



Election 2009

BTU Final Election

Wednesday, June 3, 2009

9:00 am to 6:00 pm

at BTU Hall at Bayside



President

- Richard F. Stutman O'Bryant HS

Executive Vice-President

- Patrick J. Connolly Madison Park TVHS

Secretary-Treasurer

- Charles R. Johnson Madison Park TVHS
- Gilberto Rivera, Jr. Edwards MS

Secondary Field Representative

- Caren M. Carew M.L. King MS

Elementary Field Representative

- Michael W. McLaughlin Murphy ES
- Karen Wood-Hocker Holmes ES

Paraprofessional/ Substitute Field Representative

- Jenna Fitzgerald BTU Office
- Carla M. Johnson Ellison/Parks EES

Political Director

- Patricia Armstrong Taylor ES

Executive Board

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> John Allocca
El Centro Alternative Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Allison Doherty-LaCasse
Urban Science Academy @ WREC | <input type="checkbox"/> Tricia Melanson
Madison Park TVHS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Erik Berg
Philbrick ES | <input type="checkbox"/> Mary F. Glynn
Lee ES | <input type="checkbox"/> Sherry Pedone
Mildred Avenue MS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Debra A. Brown
Sumner ES | <input type="checkbox"/> Kevin P. Grogan
CWETF | <input type="checkbox"/> James (Timo) Philip
Brighton HS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Robert P. Carroll
Sumner ES | <input type="checkbox"/> Cheryl L. Kelly, R.N.
Edwards MS/Alighieri ES | <input type="checkbox"/> Mary Ann Urban
Retired |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Isilda R. Colonette
Ohrenberger ES | <input type="checkbox"/> Lisa MacGeorge
Adams ES | <input type="checkbox"/> Garret Virchick
New Teacher Developer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Michael Crain
Blackstone ES | <input type="checkbox"/> Michael J. Maguire
Boston Latin Academy | <input type="checkbox"/> Eileen Weir
Madison Park TVHS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Angela J. Cristiani
Psychological Services | | <input type="checkbox"/> Alice M. Yong
Hennigan ES |

Paraprofessional Council

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Donna Adame
Media WREC | <input type="checkbox"/> Regina Folger
Wilson MS | <input type="checkbox"/> Josefina I. Lascano
Edison MS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Debra A. Brown
Sumner ES | <input type="checkbox"/> Joan F. Forcucci
Hennigan ES | <input type="checkbox"/> Lisa Osborn-Kelley
Holland ES |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Christine Buttiglieri
Umana MS | <input type="checkbox"/> Adrienne Jordan
English HS | <input type="checkbox"/> Maureen Sutherland
Gavin MS |

All candidates for BTU Elective Offices are listed alphabetically, not according to ballot position.

You must bring your BTU Membership Card and a Picture ID in order to vote!





Candidate Statements

President

Richard F. Stutman O'Bryant HS

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you for two more years. I am very proud to represent you and I am honored to have led you for the last six years.

Make no mistake: the next two years will be difficult. In fact, it is likely that the economy will get worse before it gets better. And as the economy goes, so goes much of what we hold near and dear. Our pensions, our health coverage, our ability to keep pace with the cost of living – all of these are dependent on the prospects of the economy. We will approach these challenges as we approach every challenge. We will be deliberate and thoughtful. We will talk through our problems and plan our strategy. Above all, we will rely on you, our 9,000-strong membership to provide guidance and direction.

Again, thank you for your confidence and support. Please vote on June 3.



Executive Vice-President

Patrick J. Connolly Madison Park TVHS

Lately the tone of public comment and published opinion has been hostile to public education and public service in general and the BTU in particular. Demands for more charter schools and concessions from public employee unions resound almost daily.

As Vice President I have opposed these proposals and others to remove work from our bargaining unit. As school budgets are cut it is important to enforce hard won contractual mandates on issues such as class size, planning and development periods, and administrative duties. The next round of contract negotiations will be more difficult given current economic conditions. I will be there to support you and to protect your rights and benefits.

I am proud to serve you and the BTU as Executive Vice President. I would appreciate and honor your continued support.



