

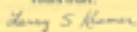
## From the President: Our Contract is Ratified

On Thursday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010, hundreds of BEA members met to discuss and vote on a new contract. The vote was unanimous in favor of the new contract for 2009-2010 and 2010-2013.

Thanks to all of you who attended that day to participate in what, clearly, is very important union business. Also, I would like to once again express my gratitude to all members of the negotiating team and the crisis committee.

Three subcommittees will be formed to negotiate further issues related to stipends, evaluations for library/media specialists, and secretarial classifications/responsibilities.

Yours truly,



Larry S. Kramer

## MTA and NEA Annual Meetings!

This year's MTA Annual Meeting will be held in Boston on May 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. This does involve missing school on the 7<sup>th</sup>, for which you will be granted an Association Day. The BEA is entitled to eleven delegates for the NEA Annual Meeting.

This year's NEA Representative Assembly (Annual Meeting) will be held in New Orleans from July 7<sup>th</sup> through July 8<sup>th</sup>. The BEA is entitled to four delegates for the NEA Representative Assembly.

Any BEA member is eligible to attend either of these events. There is a stipend designated to each delegate who attends either the MTA or NEA Annual Meeting. If more than the allotted number of people submit their names, an election will be held to determine who attends.

A pre-convention, afternoon meeting at the end of April for the MTA Annual Meeting, and one meeting in June for the NEA-RA are also part of the commitment for attendance at either of these events.

Please send me your name, school, and which meeting you are interested in attending. All names must be submitted to me at East Middle School no later than Tuesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to call me at East or at my home.

**YES!**

I am interested in running as a local delegate for the . . .

\_\_\_\_\_ MTA Annual Meeting

\_\_\_\_\_ NEA Annual Meeting

## Health Insurance Questions

Please contact Karen Shanley, Director of Human Resources, at 786-794-8466, with questions regarding our new health insurance plan and procedures.



## Teacher of the Year Nominee

I am pleased to nominate Elaine Rooney as the BEA's/NCTA Teacher of the Year. Elaine should stand out as a nominee since she has made many contributions, not only to her classroom, but to her union and community as well. Elaine Rooney has influenced and taught the lives of hundreds of people.

Ms. Rooney was my third grade reading teacher. She was the teacher you were excited to find out you had. My Highlands classmates and I still reminisce about her wonderful and captivating expression as she read to the class and her engaging lessons that made learning fun. We all recall her memorable reading of *The Last of the Really Great Whangdoodles* and her incentive program, "Funny Money," that encouraged all of us to work our hardest. Ms. Rooney always made a point to have one-on-one time with all students and let them know that she cared about them, their schoolwork and needs. She would push all of her students to and beyond their abilities. It is a true testament to her personality and teaching abilities that almost 25 years after being in her class, people still have such specific, positive memories of Ms. Rooney and her lessons.

Elaine is just as supportive of her colleagues as she is with her students. Elaine has been a mentor to countless teachers and is ready and willing to support any teacher, new or veteran, who needs support for any reason. She has been actively involved in the BEA for years as both a building and negotiation committee representative. Elaine has never been afraid to stand up for what is right and what she believes in. Elaine is also very invested in the community and her church, involved in many groups that help and support families in need. There are many babies and children who have Mothers to Comfort them made by Elaine Rooney.

After over 20 years of giving to, thinking of and helping others, honoring Elaine Rooney with BEA Teacher of the Year is a fitting tribute. She is a hardworking, dedicated, and inspiring teacher, counselor, mentor and woman who deserves to be recognized for all that she has contributed.

Submitted by Amy Devlin, Moderator

## Layperson of the Year Nominee

On behalf of the entire South Middle School staff, I nominate Al Marcos as BrainTree's NCTA Layperson of the Year. Al has dedicated himself to South Middle School since 2005. In those years, staff members have grown to admire him as a para-professional, a foster parent to some of our students, and a friend to all.

As a consistent and steady presence, Al has been the para-professional for the 8th grade Language Based program. He always maintains a calm demeanor and communicates well with students and staff. As one teacher stated, "Al has a knack for recognizing what the students need and many times he can do this before they even realize they need the help." With these skills and high expectations, Mr. Marcos has been able to motivate and assist the students in his program to be successful both inside his classroom and throughout the school.

Mr. Marcos has also been an incredible supporter of the community. An amazing demonstration of generosity in his home he and his wife, Barbara, have served as foster parents for several students in our school who were in desperate need. His willingness to open his family and home to others is a wonderful benefit to our school and the community of BrainTree.

Al Marcos is a great man who is respected by everyone in our school and community. Dedicated, a caring and faithful friend, teacher, parent, and husband, Al is an important role model we can all look up to. It is with great honor that I nominate him to be selected as NCTA's Layperson of the Year.

Submitted by Taylor Sturtevant, South



Save the Date



NCTA Awards Dinner

Tuesday, June 1

Lombardo's

Randolph

## BRAINTREE EDUCATION ASSOCIATION MESSAGE

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