June 25, 2014

From the President...

Legislation Update

Last Friday, not only did we were celebrate the last day of school, but we also celebrated a most successful legislative session that resulted in the passage of several bills that will positively impact teachers and students. The following bills were passed by the Senate:

- Cyclical Teacher Evaluation Bill—allows teachers who are rated Highly Effective evaluated every three years and teachers rated Effective every two years. Teachers rated Developing or Ineffective will continue to be evaluated annually until they attain an Effective/Highly Effective rating. Should this bill receive final passage, more information will be provided as to the identification of HE/E teachers to be evaluated next school year.
- NECAP Moratorium Bill prohibits the use of any standardized test from preventing a student from graduating high school prior to 2017.

In addition to the passage of the above two bills, a bill was also passed to expand all day Kindergarten programs across the State as well as a bill to change the layoff notification date from March 1 to June 1.

We await to see the Governor's action on these bills.

Paul E. Vorro Retirement

PTU Executive Director, Paul Vorro is retiring effective June 27, 2014.

Paul has worked in public education for 45 years in numerous roles from teacher to Superintendent of Schools in North Providence.

He has served as PTU Executive Director since June 2003.

Our best wishes go out to Paul for a happy retirement!



PTU Scholarship Winners

Congratulations to the following PTU Scholarship winners:

- Jake Castillo who is the son of Jill Fallon, a teacher at Lima/Reservoir Avenue schools. Jake will be attending Gordon College and his area of study is History.
- Kelsey Kurbiec who is the daughter of Dot Kurbiec. Kelsey will be attending the University of RI and her area of study is Health Science.

Best wishes to Kelsey and Jake in their academic endeavors!





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From the President...

End of the Year Party—Aqua

Over 275 teachers attended last Friday's end of the year party! We wish everyone a safe and relaxing

summer recess!













Reminders....

• Special Membership Meeting

A Special Membership Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 11, 2014 at 4:00 p.m. Location to be announced.

PTU Summer Office Hours

The Union office will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday during summer recess. The office will be closed on Independence Day and VJ Day.

• Teacher Schedules

Teachers should receive their complete teaching schedules for the 2014-15 school year no later than August 11th.

Orientation Day

Tuesday, August 26, 2014

From the President...

Congratulations Retirees

One day, a man was walking along the shore. As he looked down the beach, he saw a young man that was reaching down, picking up small objects, and throwing them into the ocean.

He came closer and called out "Good morning! May I ask what it is that you are doing?"

The young man paused, looked up, and replied "Throwing starfish into the ocean."

"I must ask, then, why are you throwing starfish into the ocean?" asked the somewhat startled wise man.

To this, the young man replied, "The sun is up and the tide is going out. If I don't throw them in, they'll die."

Upon hearing this, the wise man commented, "But, young man, do you not realize that there are miles and miles of beach and there are starfish all along every mile? You can't possibly make a difference!"

At this, the young man bent down, picked up yet another starfish, threw it into the ocean and said,

"I made a difference to that one!"

by Loren Eiseley

Ordinary People can change the world

Thank you for making a difference for hundreds of students everyday of your careers...

Diane Acton Claudia Barrett Omer Brault Elizabeth Daniels Julia Feliz Lory Fitzgerald Susan Friendson Theron Green **Ruth Hirst-Trottier** Paul Marchessault Patricia Maynard Alicemarie O'Connor Jenny Prull Linda Jennings Augusto Santana Lillian Turnipseed Rosemary Wittels

Elida Araujo-Picard Nancy Barnes Lucille Capobianco Carolann D'Arcangelo Sharon Fennell Christine Fitzgerald Patricia Fortin-Major Margaret Harrington Julie Latessa Christine Mathieu Candace McCall Phyllis Oelbaum Jane Quirk Juan Rodriguez Steven Smith John Varadian Linda Zagarella

Richard Ardito Valerie Benton Rosemary Casale Nicholas DeCamp Jose Fermin Frank Forster Sharyn Fuller Patrick Kelly Patricia Lupoli Lydia Mattera Sarah Morenon Virginia Olivelli Domenic Ravo Lizandra Riojas Marilyn Tsonis Jean Warner Elodie Zukauskas





From the President...

In Memoriam

"I am a firm believer that a teacher lives on and on through his students. Good teaching is forever and the teacher is immortal."

— Jesse Stuart

This past school year, we lost three of our fellow colleagues.

Gary Duffy — February 12, 2014 Graphic Arts teacher at PCTA

Judith McGowan — *June 9, 2014* Science teacher at Central High School

*Timothy Barnes — June 10, 2014*Social Studies teacher at E-Cubed Academy