Secretary-Treasurer

Charles R. Johnson Madison Park TVHS

Charles R. Johnson is your candidate for the office of Secretary-Treasurer. I seek your support and your vote.

My union work, both at the local and national level, plus my executive board experience and service on numerous union related committees, demonstrate my ability and commitment to our union. Fiscal experience acquired, to date, has been in both the private and public sector. Specific financial and management experience include small business operator, bookkeeping, and comptroller, with the General Electric Corporation.

Our union requires a smooth transition of prepared leadership with skills you can trust to maintain its strength. The operation of the union must have a vigilant eye on financial expenditures to remain stable. I will provide knowledge, strength, and vigilance.

On June 3, 2009.....please vote for Charles R. Johnson!



Gilberto Rivera, Jr. Edwards MS

As your Secretary-Treasurer, my number one priority will be the first-rate management of our finances. With 17 years of dedication and hard work in the classroom and union activities, I also bring to the table sound public and private fiscal management. I have managed over \$2,000,000.00 in payroll and grants, including \$600,000.00 in school funds I helped raise.

I will use my fiscal and technological expertise to save money, stabilize union dues, and continue building the surplus. I will cut costs and strategically fund-raise to support professional growth initiatives and the BTU pilot school.

Given the state of the economy and the attacks from our opponents, the BTU requires new energy, vision, and a renewed commitment. With your vote, we will continue to be a proactive voice for teachers in education policies.

Please google ([rivera4btu](#)) to watch my campaign testimonial video. I humbly ask for your support on June 3.



Political Director

Patricia Armstrong Taylor ES

I am honored to serve the BTU as its Political Director. I represent you at AFTMA and at the Greater Boston Labor Council where I also chair their political committees.

This year was a terrific year for the BTU politically. We endorsed forty-nine candidates and forty-eight of them were successful. This was our best year ever and it didn't happen by accident. Lots of hard work went into the effort. I need to thank all the members, their children and friends who gave up Saturdays to go to New Hampshire and canvass for Barack Obama. In

addition, special thanks to all members who worked on the phone banks whether for the BTU, AFTMA, GBLC or the Massachusetts AFL-CIO. This was a collective effort of which I am very proud.

I look forward to continuing to serve and hope to receive your vote for Political Director and delegate. Thank you.





Delegate to All Affiliated Bodies

Candidate Statements

Secondary Field Representative

Caren M. Carew M.L. King MS

Times ahead are tough. When under fire, you'll need the proven extensive union and professional experienced leadership I bring to the table as Secondary Field Representative. As a strong, tireless, effective advocate I provide proactive representation through listening to members' concerns and expeditiously addressing them.

On a day-to-day basis I work *for* and *with* you providing vigilant enforcement of the contract speaking up on behalf of the membership while effectively dealing with challenging administrators, providing representation at hearings, prosecuting grievances, testifying at arbitrations, negotiating with management, returning calls/emails, addressing changes in working conditions, initiating SSC training and school meetings, activating new members, resolving conflicts, and thinking outside the box in these unprecedented times. I've gained a wealth of first-hand, in-depth knowledge in order to get the job done while fighting to receive and maintain the respect we deserve. Let's stand up *together* – BTUnity!

Thank you for your consideration and vote.



Elementary Field Representative

Michael W. McLaughlin Murphy ES

It's an honor and pleasure serving you as the Elementary Representative. The experience and knowledge I gain helps me to serve you more efficiently. Please vote to allow me to continue serving as your representative, providing excellence in representation.

My goal remains the same, broadening the legacy of this office through strong advocacy. I will continue to promote your rights and enforce the contract. I'll carry on my practice of visiting members in the field and actively communicating with you.

As your representative, I am a member of several committees: Peer Assistance, Educator of the Year, Negotiating Team, Sick Bank, Laptop Appeals and Boston Retirement Board. My priority is to be your stalwart advocate. I'll continue to promptly return your calls, respond to your emails and assist you in taking advantage of our union's resources. I thank you for the consideration and vote to once again be your Elementary Rep.



