Rachelle brings a unique

knowledge and enthusiasm to both the Steering Committee and the BEA Executive board.



ESP Picnic



The second annual “Kick Off the School Year” picnic

was held on Wednesday, Aug. 31 in Julia Davis Park. Sandwiches, salads, and chips provided by the BEA and beverages provided by Stein Distributing were enjoyed by ESP’s from several schools. A good time was had by all who attended. The Steering Committee de-

cided to donate the remaining sandwiches and salads to the Boise Rescue Mission. Andrew Rath, BEA president, volunteered to drive the food to the Rescue Mission.



Meridian Education Association helped

Several members of the BEA/ESP steering committee, in association with NEA Pacific Region, assisted the Meridian Education Association in their effort to contact MEA

members and other Meridian district employees to discuss employee concerns. The NEA members were in our area October 14-17. Our members put their NEA train-

ing to use, helping our Meridian neighbors.





IEA/NEA Educators Employment Liability Program

The National Education Association (NEA) believes it is the responsibility of your employer to provide you with insurance to protect you from personal financial liability stemming from employment-related lawsuits.

NEA supports state "hold harmless" legislation which requires that the employer pay for your defense or related damages in case you are sued.

However, since this not always available -- and because the liability potential can be so serious for individuals employed by schools and other educational units -- NEA provides all eligible association members with professional liability insurance through the NEA Educators Employment Liability (EEL) Program.

Eligible association members include the following membership categories: Active (including ESP), Life Active, Substitute, Student, and Retired.

What is the Educators Employment Liability (EEL) Program?

The EEL program is a professional liability insurance program which NEA provides as a benefit of membership. The program is totally dues-funded; members pay no separate fee. It is designed to protect association members -- whether classroom teachers or

support professionals -- from personal financial liability for most incidents arising out of their educational employment activities or duties. The benefits of the coverage include \$1,000,000 liability coverage plus reimbursement for attorney fees and other legal costs up to \$35,000 if you are criminally charged and then exonerated. The EEL Program provides insurance coverage for a variety of situations which result in injury to someone other than members. For example:

- student injuries
- charges of educational malpractice
- corporal punishment

The EEL Program is administered through the Idaho Education Association. Liability and insurance laws vary in each state.



BEA/NEA Educators Program Cont...

If you want more information on the specific provisions of EEL coverage in Idaho, contact your local UniServ Director (for the BEA this is Kathy Yamamoto at 345-4450) or the Idaho Education Association. (344-1341).



Additional Advantages of the EEL Program.

Your coverage is world-wide, includes coverage on and off school grounds, and is in force 24 hours a day, as long as you are performing your educational employment activities.

Also, you should know that NEA's policy is an "occurrence policy." This means that your coverage

is linked to when the "occurrence" took place. For example, if you are sued for a 1980 incident, coverage would be available to you if you were a member at the time of the "occurrence," even if such claim or proceeding arises against you in the current year or in the future.

National ESP Day

Nov. 16 is National ESP Day. The ESP Steering Committee has planned two Open House Socials to celebrate the day. These "get to know us" socials will be held at

Koelsch and Garfield Elementary schools starting at 3:30 p.m. It is hoped that ESP's from various area schools will come to meet members of the Steering Committee and

visit with each other. There will be refreshments, information and door prizes. Please RSVP to the BEA office at 345-4450 or BEAoffice@boiseea.org.



Health Screenings

If you haven't already taken advantage of the FREE health screening this school year, please don't hesitate any longer. District screening events end on Dec. 6. You can sign up on line at [bois-](http://bois-eschools.org/benefits/wellness)

[eschools.org/benefits/wellness](http://bois-eschools.org/benefits/wellness) for the next school year. If you do not, there will be a significant increase in the amount you pay, out of pocket. You NEED to participate in the annual health screenings.



Why Do ESP's Join the BEA?

There are 5 simple reasons why we joined the BEA.

1. So that we could have a unified voice when taking our concerns to the district administrators.
2. So that we would have someone in our corner, legally, when advocating for our rights in the work place. This is a form of job protection in a right-to-work state.
3. The one million dollar liability insurance policy that covers us when we

are working and doing high risk jobs, like special education paraprofessionals, substituting for the school nurse, handling district funds, coaching, etc.

4. The opportunity for training at the national level and being in the "know" about district issues.

5. The many discounts and specials that are available including discounted car insurance, low cost mortgages, member ac-

cess cards and so much more.

Each member of the Steering Committee had a different reason why they joined, but all of us agree that membership is worth every dollar we spend and more!



ESP and Philanthropy

~Chris Moore

At the October ESP Steering Committee meeting I told the members about a self help program for male cancer patients. I know, you say "Well any gender can have cancer" and you're right, but there are not a lot of self help resources out there for men. Let's face it; men don't need no stinking self help group. Ya right, how's that working for us?

This program is called REEL RECOVERY. It is a three day fly-fishing re-

treat on the Big Lost River east of Sun Valley. It operates entirely on donated funds. The cost is just over \$700.00 to send one man to this retreat for three days. At these retreats men are able to shed the defenses they have built up and discuss the many issues they face as cancer patients. (*Now I have all kinds of fishing puns here, so stick with me.*)

The hook that lures these men to the retreat is the fly-fishing. Once they are caught they are released back into the wild. (*Ok,*

I'm done.)

Because so many of our members have been, are being or will be affected by cancer the ESP steering committee decided to do some fundraising and donate to REEL RECOVERY in the name of the BEA/ESP. One of our fundraisers will be a fishing themed quilt to be raffled off at a later date. All proceeds will go to this worthy cause. Please watch your e-mails and other communication tools for additional opportunities to donate.

Upcoming Events



2011

November

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

December

16 - Special Assertiveness Training at IEA Building, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

January

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

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



BEA Education Support Professionals Steering Committee

-BEA President, Andrew Rath
 -BEA Executive Director, Kathy Yamamoto
 -Rachelle Bernard, DSC
 -Debra Brown, Horizon

-Mary Gordon, Whitney
 -Gena Harris
 -Bev Harrigfeld, Horizon
 -Bruce Hellinga, Grace Jordon

-Suzan Kats, Horizon
 -Kathyn Pierce, Hillside
 -Jeanine Rishel, South
 -Suzanne Tracey, Grace Jordon

Boise Education Association

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Phone: 208-345-4450

***Boise Educators Working Together
to Support Boise Students.***

BEA Website:
bea.groupsite.com

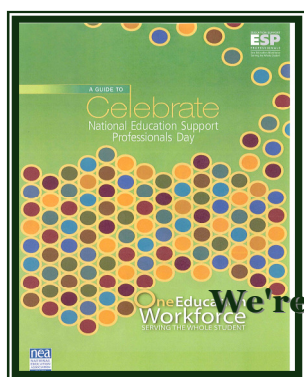
The Boise Education Association consists of about 1,700 members including classroom teachers, paraprofessionals, administrators, custodians, counselors, secretaries and other school district employees.

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.

-Kathyn Pierce, Editor
Office Assistant at Hillside JH



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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.

