



# Election 2011

A Special Section to the Boston Union Teacher • May, 2011

## BTU Final Election Scheduled for Wednesday, June 1, 2011

### 9:00 am to 6:00 pm at BTU Hall at Bayside



#### President

1. Richard F. Stutman O'Bryant HS

#### Executive Vice-President

2. Patrick Connolly BTU Office

#### Secretary-Treasurer

3. Charles R. Johnson Madison Park TVHS

#### Political Director

4. Patricia Armstrong BTU Office  
5. Angela Cristiani Psychological Services

#### Secondary Field Representative

6. Caren Carew King MS

#### Elementary Field Representative

7. Michael W. McLaughlin BTU Office

#### Paraprofessional/ Substitute Field Representative

8. Carla M. Johnson Ellison Parks EES  
9. Jenna Fitzgerald BTU Office

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



#### Executive Board

- 10. John Allocca  
Alternative Education
- 11. Karen L. McCarthy  
Brighton HS
- 12. Garret Virchick  
Brighton HS
- 13. Michael J. Maguire  
Boston Latin Academy
- 14. Evangeline Kariadakis  
Ohrenberger ES
- 15. Allison Doherty-LaCasse  
Urban Science Academy
- 16. Jessica Tang  
Young Achievers K-8
- 17. Karene-Sean Hines  
Timilty MS
- 18. Robert P. Carroll  
Sumner ES
- 19. Eileen A. Weir  
Madison Park TVHS
- 20. Karen Wood-Hocker  
Holmes ES
- 21. Sterling Scott  
Blackstone ES
- 22. Mary Ann Urban  
Retired
- 23. Michael Crain  
MPTVHS / HPEC / SBEC
- 24. Tricia Melanson  
Madison Park TVHS
- 25. James (Timo) Philip  
Brighton HS
- 26. Erik Berg  
Philbrick ES
- 27. Alice Yong  
Murphy ES
- 28. Cheryl Kelly, R.N.  
Alighieri ES / Edwards MS

#### Paraprofessional Council

- 29. Debra Brown  
Sumner ES
- 30. Christine Buttiglieri  
Umana MS
- 31. Lynette Harrell  
Holland ES
- 32. Adrienne Jordan  
Edison K-8
- 33. Josefina I. Lascano  
Edison K-8
- 35. CasSandra Samuel  
Holland ES
- 36. Maureen Sutherland  
Gavin MS