Karen Wood-Hocker Holmes ES

Our fight for respect is an uphill battle. We have striven through strikes, work-to-rules and solidarity to obtain fair and reasonable contracts. Our contract states that the purpose of the BTU is, "To maintain and improve the conditions of its members with respect to salaries, pensions, professional status...the right of freedom of expression in and out of the classroom; to raise the standard of the teaching profession; and...to provide the best education for the children..."

I cannot control the budget, fix the economy or make the media understand how education *really* works. I will not make promises I cannot keep. What I can do is pledge to show up when I say I will, return phone calls promptly, and do my best to uphold the spirit and letter of the collective bargaining agreement that our members have fought. I respectfully ask for your vote June 3rd.



in alphabetical order

- Donna Adame - Media WREC
- Maritza Agrait - Special Ed
- John Allocca - El Centro
Alternative Education
- Patricia Armstrong -
BTU Office - Winthrop ES
- Christine Arnold -
Blackstone ES
- Sandra Baler-Segal - Retired
- Katie Begley - Retired
- Ron Bennett - Brighton HS
- Erik Berg - Philbrick ES
- Alfred Bird - Charlestown HS
- Anne Broder - Retired
- Marie Broderick - Retired
- Debra Brown - Sumner ES
- Nia A. Burke - Agassiz ES
- Christine Buttiglieri -
Umana MS
- Steven Cahill - Rogers MS
- Cornelia Callahan - Retired
- Caren Carew - M. L. King MS
- Robert P. Carroll - Sumner ES
- Ted Chambers - Edwards MS
- Brenda Chaney - O'Bryant HS
- Christine Choukas -
Dearborn MS
- Elaine Colarossi - Snowden HS
- Isilda Colonette -
Ohrenberger ES
- Patrick Connolly - BTU Office
- Donna Cooley-Hilton - Retired
- Sue A. Costello - Retired
- Martha Cotton - Taylor ES
- Donald Craft - Gavin MS (USS)
- Michael Crain - Blackstone ES
- Angela J. Cristiani -
Psychological Services
- Marjorie Crosby -
Adams/Bradley/Otis ES
- Anthony DiIeso - Retired
- Edward J. Doherty -
AFT Massachusetts
- Allison Doherty-LaCasse -
Urban Science Academy
- Virginia (Ginny) Donnelly -
Madison Park TVHS
- David J. Donovan -
Retired/RTC Office
- Rose-Marie Donovan - Retired
- Betsy Drinan - Frederick MS
- Jill Duckowney - Retired
- John Enright -
Madison Park TVHS
- Dee Esposito - Retired
- James Fay - Retired
- Brenda Fergus - Agassiz
- Jenna Fitzgerald - BTU Office
- Regina Folger - Wilson
- Janey Frank - Retired
- Peter Freedburg -
Charlestown HS
- Mary Gaughan - Retired
- John Glynn - McCormack MS
- Mary F. Glynn - Lee ES
- Thomas J. Gosnell -
AFT Massachusetts
- Kevin Grogan - CWETF
- Keith Guyette - Lewenberg
- Maria Harvey - Agassiz ES
- Tom Hocker - BLA
- Carla Johnson -
Ellison/Parks EES
- Marta Johnson -
F. D. Roosevelt K-8
- Adrienne Jordan - English HS
- Evangelina Kariadakis -
Ohrenberger ES
- Kathy Kelley - Retired
- Cheryl L. Kelly, R.N. -
Edwards MS/Alighieri ES
- Josefina Lascano - Edison MS
- Barry Lawton - East Boston HS
- Elaine Leisinger -
Social Justice Academy
- Rita Lyle - Retired
- Lisa MacGeorge - Adams ES
- Paige MacTavish -
Peer Assistant
- Michael J. Maguire - BLA
- Antoinette Malfa - Retired
- Dave Malloy - Retired
- Bob Mariani - Retired
- Marilyn Marion - Retired
- Gayle Marrow -
Mildred Ave. MS
- Stephen McLaughlin -
Noonan Business Academy
- Michael McLaughlin -
BTU Office
- Emily McNeal -
John D. Philbrick ES
- Tricia Melanson -
Madison Park TVHS
- Leonard (Lennie) Miraglia -
Retired
- Pat Mullane -
Madison Park TVHS
- Carol Pacheco - Retired
- Sherry Pedone -
Mildred Ave. MS
- James (Timo) Philip -
Brighton HS
- Kristen W. Pinto - Umana MS
- Declan Power - Barron Center
- John Powers - Retired
- Mary Dugas Powers - Retired
- Gilberto Rivera Jr. -
Edwards MS
- Maureen Rocks - Retired
- Jacqueline Rodriguez -
Psychological Services
- Thomas Rose - King MS
- John Simonetti - Holland ES
- Linda O. Simonetti -
The Engineering School
@ HP Ed Complex
- Ann Steinberg - Retired
- Richard F. Stutman -
O'Bryant HS
- Maureen Sutherland -
P. F. Gavin MS
- Paul Tenney - Retired
- Mary Ann Urban - Retired
- Phil Veysey - Retired
- Garret Virchick -
New Teacher Developer
- Brenda Webster - Retired
- Eileen Weir -
Madison Park TVHS
- Karen Wood-Hocker -
Holmes ES
- Alice M. Yong - Hennigan ES
- Rocco Zizza - BLA



