

Winter



Boise Educational Support Professionals

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**President's Corner: Andrew Rath**

In my position as president of the Boise Education Association, I am privileged to work closely with so many educators in buildings and worksites across our district. I see every day how a positive, successful learning environment is dependent on the cooperation and collaboration of all Boise Schools staff. Each of you has a critical role to play in the education of children, and I am very grateful for the professionalism and commitment you bring to your work because you know what you do makes a difference for so many.

A special thank you to the scores of Educational Support Professionals that were engaged in the local levy and state referendum political campaigns. I appreciate your passion to ensure quality public school opportunities for Boise students, and to reject misguided and harmful education policies statewide. Through your efforts collecting signatures, testifying at hearings, attending rallies, asking for donations, making phone calls, knocking on doors, and having repeated

conversations with friends and family, you showed how much you believe in the promise of great public schools in Boise and across Idaho.

Together, we have proven that individuals who organize and commit to a shared vision of a better future can change the world. I encourage you to continue to believe in your work and each other. Please use your professional organization, the Boise Education Association, as a platform to pursue a better future for all of us working and learning in public schools.

Thank you,

-Andrew Rath, *Boise Education Association President*

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The Great Quilt Raffle

As many of you know the ESP Steering Committee sponsored a fundraiser last year with The Great Quilt Raffle. All the proceeds went to *Reel Recovery of Idaho* (RRI). *Reel Recovery* is a national non-profit organization that conducts free fly-fishing retreats for men recovering from all forms of cancer. As part of our community outreach, the steering committee chose to raise enough funds to sponsor one RRI retreat here in Idaho, costing around \$700.

Kathy Pierce spent her Christmas break last year making a large quilt with a fishing theme. The committee then spent the next six months promoting the raffle and eventually raised \$760.00. The quilt was raffled off on June 14, just a few days before Father's Day. The winner was Beverly

been a member of the BEA as well. He was happy to know that the BEA/ESP was a sponsor of the retreat. I explained to Dennis that being able to say the BEA/ESP sponsored a former BEA member to a *Reel Recovery* retreat was also very exciting for me personally. At the end of the weekend Dennis told me to thank everyone for helping to send him to the *Reel Recovery* retreat.

~Chris Moore, Hillside Jr. High



ESP Outreach ESP Recruitment

I first became familiar with the BEA as an organization because of my own frustrations with a hostile teacher. I was unsure of where to go for advice and didn't realize that the BEA could help in this type of situation. I had relied on my supervisor to solve the problem. When the situation deteriorated, I went to the area supervisor and was moved to another school, but the situation was left unresolved.

After I joined the BEA, Kathy Yamamoto (*BEA Executive Director*) heard my story and I was told I could file a hostile workplace claim. After considering this, I decided that I was in a better place and should leave well enough alone. I thank Kathy for her ear and advice.

I joined the ESP Steering Committee because I wanted to see if there was anything I could do to help other ESP members in similar situations. I am learning that we do have power in numbers, but we are lacking enrollment in ESP's membership. I would like to appeal to other employees out there, please join. You are welcome to attend meetings at the IEA once a month to

learn more about the steering committee. I did not know this until I was asked to attend. So now, I am inviting you to attend. I myself don't know what I input I will have, but it is worth trying if it can improve working conditions for us all.

~Cheryl Broderick, Horizon

Why Should ESP's Join the Association

Five Important Reasons:

Be part of a strong, unified voice regarding ESP issues and concerns.

- * **ESP members have access to local, state, and national organizations working every day for public education.**

You have access to Association representation for job related issues.

- * **Membership means that an Association representative is just a phone call away.**

Association Member Benefits more than makes up for the cost of dues.

- * **Membership provides you access to reduced cost auto and homeowner insurance, over 150,000 discounted prices on services and products you use every day.**

Protect yourself with the Association's \$1,000,000 liability insurance.

- * **Membership qualifies you for \$1 Million of liability protection if you were ever to be sued over a job related incident.**

Enhance your career through quality Association leadership training.