#### Delegate to All Affiliated Bodies

- 37. Sharon Abraham –  
Brighton HS
- 38. Maritza Agrait –  
Occupational Therapist
- 39. John Allocca –  
Alternative Education
- 40. Patricia Armstrong –  
BTU Office
- 41. Roz Avant – Umana MS
- 42. Sandra Baler-Segal – Retired
- 43. David Barry – O'Bryant HS
- 44. Ronald R. Bennett –  
Engineering School @ HPEC
- 45. Erik Berg – Philbrick ES
- 46. Anne Broder – Retired
- 47. Sean Brooks – Dever ES
- 48. Debra Brown – Sumner ES
- 49. Nia A. Burke – Agassiz ES
- 50. Christine Buttiglieri –  
Umana MS
- 51. Cornelia "Connie" Callahan –  
Retired
- 52. Caren Carew – King MS
- 53. Robert P. Carroll – Sumner ES
- 54. Ted Chambers – Edwards MS
- 55. Brenda Chaney – O'Bryant HS
- 56. Christine Choukas –  
McKay K-8
- 57. Patrick Connolly – BTU Office
- 58. Martha Cotton – Taylor ES
- 59. Sarah C. Cooper –  
Blackstone ES
- 60. Michael Crain – Career &  
Technical Education
- 61. Angela Cristiani –  
Psychological Services
- 62. Marjie Crosby – Occupational/  
Physical Therapy
- 63. Ed Doherty –  
AFT Massachusetts
- 64. Allison Doherty-LaCasse –  
Urban Science Academy
- 65. David Donovan – Retired
- 66. John Enright –  
Madison Park TVHS
- 67. Marta Johnson Faldasz –  
Roosevelt K-8
- 68. Jenna Fitzgerald – BTU Office
- 69. Janey Frank – Retired
- 70. Mary Gaughn – Retired
- 71. Heather Gorman –  
Blackstone ES
- 72. Christine Gorman-Arnold –  
Sumner ES
- 73. Thomas J. Gosnell –  
AFT Massachusetts
- 74. Adam Gray – Monument HS
- 75. Keith Guyette –  
Dorchester Academy
- 76. John Herald –  
Madison Park TVHS
- 77. Karene-Sean Hines – Timilty MS
- 78. Tom Hocker –  
Boston Latin Academy
- 79. Carla M. Johnson –  
Ellison Parks EES
- 80. Charles R. Johnson –  
Madison Park TVHS
- 81. Adrienne Jordan –  
Edison K-8
- 82. Cheryl Kelly, RN –  
Alighieri ES/Edwards MS
- 83. Karen Kilmain-Patriquin –  
Sumner ES
- 84. Josefina I. Lascano –  
Edison K-8
- 85. Barry Lawton –  
East Boston HS
- 86. Lisa MacGeorge – Adams ES
- 87. Michael J. Maguire –  
Boston Latin Academy
- 88. Leonard Miraglia – Retired
- 89. Marilyn F. Marion – Retired
- 90. Gayle Marrow –  
Mildred Ave. MS
- 91. Karen L. McCarthy –  
Brighton HS
- 92. Johnny McInnis –  
BTU Pilot School
- 93. Michael W. McLaughlin –  
BTU Office
- 94. Emily McNeal – Philbrick ES
- 95. Tricia Melanson –  
Madison Park TVHS
- 96. Walter Mitchell –  
Brighton HS
- 97. Musabwase Mugemana –  
Madison Park TVHS
- 98. Caron Pacheco – Retired
- 99. Sherry Pedone –  
Mildred Ave. MS
- 100. Seth Peterson – Snowden HS
- 101. James (Timo) Philip –  
Brighton HS
- 102. Kristen W. Pinto –  
Umana MS
- 103. Declan J. Power –  
Counseling &  
Intervention Center
- 104. Gilberto Rivera – Edison K-8
- 105. Ivelisse Santos-Rodriguez –  
Boston Latin Academy
- 106. Sterling Scott –  
Blackstone ES
- 107. Marc Seiden –  
Boston Arts Academy
- 108. John Simonetti – Holland ES
- 109. Linda Simonetti – Retired
- 110. Richard F. Stutman –  
O'Bryant HS
- 111. Jessica Tang –  
Young Achievers K-8
- 112. Paul Tenney – Retired
- 113. Mary Ann Urban – Retired
- 114. Garret Virchick –  
Brighton HS
- 115. Brenda M. Webster – Retired
- 116. Eileen A. Weir –  
Madison Park TVHS
- 117. Colum Whyte – Lee Academy
- 118. Karen Wood-Hocker –  
Holmes ES
- 119. Alice M. Yong – Murphy K-8

#### Candidate Statements

##### President

**Richard F. Stutman** O'Bryant HS

Thank you very much for the opportunity to lead this great organization and its wonderful, hardworking members for the next two years. Every day I embrace the opportunity to represent you. I am proud of our schools as I know you are, and I am proud to represent you, who make our schools successful places to learn.

We understand that our schools must continue to improve, but we insist we be part of the improvement plan – not merely an afterthought.

Look at the many opportunities lost, where our input has been overlooked—or worse—unasked for: curriculum decisions, school closings, and how best to manage our precious instructional time. Imagine how much better our schools would be were we asked to *participate* in these decisions, instead of merely to implement them.

We hope over the next few years to gain more control over the daily decision-making process as we work with the school department to improve our schools. We know there is nothing mutually exclusive about having a contract that is both good for our students and fair to our members. That's what we're striving for. And that's what we'll accomplish: a contract that is good for our students, good for our schools, and fair to our members.

Thank you for your support, and thank you for participating in the election process. Please research the candidates, and vote on Wednesday, June 1, for people to lead us over the next two years.



(continued on next page)

#### BTU Retired Teachers Chapter

##### Chairperson

Dave Donovan

##### Vice Chairperson

Leonard (Lennie) Miraglia

##### Treasurer

Anne Broder

##### Secretary

Marilyn Marion

# Candidate Statements for BTU Officers ...

## Executive Vice-President

**Patrick J. Connolly** BTU Office

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.