Candidate Statements

Paraprofessional/Substitute Field Representative

Jenna Fitzgerald BTU Office

I am running for the office of Paraprofessional/Substitute Field Representative. On-the-job training is the way to accumulate the knowledge and skills needed. Nothing ever takes the place of experience, and I have done it all!!



My qualifications are:

- First Paraprofessional of the Year Award
- Chairperson, Paraprofessional Council
- Executive Board, BTU
- Collective Bargaining Committee
- Para Representative, Negotiating Team
- Delegate, State and National Conventions
- Vice President AFT MA
- AFT PSRP/PPC Committee, Washington, DC

My Endorsements are:

- Thomas Gosnell, AFT MA President
- Richard Stutman, BTU President
- Patrick Connolly, BTU Executive Vice President
- Edward Welch, BTU Secretary-Treasurer
- Patricia Armstrong, BTU Political Director
- Kathy Kelley, AFT MA and BTU Past President
- Edward Doherty, BTU Past President

Please vote on June 3rd for Jenna Fitzgerald, Paraprofessional/Substitute Field Representative and Delegate to All Affiliated Bodies. Thank you for your consideration.

Carla M. Johnson Ellison/Parks EES

I thank you for your vote and again ask for your support as a candidate for Paraprofessional/Substitute Teacher Field Representative. As a member of the Boston Teachers Union, I have enjoyed serving you as a building representative, committee member and as a Delegate to All Affiliated Bodies. Now, I am ready to serve you in a different capacity.



As a paraprofessional, I am proud and know first hand that our work is essential to the success of all students. When elected, I will expand upon existing paraprofessional and substitute teacher professional development opportunities.

It is essential that our union remain strong. We can accomplish so much more when we are working together. The Boston Teachers Union is our strongest ally for equity and respect. Given the opportunity, I'll vigorously advocate for your concerns as well as protect our contractual rights.

Please vote on June 3rd.

Executive Board

John Allocca El Centro Alternative Education

We are in a time of economic crisis in which we and the communities that we serve are being pushed by those who made the mess to pay the bill. Now more than ever, we need activist leadership with a vision of social justice unionism and building mutually beneficial alliances with other unions and with parent and community organizations that share our vision of a more just and equal society. My many years of experience as a teacher active in designing and leading the El Centro Alternative High School Program, as a building representative, as a union activist in the BTU and in other unions, as a tireless advocate for racial and socioeconomic justice in the larger world and as a parent of two children in the BPS provide me with the experience, vision and leadership skills necessary to build a stronger union. I ask for your support.



Erik Berg Philbrick ES

If elected to the Executive Board, I will work hard to build and sustain a strong union. We need to negotiate and enforce an excellent contract in difficult fiscal times. As a member of the negotiating team, I worked for a contract that included a healthy raise for all members.



I will encourage the BTU to reach out to all members, particularly younger members, to make sure that our hard-won gains are maintained in the future. I will make sure that teachers have a say in decisions affecting education, and that your dues money is spent wisely.

