

Membership
Update



January 23, 2015

From the President...

PTU Health & Welfare Fund

Allstate Insurance has granted our request to re-open enrollment for those members who have purchased disability coverage over the years and who may now want to increase their coverage given increase in income.

The open enrollment period is currently underway and will end on March 16, 2015. Our insurance representative, Jennifer Gervasio, is in the process of visiting schools to meet with teachers. Anyone wishing to schedule an appointment after school hours may contact Jennifer directly at (401) 383-2333 or BCIRI@cox.net to schedule an appointment.



Fire Drills

All schools are required to conduct a number of scheduled fire drills during the course of the school year.

Whether the fire drill is scheduled or not, everyone must exit the building. In addition, student rosters should be easily accessible and taken with you.

If you are not with your class at the time of a fire drill, you should report to your class's designated area and support the supervising teacher.



Negotiations Update

Our last mediation session was held on December 9, 2014. The PTU was asked to submit a new proposal for the district's consideration. The proposal was submitted to the district in late December.

We are currently awaiting for Mediator John Tassoni to reconvene the parties.

Retirement

Any teacher retiring this school year and who is eligible for the sick leave payout in accordance with Article 4-8.1 must notify the Office of Human Resources of their intent to retire no later than **January 31, 2015** in order to receive the 50% payout of unused sick leave.

From the President...

CBH Update

The Criterion-Based Hiring Committee is scheduled to review this year's Hiring and Transfer timeline as well as CBH policies and procedures at its January 27, 2015 meeting.

Once this year's CBH timeline and procedures are approved the information will be shared with teachers via PPSD email. At that time delegates will be asked to begin the interview committee selection process. In accordance with the CBH Policy and Procedures, two (2) teachers along with the building administrator serve on the hiring committee. If more than two teachers are interested in serving on their school's interview team, the members will be selected by staff vote. If you are interested in serving on the interview committee, see your building delegate.

As previously communicated by the district, the platform for the applicant tracking system (PATS) has been updated. All teachers applying for positions will need to create an account on the new system. It is a simple process; however, any teacher needing assistance may contact his/her field representative at the Union office.

Golden Apple Award



Congratulations to
Rosaura Vasquez for her recent
Golden Apple award!

Rosaura is a Math
teacher at Gilbert Stuart
Middle School.



Thank You!

A total of \$1,103 was raised during our Ebola
Crisis Fundraiser.

The donation has been forwarded to the RI
State Council of Churches.

Thank you to everyone who generously
donated and to the building delegates who
assisted in the fundraiser.

From the President...

Reminders....



◆ **Dress Down Day—Heather Charpentier**

The PTU is holding a dress down day in an effort to raise funds for our colleague Heather Charpentier. Heather's daughter has been diagnosed with leukemia. Although medical insurance has covered most expenses, Heather and her family are experiencing financial hardship. Funds raised will go directly to the family to help offset some of their unexpected costs. Please see your building delegate for more information regarding the dress down day. Any monetary assistance is greatly appreciated. Thank you!

◆ **Membership Meetings**

All regularly scheduled membership meetings begin at 4:00 p.m. at the Union office.

March 11, 2015
April 15, 2015
May 13, 2015

◆ **Open Office Hours**

Open office hours is an opportunity for President Calabro to hear directly from you. If you have any concerns or suggestions, call the Union office to schedule an appointment. **Open office hours** are between 3:00 and 5:00 p.m. on the following dates:

February 25*	May 27
March 26*	June 17
	April 9

**revised dates*

◆ **Town Hall Meetings**

In addition to our regularly scheduled membership meetings, members are encouraged to attend **town meetings** from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. on the following dates. **Town meetings** are an opportunity to have informal conversations regarding the issues that concern our profession:

February 12	May 20
March 18	June 10
April 2	

◆ **Certification Renewal**

Teachers are reminded to begin the certification renewal process for any certificate that is scheduled to expire on August 31, 2015. Upon receipt of your renewed certificate, a copy should be forwarded to the Office of Human Resources.