## Political Director

**Angela Cristiani** Psychological Services

As a candidate for Political Director, I ask for your support. It is a difficult time for union members from Massachusetts to Wisconsin and across the country. I believe we can and must do more. Using a grassroots approach to strengthen and move the BTU forward as one, I will involve active and retired members in every aspect of the BTU political landscape. We will work collaboratively.

Endorsements, work on behalf of candidates at election time and attending fundraisers are important, but so is non-election season political action. We will solidify the relationships between elected officials and our members. Membership policy requiring house parties with elected officials will occur. I will invite you to local events with your legislators and set up issues forums. We will rally with other unions and community members.

I will keep you informed about public education, health care, and pension legislation using all means of communication, including the *Boston Union Teacher*, internet, and social media. My experience on political campaigns, BTU Executive Board, and COPE Committee is complemented by my serving as Government Relations Co-Chair and AFTMA Liaison to Mass. School Psychologists Association, AFTMA Representative on Mass. Task Force on Behavioral Health & Public Schools, and Democratic State Committee and 10th Congressional District Women's Advisory Board member.

As a School Psychologist with a public speaking background and established political skills/networking, as well as a union activist since 1994, I know unions, government and the political process.

Respect for political diversity is key for a productive political environment. Your opinion and involvement is critical.

You are the face and voice of this Union. Changing political times call for energy, fresh ideas, vision, and leadership. I am eager to work with you and for you!

I ask for your vote on June 1<sup>st</sup>. Thank you.



## Elementary Field Representative

**Michael W. McLaughlin** BTU Office

It's an honor and pleasure serving you and the BTU as the Elementary Field Representative. Once again, I hope to serve as your advocate. Every day in this position brings new challenges, especially in these trying times. By facing these challenges head-on we gain knowledge and experience that makes the BTU stronger and helps me to serve you more effectively. Please vote to re-elect me as the Elementary Field Representative.

My goal as the Elementary Field Representative remains the same, broadening the legacy of this office through strong advocacy and representation. As the rep., I will continue to uphold your rights and enforce the contract. I'll continue the practice of staying in touch with you in the field, before and after school hours if necessary. I will do my best to actively communicate with you.

As your BTU representative, I am member of several committees: The Peer Assistance Committee, The Negotiating Team, The State-Boston Retirement Board, etc. My priority while serving on these committees is to not only be the voice of the BTU, but to be your voice and your advocate. I will continue to return your calls, respond to your emails and work hard to assist you in taking advantage of our union's resources. Thank you for the consideration and your vote to re-elect me to be the Elementary Field Representative.



## Secretary-Treasurer

**Charles R. Johnson** Madison Park TVHS

The last few years forced us to change. The economic decline and the attack on public employees has influenced the operation of our union. These forced changes have not come easily and will require continued vigilance. I am positioned to make those changes as needed and will continue to adapt to our times. I will work to keep us financially stable and equipped to serve the entire membership. This commitment to you is central to the position I hold as Secretary-Treasurer.

I seek your support and your vote for re-election.

On June 1, 2011... please vote to re-elect Charles R. Johnson.



## Political Director

**Patricia Armstrong** BTU Office

As the BTU Political Director for the past twelve years, and as Political Organizer for fifteen years previously, I have learned the importance of a strong political action program. I believe that in the current climate, with serious attacks on health care, pensions, and collective bargaining rights, political action is more important than ever.

The BTU needs a Political Director who is experienced, dedicated, well-known, and highly respected by both political leaders and organized labor.

I serve as COPE chair for the BTU and the AFT Massachusetts. I am Vice-President of the Greater Boston Labor Council and am its Political Action Committee Chair.

For the past five years I have served as President of the Mass Alliance, a coalition of twenty-two non-profit organizations and unions that support progressive candidates. I have been a labor member of the Massachusetts State Committee for over twenty years, and have been elected to the last four National Democratic Conventions as a Clinton (1996), Gore (2000), Kerry (2004) and Obama (2008) delegate.

In 2000, I was elected to be a member of the Electoral College, at which time I had the honor of nominating Al Gore for President.

I have coordinated bus trips to New Hampshire to help the Mass AFL-CIO and the New Hampshire AFL-CIO turn a red state blue.

As Political Director, I work hard to see to it that our endorsed candidates are elected—through letters to targeted districts, phone banks, flyers to schools, and announcements in the BUT.