I teach at the Philbrick School, where I am Building Representative. I am the father of two BPS students. I serve on the Negotiating Team, the COPE Committee, and chair the BTU School Planning Committee. I have been an Executive Board member, Delegate, and editor of this newspaper. I ask for your support.



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Candidate Statements

Executive Board

Debra A. Brown Sumner ES

As the BTU Elections draw near, I am asking for your vote for Executive Board and as Delegate. I will be a strong voice for all paraprofessionals. Further, I collaborate with teachers on a daily basis and understand their unique needs.

I have been a paraprofessional for 20 years, during which time I have worked in a variety of special needs settings and as school librarian. I have been active in BTU activities and functions for many years, as Building Representative, member of the Paraprofessional Council and Trustee for the Paraprofessional Health and Welfare Fund. I am currently an active participant in the collective bargaining unit. I have received BTU Paraprofessional of the Year, MFT Distinguished Service Award and BPS Service Excellence Award.

I have been and will continue to be an advocate for all paraprofessionals and teachers. I hope to have the opportunity to serve you on the Executive Board.



Michael Crain Blackstone ES

In addition to the 18 years of teaching multi-handicapped classes at Blackstone, I am a union activist.

Through my work with AFT-MA COPE, I educate candidates on issues vital to both active and retired members such as health benefits, pensions, and full COLA raises. Through the Collective Bargaining Team, I made sure that unique supply needs of Early Childhood and Special Education classes were included in the contract. Through the New Member Recruitment Committee, I work to advance the union by designing activities to engage and support new members. As a veteran Building Rep I have proudly stood with you on picket lines and at rallies.

With a great respect for the work of our veteran union members and a desire to intensify our current efforts, especially during these difficult economic times, I ask that you vote and elect me to the Executive Board and as a delegate.



Robert P. Carroll Sumner ES

Boston is the birthplace of public education, and should be a respected institution and a model for the nation. Boston Public Schools have been innovative and on the cutting edge of education reform for many years. These advancements in education have been in a large part, due to the hard work and diligence of the Boston Teachers Union.

Public education and unionism has been under steady fire from all sides. Attempts to dismantle public education and unions have come from all parts of society.

I have been a teacher for over 27 years. I have been a union activist, 20 of those years as a building rep. I have served on the Executive Board, and other union committees.

I am proud to be a union member and will continue to be a strong voice for fair wages, decent working conditions and the respect that we all have earned and deserve.



Angela J. Cristiani Psychological Services

As a candidate for re-election for Executive Board and Delegate, I respectfully ask for your support.

Whether provisional, veteran, or retired member, be assured my dedication is unwavering, my persistence remains unchanged, and my energy level is high. Our roles are different...our issues are the same.

While in the crosshairs, it is imperative that individual concerns continue to be proactively addressed. We are impacted by increasing mandates, challenging working conditions, and the economy. As a member of union related committees, having served as co-chairperson of the '06 AFT Convention Host Committee, I remain an effective voice for all, am involved in the labor movement at-large, and continue to be politically active.

The membership is the heart of our Union. We are a changing union. Changing times require representation by hardworking individuals with institutional history who are not status quo.

I ask for your vote on June 3rd. Thank you.



Isilda R. Colonette Ohrenberger ES

I am a candidate for reelection to the Executive Board and Delegate to All Affiliated Bodies. I have served as an elementary educator for 19 years. I continue to be a strong member and advocate for teachers on the Collective Bargaining and Grievance Committees where I have been afforded the opportunity to learn and utilize my strengths and continue to work diligently for your rights.

I am running for reelection so that I can continue to make a difference. Now more than ever we need a strong voice to represent us in these trying times when we are faced with so many uncertainties. I want to be that voice that continues to advocate for members.

With your vote we can face the challenges that arise, make a difference in our professional lives and those of the students we serve. Thanks you for your consideration and continued support.



Allison Doherty-LaCasse Urban Science Academy @ WREC

I have been member of the Boston Teachers Union since 1999, a BTU building representative and delegate to AFT, AFL-CIO and GBLC since 2000, an elected member of the Boston Teachers Union Executive Board since 2005. I have also been a member of the BTU New Member Committee, which works to educate new member of the importance of our union.

