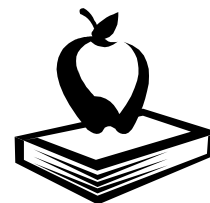


B.R.E.A.D



Bridgewater-Raynham Educational Association Digest

March 2008

[Http://bridgewater-raynham.massteacher.org](http://bridgewater-raynham.massteacher.org)

Volume XIV No. 2

Retirement/Investment

Debra Todd, a financial service associate with Prudential Insurance, will hold a seminar on 2 days in the school district. Wednesday, March 12, in the Williams Middle School library and Wednesday, March 19, in the Raynham Middle School teachers room. Both sessions run from 3:00-4:15. Those interested are asked to please contact Matt Perry so Debra may have enough materials for all. He may be reached at mgperry314@comcast.net or at the Williams Middle School, 508-697-6968. Debra may also be contacted with any questions at 1-781-449-9100 x7360.

COLAs

No, we're not talking soft drinks. A COLA is a **C**ost **O**f **L**iving **A**djustment. The BREA asks members to contact their state representatives to ask them to raise the base salary for the COLA. Currently, MTRS retirees receive cost of living adjustments on the first \$16,000 of their retirement salary. If the COLA for the year is 3%, this would translate to only a \$480 increase. As a comparison, the federal government bases their COLA for Social Security on the first \$25,000 of retirement salary. You may go to the BREA homepage if you are unsure of the names of your local representatives and enter your zip code in the box on the lower left section of the page.

The BREA is endorsing Mike Demos for Bridgewater selectman. Remember to vote Saturday, April 26.

Know Your Contract

- Q.** What are Weingarten rights?
- A.** These rights are extended to all members of the bargaining unit and may involve a situation where a member is asked to meet with a member of administration. Members should keep this quote in mind: "If this meeting could in any way lead to me being disciplined or terminated, or affect my personal working conditions, I respectfully request that a union representative be present at the meeting."

Save the Date

April 3	BCEA Legislative Conference
April 4	8th grade BR dance (postponed from 2/29)
April 14	PCEA Awards Banquet

March 28 Mitchell Monster Disco Ball
Tickets available from your building rep or Natalie Winsor at the high school (cell 508-230-6771). Auction items are still welcomed and appreciated. This year there will be 2 sets of Patriots preseason tickets up for auction as well as 1 set of Boston Red Sox regular season tickets up for bid.

Want to make some extra money? Have some professional knowledge you would like to share with other educators in southeastern Massachusetts? Then consider teaching a course. The BREA is currently looking into using the BR schools as host sites for graduate credit courses. Think about it. More information to come.

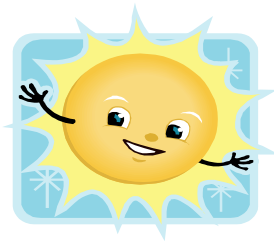
Retirement Parties

- Williams Middle
Thursday, May 15
Benjamin's
- Mitchell Elementary
Friday, June 6
Tabor Academy
- Burnell
Thursday, June 5
Castaways

Retirees this year include members from the BREA Executive Board, Jim Osenkowski and Chris Slater.

Let us know when other building retirement parties are since many of us have worked together in the past.

Sunshine news



Shawna Chabot (Laliberte) gave birth to Avery Klair Chabot on Thursday, January 31.

The father of Anne Neviackas (WMS) passed away.

The father of Jackie Yafrate (WMS) passed away.

The mother of Judy Guasconi (WMS) passed away.

The grandfather of Sarah Castro (WMS) passed away.

Looking to get in shape for the summer?

I invite you to attend our open house at Stonewood Health and Fitness scheduled for April 12 & 13 to see the state of the art facility I will be working at in my retirement. We're located just off route 44 on route 58 in Carver. It's 30,000 square feet of wellness options including a basketball court, huge aerobic studio, cycling studio, Sportwall interactive video fitness, Body Control Café, relaxation area with fireplace and 50inch screen TV, and much more. Memberships are discounted during the grand opening, and I have insisted that all MTA members receive the additional discount that is being offered to police and firefighters. Hope to see you there!

A three month membership will be one of the raffle prizes at the Mitchell Monster Ball.



BREA members who e-mail the Verizon Wireless representative should also send a copy of that e-mail to Janine Chuckran (jchuckran@comcast.net). We have found that the Verizon rep is not always quick to return messages. Janine speeds the process along nicely. Thank you.

Contacts



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