

B.R.E.A.D

Bridgewater-Raynham Educational Association Digest

March 2012

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

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The BCEA (Bristol County Education Association) holds its Legislative night on **Thursday, March 29** at Benjamin's in Taunton beginning about 4:30. Let Robin Murray know by Friday, March 23 if you are interested in attending.

BCEA offers college scholarships to students of parents in the BREA planning to study elementary, secondary, or music education. Applications may be found in your teachers' rooms or ask a building rep. Applications are due by April 5.

Robin Murray and Bev Saccocia have been elected by election waiver to the NEA-Representative Assembly. Congratulations!

We understand we are still waiting for printed contracts. The draft given to us had the wrong salary scale/schedule in it. This is now being fixed so a correct contract may be printed.



The BREA will hold elections on May 21 at the general membership meeting. If you are interested in running for a position please e-mail Sarah Castro. (s1sargent@hotmail.com).

Members should have received ballots in the mail from MTA. There is a contested race for NEA Director. Bev Saccocia recommends Donna Johnson as she has worked with her on the MTA Board of Directors. Please fill out and return the ballot. MTA needs to receive them by April 27.

The MTA Annual Meeting is on Friday and Saturday, May 11 and May 12. The BREA can send up to 9 delegates. The Friday can be taken off as a conference day. Please contact Anita if interested in attending.

Sunshine news

Sunshine news can be sent to
bridgeraynea@comcast.net

- ◆ Sarah Castro (WIS) had a baby girl, Lillyanna Jacqueline, on Leap Day, February 29.
- ◆ Nancy Ohrenberger's 6th grandchild, Ryan Marshall, was born on Jan.20.
- ◆ Sharon Anderson (high school) is the proud grandmother of Drew Theodore Blais born March 17.
- ◆ Remember to contact Marla Sohegan or Gail Nunes if interested in attending the retirement celebration for Kathi Voller and Joyce Stella.



Contacts

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President's update

After studying the new Municipal Insurance Law, I discovered an interesting fact. If we have a valid Section 19 PEC Agreement (contract) that was in effect when the law was enacted, the law cannot be invoked until that Agreement ends.

We have a valid Agreement (with our medical insurance design plan in it) that is in "Full Force and Effect" until a successor agreement is negotiated.

Therefore, in my opinion and that of the MTA, it is illegal for the School Committee to invoke the law that allows them to throw us into GIC or a "look alike" plan.

Should they decide to go ahead and illegally invoke the law, we will be filing an Unfair Labor Practice, injunction and/or regular law suit. This may take time and we may have wait for the settlement, but you will be paid every penny that was taken out of your pocket.

A few years ago, the School Committee went ahead with an illegal plan such as this, and raised our co-pays for prescriptions and doctor's visits. They were forced by the Labor Relations Commission to pay back every penny, and they had to pay us back for four years because they couldn't get out of the BC/BS contract and our contract.

The following applies to all teachers and especially any teachers who participate in after school activities, coaching, school trips etc.

Should there be any problem that arises out of your participation in these school activities (during school or after), and you are asked to participate in an investigation, you are always entitled and encouraged to have BREA representation. Remember, an investigation could result in disciplinary action, and at which point you need representation and it is always best to have the representation from the very beginning.

You always have:

- **BREA representation at any meetings (Building Reps, Grievance Chair, President)**
- **MTA Consultant should it be necessary**
- **MTA Legal Representation, should it come to that**

Also, all members of BREA and MTA have a Million Dollar insurance policy that will cover any damages awarded, and damages are very rarely awarded from teachers.