Recently, I was elected to serve as the AFL-CIO Futures Representative and won a seat on the Massachusetts AFL-CIO Executive Board. As a member of the Executive Board, I will be helping the Futures Committee educate, encourage and empower younger union members to be more active and knowledgeable in the labor movement.

Please re-elect Allison Doherty-LaCasse for Delegate and Executive Board. I represent the future.





Candidate Statements

Executive Board

Mary F. Glynn Lee ES

As a candidate for re-election to the BTU Executive Board and the Delegations, I pledge to continue to represent you proudly. My history of union activism spans more than three decades. The numerous committees, on which I have served, have provided me with the opportunity to be proactive in my efforts to improve working conditions. In this political climate, my efforts have shifted to advocate maintaining the conditions and benefits that we negotiated.



As Co-Editor of the *Boston Union Teacher*, I strive to present the many faces and voices of the Boston Teachers Union. I report on events and issues affecting our membership and the membership of our affiliates: the Greater Boston Labor Council, the AFT MA, AFT, and the MA AFL-CIO. In these difficult times it is important that working people stand together to preserve our right to collective bargaining.

Please vote for the future!

Kevin P. Grogan CWETF



Cheryl L. Kelly, R.N. Edwards MS/Alighieri ES

Two years ago I stated that there are people out there who would like to marginalize us, and would like nothing better if the BTU did not exist. Here it is, two years hence and things have gotten worse. The last membership meeting was a little discouraging. What we're hearing is that younger members are ambivalent about attending. Everybody, this is our union!!! What we accomplish, we accomplish together.



Let your involvement be based on what you see for yourselves, not what you hear. Thank you. Please remember to vote on June 3rd.

Lisa MacGeorge Adams ES

Now is the time to be active in our union not apathetic. Unions are under attack and our membership faces layoffs. We must educate the public about the rights they enjoy because of labor unions as well as stand together to uphold our contract. Our retirees and veteran union members have worked diligently to improve our rights as workers. I am very grateful for their efforts. I believe it is our duty to learn from them so our union remains strong in the future.



For the past ten years I have taught elementary school in East Boston. For eight of those years, I have served as a building representative. I also currently serve as a delegate to all affiliated bodies, Futures AFL/CIO representative, member of the Steering Committee and the Boston Children's Museum Teacher Advisory Board.

I would greatly appreciate your vote on June 3rd.

Michael J. Maguire Boston Latin Academy

I love teaching; but the working conditions sometimes get to me. Next year we shall negotiate a new contract, there will be a lot of work to do. On the Executive Board I want to shape our next contract in order to improve working conditions for all of us.



Over the years I have been outspoken in my support for my fellow unionists and steadfast in my critique of the BPS. I am on record with the *Boston Union Teacher*, *Globe*, *Herald*, WCVB, NECN, WB56, and Fox 25 advocating for us all. Most recently I have had four letters published in the *Globe*.

Over the years I have worked hard as a building representative to assist my colleagues; and as a returning member of the Executive Board, I shall continue to bring your issues to the forefront. I ask for your vote on June third. Thank you.

Tricia Melanson Madison Park TVHS

In today's changing climate of education, teachers and paraprofessionals are facing new challenges in our classrooms and profession. Some of these are challenges to our own ways of helping students learn. Others are challenges to our core task of educating our children. These challenges take the form of budget cuts that threaten programs and class size. Additionally there are those who seek to limit our right to collectively bargain on the issues. It is important that we as a union resist and overcome those challenges that are harmful to our students and our profession.



A graduate of the BPS, I am now an ELA Teacher and Building Representative at Madison Park. Since joining the BTU I have served on the Election Committee, Social Committee and as delegate to the AFT and AFT MA. I am committed to representing all BTU members and ask for your support in the upcoming election.

Sherry Pedone Mildred Avenue MS

I am a candidate for the BTU Executive Board and Delegate to All Affiliated Bodies. I do not take running for these positions lightly. I am a music teacher currently in my 29th year of teaching in Boston.



It is no surprise to you that our union rights and the gains we have made are under attack. It is no more apparent than in the arts. Many schools do without arts education. In this age of testing frenzy, we seem to have forgotten the whole child.

