

MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

(Please Note: Year-round schools may have different schedules.)



March 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
			Membership Mtg. Marysville @ Rose City Park 5:30 PM-7:30 pm			
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Move Clocks Forward	Trimester Schools ONLY Para and EA Classified Connections		E-Board Meeting PFTCE Offices 5:30 PM-7:30 PM			Spring
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Spring Break						
28	29	30	31			

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
April 2010				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
					QUARTER SCHOOLS ONLY Para and EA Classified Connections	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
					AFT-OR Convention in Sunriver	AFT-OR Convention in Sunriver
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
AFT-OR Convention in Sunriver			E-Board Meeting PFTCE Offices 5:30 PM-7:30 PM			
25	26	27	28	29	30	
					PFTCE Scholarship Applications due	

PORTLAND FEDERATION OF TEACHERS AND CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES

PFTCE · LOCAL 111 · AFT-OREGON · AFT · AFL-CIO · CHARTERED 1919

“A Union of Professionals...Working with Children”

PFTCE · 1919 - 2010 · 91 YEARS STRONG!



March 8, 2010

The PFTCE PROFILE

SPEAKING MY MIND...

BY BELINDA REAGAN
PFTCE ACTING PRESIDENT
& FIELD REP



March has come in like a lamb, and I'm certainly hoping it stays that way. The sunny days, and occasionally warm air, have lifted my winter spirits a bit. I'm energized by the forsythias creating sunny yellow hedges along roadsides, and the joyful, sweet perfume of daphne in the neighborhoods! Ah, Spring!

Spring is always a busy time of year here at PFTCE! Last Wednesday, at our Member Meeting at Marysville (at Rose City Park), nominations were accepted for the five open PFTCE Executive Board positions, with terms beginning July 1, 2010. Because just one candidate was named for each position, and all candidates were unchallenged, those in attendance were able to vote those nominated into office by acclamation. The nominees, and new officers elected by acclamation are:

Executive VP: Becky Wright	(Beverly Cleary-Fernwood)	Paraeducator
Secretary: Thea Stayton	(Wilson High School)	Paraeducator
COPE VP: Louise Currin	(East Sylvan)	Principal's Secretary
VP at Large: Aimee Marciniak	(Pioneer-Holladay Annex)	Paraeducator
VP at Large: *Vacant		

(*Ryan Arditi (Wilson HS Campus Monitor) was nominated to this position, but, although a PFTCE member, Ryan is new this year to PPS, and hadn't been a member for six months at the time of nominations, as required by the PFTCE Constitution and By Laws.)

Congratulations to all of our newly selected Board members!

Next week, on March 15th, the first of two spring “Para & EA Classified Connections” will take place. Paras and EAs working at trimester schools and the Headstart program will attend on the 15th, with a second program scheduled for April 9th for Paras & EAs at schools on a semester calendar. Both events will take place at the Doubletree Hotel near Lloyd Center. We're pleased to have Kurt Jun as our keynote speaker to discuss diversity issues with us, as well as a great variety of classes to enjoy. Breakfast will be served, and parking is FREE! If you are a paraeducator or an EA, don't miss out on this great learning opportunity!

In closing, I would like to mention that the Executive Board has appointed me as the Acting President of the Union at our February Board meeting. While this action allows me the full authority needed to continue managing the office, and all Union business, in President Tom Smith's absence, it truly doesn't alter the role that I have been playing since Tom's 'leave' began eight months ago. At this point, we do not know whether Tom will be returning, but we must move forward to protect our membership and keep our Union strong. Thanks to all of you for your continuing support and expressions of kindness! I appreciate each and every one of you!

Take it easy~

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR THE UPCOMING

PARA & EA CLASSIFIED CONNECTIONS

Trimester Paras & EAs: Monday, March 15th

Quarterly Paras & EAs: Friday, April 9th

7:30 AM to 12:10 PM at the Lloyd Center Doubletree Hotel

Breakfast served & FREE parking! Registration questions? Contact Donna Tucker at 916-3184

BARGAINING UPDATE...

BY BELINDA REAGAN
PFTCE LEAD NEGOTIATOR

The **PFTCE Bargaining Team** will meet again next week, after a nine month hiatus, to gather together our thoughts, and prepare, once again, for negotiating our benefits and compensations “re-opener” with the district. With the teachers’ contract settled (Well done!), we feel that it’s time for the district to come back to the bargaining table with us.

The district’s lead negotiator has left the PPS for another position, and we don’t yet know the make-up of their bargaining party. Our team will consist of **Becky Wright, Michelle Batten, LindaCarol McKinlay, Karen Bartholomew** (AFT-OR), **John Bishop**, our legal consultant, and me, and will be supported by **Allison Houghton**, our Administrative Assistant. We are gearing up to meet the challenges of working with a new group from the district. In contracts past, we have experienced far too much game playing, attempts at humiliation, and ill-mannered, oppressive behavior on the part of the district’s players.

In a recent conversation with Superintendent Carole Smith, I asked that she help to bring this disrespectful treatment of classified employees to an end, and support our demand to be treated with dignity in bargaining, and at all other times, by the district’s representatives. Her response was encouraging, and she seemed very amenable to shifting the manner in which we negotiate our contracts. Only time will tell, however.