- * **Membership provides you with many opportunities to improve your job skills through high quality training at the local, state, and national levels.**



Schumacher who works at Maple Grove and is a BEA Rep. Now here is the "Rest of The Story". The men must be in some state of recovery from cancer to participate in a retreat. They are screened by *Reel Recovery* staff and chosen to participate by the degree of their illness. At the first of two retreats last summer the sponsors were posted for the men to see. There at the top of the list was the BEA/ESP. Later that first day one of the men overheard me tell someone that I worked for the Boise School District. The man came up to me very excited and told me he had also worked for the Boise School District for over 20 years. Karma had paid off; the BEA/ESP had been able to sponsor one of our own, a teacher from our district.

Dennis Falk is his name and he told me he had taught 6th grade at Washington Elementary. He said he had

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 December 6. You can sign up online at

www.wellsteps.com/boiseschools.

Everyone must complete an online Well Steps Personal Health Assessment prior to January 31. This will affect your insurance co-pay, prescription costs and deductible for the next school year. If you do not, there will be a significant increase in the amount you pay, out of pocket.

You are encouraged to participate in the annual health screenings.

Without Education Support Professionals:

The doors wouldn't open,
the bell wouldn't ring,
the water wouldn't flow,
the heat wouldn't work,
the budgets wouldn't get finalized,
the paychecks wouldn't get issued,
the lights wouldn't shine,
the weeds would cover the doorway,
the phones wouldn't get answered
and
there would be no transportation or meals for students.

Without ESP, education would come to a screeching halt.

Education Support Professionals make it happen!

~National Council of Education Support Professionals



Baby Shower



Watch for announcements to support a baby shower to benefit the young mothers at Marian Pritchett School - Spring 2013.



Insurance: Don't Miss this Opportunity

Are you or your children patients of a St. Luke's physician? Want to avoid missing work for a doctor's appointment? Sign up for My Chart. Through My Chart, you can e-mail the physician, make an appointment, and arrange for prescription renewals. Use your computer or your smart phone. During our training day last Friday, one of the physicians made a prescription change for one of his children while waiting for his turn to present. In addition to saving time, you often have no charges for such services if you are an established patient.

~Dr. Chris Pickford, BEA Insurance Chairperson



Do you know you have ESP representation on the BEA Insurance Committee?

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scott.bennett@boiseschools.org

Upcoming Events



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

2012-2013

December

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

January

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

February

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

March

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

BEA Education Support Professionals Steering Committee

-BEA President, Andrew Rath	-Gena Harris, Hawthorne
-BEA Executive Director, Kathy Yamamoto	-Bev Harrigfeld, Horizon
-Rachel Bernard, DSC	-Suszan Kats, Jefferson
-Debra Brown, Horizon	-Jeanine Rishel, South
-Mary Gordon, Whitney	-Chris Moore, Hillside
	-Cheryl Broderick, Horizon

Boise Education Association

WINTER NEWSLETTER 2012

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Boise, ID 83702

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

BEA Website:
bea.groupsite.com

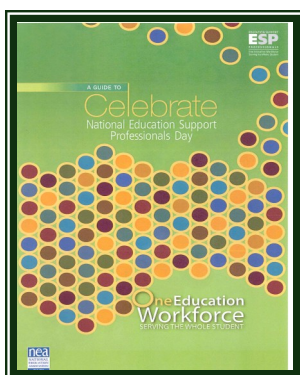
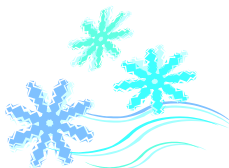
The Boise Education Association consists of about 1,700 members including classroom teachers, para-professionals, administrators, custodians, counselors, secretaries and other school district employees.

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.

-Chris Moore, Editor
Hillside Junior High School



Boise Education Association
620 N. Sixth Street
P.O. Box 2638
Boise, ID 83702



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

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