- Union Representative – 15 years
- City-wide Music Standards & Curriculum Frameworks
- Music Faculty Senate
- AFT Delegate
- AFT MA Delegate
- Greater Boston Labor Council
- AFT Human Rights
- Collective Bargaining Committee
- AFT Women's Rights Committee
- Music Educators National Conference
- Massachusetts Music Educators Association

I'm asking for your vote. We can do better. We Will Do Better!



Candidate Statements

Executive Board

James (Timo) Philip Brighton HS

Once again I am asking you to reelect me, James (Timo) Philip to the Boston Teachers Union Executive Board. I want to remain an active participant in the Union's constant struggle to "preserve, protect, and defend" the professionalism, competence, dignity, and hard-won contractual rights of those of us who serve Boston's public school children.



The attacks against us are unceasing and come from many directions; vouchers, merit pay, charter schools, reduced benefits, and this most recent attempt to fund a budget deficit by asking us to forego well earned salary increases. I cannot predict the origin or direction of the next assaults, but I can promise you that I shall continue to defend our right as we continue to provide a quality **PUBLIC** education to the youngsters we serve.

On June 3rd, please vote for James (Timo) Philip for BTU Executive Board and Delegate.

Mary Ann Urban Retired

"Once more unto the breach, dear friends, once more..."* As the longest serving member of the Executive Board I am asking for your vote. Why? Being the only retiree running for the Board I become you link between the past, the present, and the future. With the persistent media/political attacks on the BTU you need someone who understands what has happened the past and will fight to preserve the future.



The Executive Board cannot fight these attacks alone. We need every teacher, para and nurse to arm themselves with information to fight. This will allow you to talk to your friends and neighbors about the issues we feel are important to us. We need you to take responsibility for **your** contract by coming to Union meetings and reading BTU E-Bulletins. We need you to come out and vote on June 3, 2009.

**Shakespeare's Henry V, Act III*

Garret Virchick New Teacher Developer

As a member of the Executive Board I would work hard to build a strong union that represents all the dedicated professionals of the BTU. We are entering challenging times. Committed leadership is needed. I will advocate for a union that reaches out and joins with others in the community to advocate for public education.



As the co-editor of the *Boston Union Teacher* I have advocated for teacher voice in our schools. As a member of the negotiating team I worked tirelessly to get a fair and equitable contract for all of our members. If elected to the Executive Board I would work to build an activist union that fights for what is fair and just.

The future of public education is at a crossroads. The articles I have written over the past 4 years outlines my vision of that future. I ask for your support on June 3rd.

Eileen Weir Madison Park TVHS

Thank you for allowing me the honor to serve on your Executive Board for the last two years and as Delegate to All Affiliated Bodies for the last four years. Learning the complexities and history of the Boston Teachers Union as it relates to our workers' rights and the protection and promotion of public education in Boston has been rewarding and intriguing. I am



committed to working to protect the rights and benefits of all BTU members and appreciate your consideration for one of your twelve votes on June 3rd.

As we move forward in difficult economic times, it is essential that we work together strategically to keep our union strong in order to ensure our rights, preserve and improve our working conditions, and protect the pensions of all teachers, present, veteran and future. Thank you.

Alice M. Yong Hennigan ES

I have been an active member of the BTU for over 20 years. Every member of the BTU wants a fair contract. I will continue to work on all issues regarding our contract. The importance of a strong union is the people who want their voices heard from all the different areas of our schools, teaching fields, and backgrounds. We must all be united and committed in the fight for collective bargaining. We can all play a vital role in our union. I am a team organizer and will be a firm and consistent member of your Executive Board. I plan to continue my committee work and be a force for the rights of all members. We should always support the dedicated workers that keep our members informed about healthcare and pension benefits.



**THE FUTURE OF OUR UNION DEPENDS ON YOUR VOTE!
I AM COUNTING ON YOUR VOTE!**



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Candidate Statements

Paraprofessional Council

☐ Donna Adame Media WREC

I am seeking re-election to the Para Council as well as Delegate to All Affiliated Bodies which I have served on for the last four years. I also serve on the BTU Elections Committee. I have been a paraprofessional and member of the Boston Teachers Union since 1987. I am anxious to continue serving the BTU.