I am your Political Director and would like to continue to be—please vote for me on Wednesday, June 1<sup>st</sup>.



## Secondary Field Representative

**Caren M. Carew** King MS

We are at a crossroads in public education. As members of a public sector union we frequently find ourselves characterized as public enemy #1. We must work together *with* each other and the public as *one* to refocus the agenda and our collective actions on the continued pursuit of excellence for all of the children we educate in the BPS. Our work conditions are the children's learning conditions. Maintaining and strengthening our voice in collective bargaining only serves to lift our profession, the work, and the students we hold dear. Public education and labor rights *are* social justice issues.

In these times, proven extensive union experience coupled with being a strong and effective teacher in challenging schools has provided the leadership necessary for me to be your strong vigilant advocate as Secondary Field Representative. As such, I provide pro-active representation through listening to members' concerns and expeditiously addressing them. I work *for* and *with* you on a daily basis providing enforcement of the contract, speaking up on behalf of the membership while effectively dealing with challenging administrators, prosecuting grievances, testifying at arbitrations, providing representation at hearings, negotiating with management, promptly returning calls/emails, addressing changes in work conditions, initiating & expanding SSC training, activating new members, resolving conflicts, initiating BTU member to BTU member mediation, providing ongoing support for as well as meeting with members at schools, and thinking outside the box in these unprecedented and changing times. I've developed a wealth of first-hand, in-depth knowledge in order to get the job done while fighting for the respect we deserve. It is my honor to be your advocate.

I am fighting for you. Let's stand up *together*—*BTUnity!* Thank you for your consideration and vote.



## Paraprofessional/Substitute Field Representative

**Carla M. Johnson** Ellison Parks EES

I am prepared to serve you as Paraprofessional/Substitute Teacher Representative of the Boston Teachers Union.

As a paraprofessional and graduate of the Boston Public Schools I am aware of the importance of public education. Our work is challenging and essential.

Given the opportunity, I will work tirelessly to advocate for all of us.

I have represented you as a building representative, on the Collective Bargaining and New Member Recruitment Committee member, and as a Delegate to All Affiliated Bodies. I am proud to be a paraprofessional, and will continue to work to support a strong union.

I thank you for support and ask for your vote on June 1<sup>st</sup>.



**Jenna Fitzgerald** BTU Office

My name is Jenna Fitzgerald and I am running for the office of Paraprofessional/Substitute Teacher Field Representative.

I believe my role as an advocate for all subs and paras has gained for them the recognition and respect they so rightly deserve. I am proud of our accomplishments and of how far we have come in our Union.

In these troubling times of diminishing funding, possible lay-offs and a new contract to negotiate, it is necessary that we continue to demonstrate our numerical strength within the BTU. Tough times demand experience and leadership.

Election Day, Wednesday, June 1<sup>st</sup> at the BTU, is the one day every Union member must make a deep commitment and exercise his/her right to vote. Remember, nothing takes the place of experience, and in the passed 30 years, I have experienced it *all*.

My understanding of Union business has prepared me well, having served on the Negotiating Team; Executive Board; Chair of Para Health and Welfare; Chair of Para Council; Vice President, AFT-MA Executive Board; Vice Chair of the PSRP Council; and also the Program & Policy Committee for the AFT Washington DC.

My qualifications also include: First Paraprofessional of the year award; Organized Paraprofessional Network; Organized Substitute Steering Committee; Delegate to State and National Conventions; and I serve on the Collective Bargaining and Cope Committees.



**Remember to bring your BTU Membership Card and a Picture ID in order to vote!**

**Pursuant to new membership policy, election as a delegate does not guarantee participation in future AFT Teach Conferences (formerly called AFT QuEST).**

(continued on next page)



# ... and Executive Board

I am proud to say I have been endorsed by: Thomas Gosnell, President AFT-MA; Richard Stutman, President BTU; Patrick Connolly, Executive Vice President BTU; Patricia Armstrong, Political Director BTU; Kathy Kelley, Past President MFT/BTU; Edward Doherty, Past President BTU.

Thank you for all your support and encouragement over the years. I would appreciate your vote on June 1<sup>st</sup> as the Paraprofessional/Substitute Field Representative and Delegate to All Affiliated Bodies.

