

Membership  
Update



January 13, 2012

From the President...

## Innovation Schools—Cohort II

Superintendent Lusi and I have met with faculty members from each Cohort II Innovation Schools (Mt. Pleasant, Alvarez, Pleasant View, Carl Lauro and Gilbert Stuart) in order to provide teachers with guidelines for staffing (teachers and administrators), expectations for teaching in an Innovation school, and upcoming timelines for submission of individual school improvement plans to the RI Department of Education.

At this time, schools are in the process of identifying planning committees. These committees will work with district and union representatives through facilitated meetings to develop respective school improvement plans. School plans must be submitted to RIDE by March 1, 2012.

At each faculty meeting, Superintendent Lusi acknowledged the many challenges that teachers currently face not only at the Innovation Schools but in all of our schools. Ideally, successes achieved at the nine Innovation Schools can be replicated at non-innovation schools in order to prevent those schools from entering intervention status in the future.

Many teachers from the newly identified Innovation Schools have expressed that they view their school's designation as a real opportunity to initiate positive changes in their schools with respect to student achievement, school climate and culture and parental engagement. Teachers also recognize the fact that with change comes hard work — and they are up for the challenge.

## 2012 Hiring Season

On Wednesday, January 11, 2012, building delegates and principals were briefed on the staffing procedures for the upcoming hiring season. As previously reported, this year's transfer and hiring procedures is a much more streamlined and professional process that values currently employed probationary and tenured teachers.

Building delegates have been provided with a sign-up sheet for the School-Based Hiring Committee(s). The deadline for signing up to serve as a hiring committee member or alternate is **Tuesday, January 17, 2012**. If necessary, a building staff vote will be utilized to select the required number of teacher committee members.

Please note that the Hiring Fair dates that were communicated to teachers prior to the holiday recess have changed. The new dates are as follows:

<b>Saturday, February 11, 2012</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Thursday, February 16, 2012</b>	<b>4:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Tuesday, March 6, 2012</b>	<b>4:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Saturday, March 10, 2012</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.</b>

All Hiring Fairs will take place at Central High School.

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## 15th Annual Book Drive

With the proceeds from the November 17th Dress Down Day, new books for all age groups were purchased.

Over 1,800 new books were donated to the following Providence community centers:

Washington Park  
DaVinci Center  
Silver Lake  
Joslin Center  
Capital City  
Mt. Hope  
Nickerson House



Thank you to everyone who made this year's book drive a great success!

## Retirement Workshop

Representatives from the RI Retirement Board will present a retirement workshop on **Tuesday, January 24, 2012, 3:45 p.m. at the Union office** for those teachers who are currently eligible to retire. Teachers interested in participating in the retirement workshop should contact their union field representatives to register.

## Interview Skills Workshop

As this year's hiring season approaches, the PTU is sponsoring Interview Skills workshops on the following dates. Both workshops will be begin at 3:45 p.m. at the PTU office.

**Tuesday, January 31, 2012**

**Thursday, February 2, 2012**

## Reminders...

- ◆ Friday, January 20, 2012 will be a regular school day. This day, initially calendared as a district PD day, will be used as the make-up day for Tropical Storm Irene.
- ◆ Please notify the Union office of any phone/address/e-mail changes.

Teachers who are interested in attending one of these workshops should contact Sharon at the Union office to register by Monday, January 30, 2012.