

Summer



# Boise Educational Support Professionals

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## Letter from the President

As another school year comes to a close, the Boise Education Association thanks you for your unwavering support of our students and teachers! My name is Stephanie Myers and I am privileged to step into the role of BEA President for the 2013-2014 school year. I am excited to continue the service and support that Andrew Rath has given for the past three years.

A bachelor's degree

in Elementary Education and Special Education and a master's in Curriculum & Instruction have allowed me to teach special education at East Jr. High School for the last 17 years. While it is hard to believe that that many students have passed through my classroom doors, it is equally assuring that those students are participating, productive citizens of society.

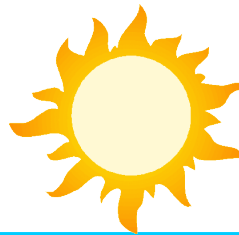
As I embark on this new facet of my

career, I know and appreciate the role of the ESP in our schools. Your knowledge, expertise, and ability to see the kids "in a different light" allows the school to be the village that some so desperately need. Thank you again! Have a wonderful, well-deserved summer break!

**Stephanie Myers ~  
BEA President-Elect**

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## Make the Change to eDues!

eDues is a new method of paying your association membership dues through automatic deductions from a checking or savings account or by a one-time credit card payment beginning with the 2013 – 2014 school year. It is an easy and secure way to avoid interruptions in your liability insurance, legal representation, and member benefits.

Beginning in September 2013,

your association membership dues will be deducted from your checking or savings account on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of each month in equal payments through August of 2014.

Making the change to eDues is simple. Either:

- Complete an eDues Enrollment Form (see your Building Rep) or

- Sign up online. Visit [idahoea.org/edues](http://idahoea.org/edues) for step-by-step instructions to sign up for eDues.

**Remember, DO NOT sign up for eDues by using a school district computer!**

For more information speak with your BEA Building Rep or contact the BEA office.

## ESP Conference

The National ESP Conference was held in Louisville, Kentucky March 7-10. I was lucky enough to attend along with Nick Steinmetz, also from Boise, and five others from Idaho. Nick was selected to attend the Emerging Leaders conference and I was part of the Leaders For Tomorrow group that met for 3 days before the weekend conference. Spending

time and sharing ideas with other classified employees from around the country was a great learning experience.

The conference was packed with workshops and forums on topics that affect all of us in our workplaces. Dealing with stress, being more assertive, and learning about our association and how to make it better were all

topics of discussion. A highlight of the conference was meeting people like us who want to feel valued and appreciated working at a career, not just a job.

For more information about the conference and other opportunities for ESP, go to [nea.org/esp](http://nea.org/esp).

## Idaho Delegate Assembly

To say I was nervous about attending the IEA Delegate Assembly is an understatement. I had an overwhelming feeling of responsibility; the need to understand the different problems facing our association and then making the correct decisions. To show up that Friday and see how many hundreds of educators had arrived from all over the state is an amazing thing.

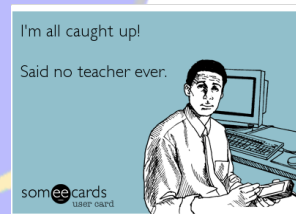
So many important topics were

brought up over those two days, but nothing captured everyone's attention as much as the first ever deficit in our IEA budget. Many delegates questioned, argued and advised on our current budget, but at the core of our crisis is a hard drop in membership. Just from the 2011-2012 to 2012-2013 terms, nearly 1,000 certified and 100 ESP members dropped their BEA/IEA memberships. I left the DA with a call to arms. To help the IEA/BEA

continue their fantastic job in fighting for our rights as educators, we need to help them. Many classified employees are not even aware that they can join! Please be vocal about the BEA.

If you have questions about the DA or are interested in joining, please feel free to contact me.

~Allison Gordon



## Opportunities for Wellness

**Live Well** is a nutrition, counseling program which helps focus on making better food choices offered through St. Alphonsus. As part of your Wellness Program, you and your dependents are eligible for six nutrition counseling sessions at no cost to you. Call 376-DOCS (3627) to schedule an appointment.

**WellSteps** is a comprehensive health and wellness program designed to help us learn how to live a healthier lifestyle. For more information go to [www.wellsteps.com](http://www.wellsteps.com).

**St. Alphonsus Employee Assistance Program (EAP)** is a voluntary,

confidential counseling service that assists employees and their families with issues that affect their quality of life at home and work. Contact St. Alphonsus EAP at (208) 367-3300 for more information.



## Follow the IEA on Facebook Today!

For important and inspiring updates on what's happening in the Idaho Education

Association today, follow them on Facebook! Search for the IEA or go their Fa-

cebook page at [www.facebook.com/idahoea](http://www.facebook.com/idahoea).

## Donations for Marian Pritchett A Success

The ESP's sponsored a baby shower for the students at the Marian Pritchett School. Donation bags were sent to all the schools throughout the district and items were collected from March to April.

The employees of the district donated 27 packages/boxes of diapers, 25 packs/boxes of baby wipes, 22 blan-

kets and quilts, 3 bedding sets, a changing pad, a portable highchair, a baby bathtub and numerous bath supplies. Apparel for both the mothers and babies, formula and other feeding accessories were also collected. Gena Harris and Rachelle Bernard presented the donated items, as well as \$250 in monetary donations to the students on May 15,

~ Rachelle Bernard



## Upcoming Events



2013

May

May 27 - Memorial Day

June

June 14 - Flag Day

June 20 - ESP Steering Committee Meeting (5:00 p.m.)

July

July 4—Independence Day

July 20 - ESP Steering Committee Retreat

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, Hawthorne

-Bev Harrigfeld, Horizon  
-Jeanine Rishel, South  
-Allison Gordon, Lowell  
-Nick Stienmetz, F & O

## Boise Education Association

### SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2013

Boise Education Association  
620 N. 6th St.  
P.O. Box 2638  
Boise, ID 83702

Phone: 208-345-4450

*Boise Educators Working Together  
to Support Boise Students.*

**BEA Website:**  
[bea.groupsite.com](http://bea.groupsite.com)

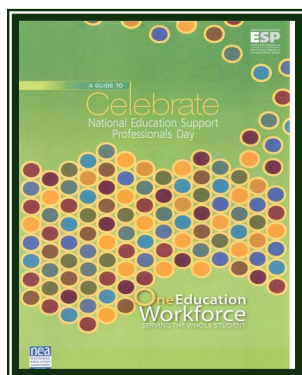
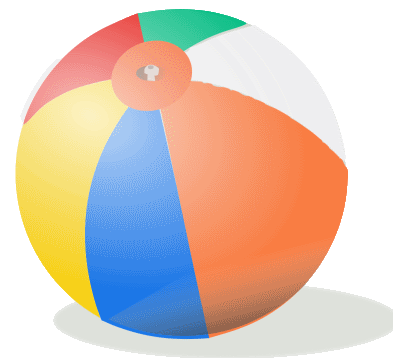
*The Boise Education Association consists of about 1,700 members including classroom teachers, paraprofessionals, administrators, custodians, counselors, secretaries and other school district employees.*

*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



Boise Education Association  
620 N. Sixth Street  
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Boise, ID 83702



**We're BEA/IEA/NEA ESPs and Proud of It!**

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