As always, we will keep you apprised of the progress of negotiations.

THE PFTCE “ALICE FAY” SCHOLARSHIP*

We are pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for the PFTCE “Alice Fay” Scholarship, a \$500.00 award that will be given to a graduating senior who is the child, or grandchild, of a PPS Classified Employee, who must be a FULL member of PFTCE.

Scholarship applications and guidelines are now available at www.PFTCE.org. Download and complete both forms to take advantage of this great opportunity to help your child with their education!

The application deadline is April 30, 2010!

(*Former E-Board member Alice Fay, who is enjoying retirement, ‘resurrected’ our Scholarship Program in her final year as PFTCE Vice President, and we felt it fitting to honor her by naming the scholarship after her.)

ARE YOU RECEIVING EMAIL FROM US?

Most of our PPS Classified employees access their District email accounts regularly, and receive important information from both PFTCE and the school district. However, quite a few of you either have never opened PPS accounts, or don’t use them, and they’ve expired. So, we have no way to communicate with you!

All PPS employees are encouraged to check their PPS email accounts frequently. Doing so should be considered part of your job duties. If you do not have access to a computer at work, ask your supervisor to make one available for your use. You should not be required to check your account only during breaks or lunch. The time before and after students arrive at your worksite should be acceptable. In addition, PPS email accounts can be accessed at home through the web.

If you do not have a PPS email account, please complete a “Staff Email Account Request” form, and FAX it to the IT Dept. at 916-3162. Your worksite Secretary should have the form available, or you can request one from IT at 916-3375. **PLEASE SET UP AN ACCOUNT SOON**, and send your new email address to us at belinda@pftce.org !! We want to keep in touch with ALL of you!

If we could lower your gas prices we would.

Check out some ways we’ve lowered the cost of your commute.

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www.aftplus.org

AFT has an expense reimbursement and/or endorsement arrangement for marketing this program. For more information, please contact AFT Financial Services at 800/238-1133, ext. 4493; send an e-mail to disclosureinfo@aft.org; or visit www.aftplus.org/disclosure.

Happy Classified Employees Appreciation Week!

March 1-5, 2010

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL PFTCE CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES!

Classified Appreciation Week was last week. To celebrate this week-long event, classified employees were honored at the PPS School Board meeting on February 22nd. This year, there was an overwhelming response to the request for nominees, but only sixteen individuals from PFTCE could be personally acknowledged that evening!

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Location</u>
Bernice Arditi	Educational Assistant	Sabin
Bill Beeson	Paraeducator	Hosford
Pam Brummer	Admin Secretary	Integrated Student Support
Cori Bueza	Chief Clerk 1	Instructional Resource
Claudia Egan	Principal’s Secretary	King
Tracy Enbysk	Principal’s Secretary	Buckman
Gloria Gilbert	Principal’s Secretary	Vestal
Maria de Lourdes Herrera	ESL Educational Assistant	Sitton
Janice Holstine	Paraeducator	MLC
Karen Jordan	Educational Assistant	Headstart / Clark
Wendy Kling	SPED Records Clerk	Tubman
LindaCarol McKinlay	Book Clerk	Cleveland HS
Linda Miller	Paraeducator	Sitton
John Poon	Community Agent	Family Support / Kelly Center
Kathleen Rynervich	Physical Therapy Assistant	Integrated Student Support
Jennifer Van Orsdel	Secretary	Lincoln HS

Please join us congratulating our honorees, and ALL classified employees! Every one of you deserves special recognition for your contributions to this district and your dedication to the students of Portland Public Schools!

In appreciation,
The PFTCE Executive Board & Staff

RESOLUTION No. 4227

Resolution to Recognize Classified Employees Appreciation Week March 1-5, 2010

RECITALS

A. Portland Public Schools’ Classified employees are essential members of our educational team. They are often our ambassadors to the public as well as caring, familiar people in the lives of our students. On the front lines and behind the scenes, they create a positive learning environment for our students by assisting them in the classroom; preparing and serving meals; caring for their physical needs; transporting them; keeping them safe, and aiding their families. They keep our administrative and school offices humming; attend to our buildings and grounds; help us communicate with each other and our community; shepherd supplies and equipment, and so much more. We are grateful for their support.

B. The Board of Education for Portland Public Schools acknowledges and applauds Portland Public Schools’ Assistive Tech Practitioners, Attendance Monitors, Book Clerks, Bookkeepers, Bus Drivers, Campus Monitors, Clerks, Community Agents, CNA’s, Custodians, Educational Assistants (ESL, Headstart, Gen Ed), Food Service Assistants, Instructional Tech Assts., Library Assistants, Maintenance Workers, Nutrition Services, Orthopedic Equip Techs, Occupational and Physical Therapists, Para Educators (Special Ed), Secretaries, Security Techs, Sign Language Interpreters, and Transportation Route Schedulers.

C. For their efforts on behalf of the 47,000 students in our Portland Public Schools, the classified employees deserve recognition and thanks.

RESOLUTION

The Board of Education declares March 1-5, 2010 Classified Employees Appreciation Week in recognition of the myriad of daily services provided toward enriching and ensuring student achievement in