During the past 20 years I have worked alongside special education administrators and teachers. I have assisted with classroom instruction and worked as a bilingual translator for students and parents. I continue to upgrade my skills by taking advantage of the many professional development opportunities offered through the BPS and BTU.

You can depend on me to actively engage in committees, attend meetings and share all necessary information with my colleagues. I ask you to be informed and involved in the BTU. Please consider me for the Para Council and Delegate positions.

Thank you.

☐ Debra A. Brown Sumner ES

As the BTU Elections draw near, I am asking for your vote for the Paraprofessional Council. I will be a strong voice for all paraprofessionals. Further, I collaborate with teachers on a daily basis and understand their unique needs.



I have been a paraprofessional for 18 years, during which time I have worked in a variety of special needs settings and as school librarian. I have been active in BTU activities and functions for many years, as Building Representative, member of the Paraprofessional Council and Trustee for the Paraprofessional Health and Welfare Fund. I am currently an active participant in the collective bargaining unit. I have received BTU Paraprofessional of the Year, MFT Distinguished Service Award and BPS Service Excellence Award.

I have been and will continue to be an advocate for all paraprofessionals and teachers. I hope to have the opportunity to serve you on the Paraprofessional Board.

☐ Christine Buttigliari Umana MS

I've been a member of the BTU since 1990. In that time I have worked at the Donald McKay School & presently at Mario Umana Middle School Academy. I started as a classroom Para. For the past 6 years I've been a Library Para and an elected Building Rep. I received the Building Rep of the Year award. I also am a member of the School Site Council. I continue to attend Professional Development and Workshops to stay updated with the changes in educational programs.



Paras as well as teachers have been looking for answers and support, with so many of the changes ahead of us. I believe that I've been able to help with finding answers and give the support needed.

I am seeking re-election to the Para Council and Delegate to All Affiliates. Please consider me as a candidate for both positions.

Thank you.

☐ Regina Folger Wilson MS

I am seeking re-election to the Para Council, as well as to the Delegation to All Affiliated Bodies. In July 2006, I received the Living the AFT Legacy Award for my 30 years of service to the Boston Teachers Union. I began my career in the BPS as a Library Paraprofessional and continue to serve as a Special Education Paraprofessional. To my credit, I have been elected over and over again as a Building Representative at the Woodrow Wilson School. I represent both teachers and paraprofessionals alike.



As a member of the Elections Committee, I have worked to ensure that elections are held in an honest and orderly fashion. I hope that the many hours that I have volunteered to this union will attest to my commitment to the BTU.

Please consider me when you vote in June. Thank you for your support.

☐ Joan F. Forcucci Hennigan ES

☐ Adrienne Jordan English HS



☐ Josefina I. Lascano Edison MS

I am seeking re-election to the Paraprofessional Council and as a Delegate to All Affiliated Bodies. I have been a paraprofessional for 29 years. I began my career as a Bilingual Paraprofessional and I now work as a Special Education Paraprofessional at the Edison Middle School. I am a graduate of the Para Mentor Program and I received the Para of the Year Award in 1996.



Over the years I have served as a Building Representative, AFT MA Delegate, and AFT Delegate. I have served on the Election Committee, the Collective Bargaining Committee and the Paraprofessional Council. I have also served as Trustee of the BTU Paraprofessional Health and Welfare Committee. Currently I am a member of the BTU Negotiation Team where I have the opportunity to serve and work for all the members of our UNION.

Thank you in advance for your vote.

☐ Lisa Osborn-Kelley Holland ES

☐ Maureen Sutherland Gavin MS

I am a candidate for reelection to the Para Council and Delegate to All Affiliated Bodies. I have served as a paraprofessional at the Gavin Middle School for 25 years. I have been a Building Representative and active member of the BTU for many years. I have been a member of the Para Council for 12 years. As a member of the Election Committee, I have worked diligently to ensure honest elections. As a delegate I have represented the Boston Teachers Union with pride and professionalism.



Please consider me when you vote on June 3rd. Thank you.