## Executive Board

### John Allocca 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.



There is an enormous potential of untapped activism and leadership among our members. Our brothers and sisters in Wisconsin have shown how a broad-based movement can be built to preserve public education and other vital public services. If we are going to continue to be relevant to the struggle for better schools for all and for better working conditions for our members, we need to encourage the leadership of a new generation of BTU members, including those who have not been active in the past. If we expect to be supported by other unions and community organizations, we need to increase our support for their struggles as well. If we want to have a voice at the table in improving our schools, we must demand to have our voices heard.

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 would appreciate your vote for me for Executive Board and for Delegate on June 1st.

### Karen L. McCarthy Brighton HS

When I entered this profession, like many new teachers, I was not sure that having a strong union and promoting successful outcomes for students were correlated. I was wrong. The union is the largest collective voice of teachers and an advocate for our students. We need to strengthen our message and to define ourselves rather than letting others define us. We need to emphasize the link between positive working conditions and student success. We don't want to be associated with "rubber rooms" we want to be associated with professionalism and excellence. Unions and the rights we, and many before us, have fought for are under attack. We need to show why many of the current "reform efforts" that are permeating the national discourse and finding their way into districts around the country are counter-productive to providing sound educational opportunities to *all* students. I intend to work through our union to increase teacher voice in decision-making at all levels, to create our own solutions to current problems in our schools, to mobilize our full membership including new teachers who are so important to the success of our union, and to protect the hard-won rights, salaries, and working conditions that have created better environments for both teachers and students. The most unionized states, such as ours, have the highest student achievement in the nation. I'd like to tear down the stereotype that teachers cannot be unionized and excellent. If elected I will fight for the dignity and conditions that keep teachers in the profession and allow us to continue to do our jobs effectively. I am currently a building rep. at Brighton High where I have taught English and special education for nine years and recently earned National Board Certification. I have two daughters, one entering the Boston Public Schools this fall.



### Garret Virchick Brighton HS

As we enter this election season teachers and public employees are under attack like never before. The very future of public education is being called into question. So called "reformers" have been using misinformation to build public opinion against teacher unions and public schools, offering solutions that take teacher voice out of the equation. When electing our Executive Board, we should be looking for candidates that understand the complexities of the issues and will advocate for progressive solutions to the problems we face as working professionals.



As editor and frequent contributor to the *Boston Union Teacher*, I have advocated for real teaching and learning as opposed to the mindless test prep that has come to dominate our schools. As a member of the negotiating team I have helped to collectively bargain a contract that provides fair treatment and benefits for BTU members. As a member of your Executive Board, I will advocate for our union to join with other unions and community organizations in the fight for social justice for all Americans.

As educators, our concerns are often ignored. This needs to change, but it will not be easy. We need to reach out to our younger members, listen to their ideas, and bring them into a more active union. We need to stand with our retired members who fought hard to make teaching a more valued profession and continue to work to insure all have dignity and security in retirement. And we need to build common cause with the parents of our students who entrust us with their children in the hopes that a quality education will one day bring them a better life. As a member of the Executive Board I promise to work hard for all members of the BTU. I ask for your support June 1<sup>st</sup>.

### Michael J. Maguire Boston Latin Academy

I believe that the role of the Executive Board is to give guidance to the elected leadership of our union. As a Board member I have brought the issues we face in the classrooms and schools to the attention of the BTU Officers. With your support on June 1, 2011, I will continue to serve you and our union.



Since the last election, I have had 20 letters published in the *Globe* and *Herald*. Each letter was in support of the work we all do on behalf of the children of Boston. Too often the intelligentsia use teachers as scapegoats for the ills of today's society. I believe it is our responsibility to set the record straight, especially when the public doesn't want to hear it.

As a BTU member and as a candidate for the Executive Board, I also believe that this same level of honest scrutiny must be applied to us in the schools and to our union leaders. Because of the work we all do within the BPS, we have first hand knowledge of both the good and bad in our schools. It is up to each of us to demonstrate leadership in public education lest others set the agenda for us.

Like many of you, I have a child in the BPS. I support public education both as a parent and as a teacher. Our efforts to improve education need not devolve into an Us-versus-Them mentality; but it does require integrity and steadfastness. I believe I have provided both; and with your vote on June first, I shall continue to put our ideals forward. Thank you.

