

Membership
Update



September 9, 2016

From the President...

Welcome Back!

On behalf of the PTU Executive Board members and staff, I want to welcome all of you back to another school year. Although the school year officially began on September 6th, many of us began the task of preparing our classrooms and outreaching to our students' parents well before Tuesday. We have spent countless hours during summer recess attending various forms of professional development and working with our colleagues and school administration in the preparation of the 2016-17 school year. Providence teachers have one of the hardest jobs in the state and we show up every day determined to provide our students with the quality education they deserve.

This school year, we will begin negotiations for a successor agreement. Our current contract expires on August 31, 2017. As I have done in the past, I will solicit membership feedback regarding negotiation items. Members will also have the opportunity to discuss negotiation items with me one-on-one during my open office hours. This year's schedule will be released shortly.

In the year ahead, I look forward to working with our building delegates in the effort of engaging membership participation in **OUR** union. As a union, we need to come together so that we can create a better future for our membership and our students. I highly encourage members to stay informed and connected with our union through attendance at membership meetings and joining our social media conversation.

Have a great school year!

Best,

Maribeth K. Calabro
President



Emergency Sick Leave Bank

Thank you to the hundreds of teachers who volunteered to donate additional sick leave days to the Emergency Sick Leave Bank last spring. The drive was extremely successful with over 1,000 sick days donated!

For those teachers who have not joined the Emergency Sick Leave Bank and who wish to do so, the annual open enrollment for the Emergency Sick Leave Bank is October 1—31.

If you wish to become a member of the Emergency Sick Leave Bank, see your building delegate for a registration form.

From the President...

Class Size Overages

In accordance with Article 8-1, class size shall not exceed an average of 26 students enrolled in a teacher's classroom register per teaching period per school day provided that no teaching period shall have in excess of 29 students enrolled on a teacher's classroom register during any of the teacher's periods during said school day.

If you have a class size overage, please report the number of students that you have in excess of the average of 26 students enrolled to your building delegate.

Teachers who have a class size overage should submit a class size overage form for compensation for each additional student until such time as the overage is addressed.

PTU Membership Meetings

Membership meetings will be held at the PTU Office beginning at 4:15 p.m. on the following dates:

October 19, 2016
December 14, 2016
January 11, 2017
February 8, 2017
March 8, 2017
April 12, 2017
May 10, 2017

Educators' Book Swap — Give a book, take a book.

Freshen up your teaching resource collection this academic school year at the Educators' Book Swap. Bring books that you no longer need and exchange them for "new" titles that you will be excited to use in your classroom.

Swap guidelines:

- ◇ The book swap will feature resource titles appropriate for Pre-K to 12 grade levels.
- ◇ Must be in gently used condition (cover on, no rips or tears).
- ◇ Teacher editions will be accepted.

The Educators' Book Swap will be held on:

**Thursday, September 29, 2016
3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.**

**Providence Teachers Union Office
99 Corliss Street
Providence, RI**



Thank you to Lisa Gordon for coordinating this year's book swap. For more information, please email Lisa at Lisa.Jones-Gordon@ppsd.org.

From the President...

Healthcare Workshop

Teachers interested in learning more about Healthmate Coast-to-Coast and Plan 750 are invited to attend the **Healthcare Workshop**.

In conjunction with the City's Benefits Office, a representative from Blue Cross will provide a side by side comparison of healthcare options prior to this year's open enrollment. Open enrollment is from September 1-20 with new coverage effective October 1st. The workshop will be held at the PTU office on:

**Thursday, September 15, 2016
4:15 p.m.**

Please RSVP to Sharon at (401) 421-4014 or general@proteun.org.

PTU Care Closet

As announced last year, the PTU is launching a **"PTU Care Closet"** for Providence students who are in need of a clothing donation.

At this time, we are still collecting items to fill our closet. We are looking for new items in all sizes for boys and girls and for all seasons.

If you would like to donate, please either ask your building delegate to drop off your donation at the next building delegate meeting or drop your donation at the PTU office. Thank you for your participation in this worthy cause.



Reminders....



♦ **Payroll**

The 2016-17 payroll schedules are posted on the PTU website. The first payroll check was issued on September 9, 2016. Members are encouraged to verify that they have been placed on the correct salary step and provided with the applicable longevity, professional advancement degrees and other stipends. Payroll has notified us that there were several teachers who were not placed on the appropriate step or received applicable stipends. This will be corrected in the second paycheck retroactively. In addition, athletic coaching stipends will also be included in the second payroll retroactively.

♦ **Salary Increases Effective 2016-17 Work Year**

Appendix A-1, Salary Schedule: 1.75% (first day of work); 1.5% (last day of work)
Appendix A-2, Professional Advancement Degree: \$250 increase
Appendix A-3, Longevity Schedule: \$250 increase

♦ **Personal Business Days**

Teachers are entitled to two (2) personal business days each school year. We were notified by the Payroll office that some teachers did not receive their full allotment in this year's first paycheck. This will be corrected by the second paycheck. Please verify on your next paystub that you have been provided with your full allotment of PB days. If there is a discrepancy, please contact your field representative immediately.

♦ **Contact Information**

Please notify the PTU office if you change your mailing address, phone number or email address.