### Evangeline Karidakis Ohrenberger ES

### Allison Doherty-LaCasse Urban Science Academy

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 the Greater Boston Labor Council Executive Board as their Futures Representative. As a member of the Executive Board, I will be helping the Futures Committee educate, encourage and empower younger union members in the greater Boston area to be more active in the labor movement.

Please re-elect Allison Doherty-LaCasse for Boston Teachers Union Delegate and Executive Board. I will continue the fight for our future.

### Jessica Tang Young Achievers K-8

Education inequality has been said to be the new civil rights issue in our country. However, the teachers and schools that serve the most underserved students are under attack. Teachers and unions have become scapegoats in a climate that has become extremely hostile for the public education and for the public sector overall.



Now, more than ever, it is extremely important to stand united. I have decided to run for Executive Board of the Boston Teachers Union because I am ready to act. As teachers committed to providing the best possible education for our students, we must come together and provide a clear and steady vision for the future of Boston public schools. I believe our union, in collaboration with our parents and families, should take the lead in determining what changes should be made to best educate our students and improve our schools.

Our voices as educators must be heard. I believe that we cannot stand on the sidelines while those who do not know our students as well as we do push to make changes that will hurt their chances of success. For that reason, I am committed to:

- Standing up for teachers and uplifting our voices as a positive counter-narrative to negative media attacks
- Engaging new and early-career teachers to become more involved in the union
- Advocating for policies that will improve working conditions and support teachers
- Collaborating with students and families so that their voices are also heard

With my experience as a sixth-year BPS teacher and decade-long community activist together with your involvement and support, we can lead our union in the right direction. I hope you will consider supporting me with your vote for the BTU Executive Board and Delegate positions in the upcoming June 1<sup>st</sup> election.

### Karene-Sean Hines Timilty MS

My passion in life is to teach; but it is becoming harder when politicians try to rob us of our collective bargaining rights while short-changing public education. That's why I feel it is time for me to open my classroom door, and speak for the silent majority, the progressive teachers. In order to be your voice, I am running for BTU Executive Board and Delegate. As a member of the Executive Board I will voice our commitment to maintain collective bargaining and protecting the hard-fought benefits we earned. I will work to make our union more responsive to the needs of newer teachers as well as seasoned veterans. For example, newer teachers need assistance and resources, while effective veterans deserve recognition and to be tapped for our considerable skills and knowledge. Why not have effective veterans mentoring more novice teachers? It would be a win/win situation, and something I would advocate for when elected to the Executive Board.



As many of you know, I am a mid-career changer who practiced law for fifteen years, and for the past 11 years taught English language arts, at the Timilty Middle School. I have been an active union member, and serve on the BTU's Collective Bargaining Committee, and the Professional Issues Committee. I am also a Teach Plus Policy Fellow. As such, I co-wrote a policy proposal to reform teacher evaluations while preserving teachers' rights. For the past seven years, I have served as one of three district facilitators for National Board Certification.

As a proud parent of two children attending public schools, I understand that preserving the right to quality public education means maintaining a strong union. Elect me as a member of the Executive Board and Delegate and gain a strong, clear voice in union policy.

### Robert P. Carroll Sumner ES

Boston is the birthplace of public education, and as such, should be a respected institution and a model for the rest of the nation. Boston Public Schools have been innovative in education have been in a large part, due to the hard work and diligence of the members of the Boston Teachers Union.



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

I have been a teacher for over 29 years. I have been a union activist for many years, 22 of those years as a building rep. I have served on the Executive Board, as well as 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.

### Eileen A. Weir Madison Park TVHS

As I reflect on how teaching has changed since I began 9 years ago, I am struck at how much educators and other public employees and other working men and women have become the scapegoats for many of our social issues and financial woes. We need to work together with each other, parents, policymakers and other stakeholders to solve our problems in education. Additionally, we need to protect ourselves and the advances we have made in working conditions for our members.



As an executive board member I will continue to work with other BTU members as an advocate for ourselves and the students that we teach. We need to be a voice of reason and reality for public education and organized labor. As workers rights get battered in our country, we need to educate, organize and mobilize our members and the general public to return to having fair and equitable working condition for ourselves and learning conditions for our students.

As we know well, education is the backbone of our society and the great equalizer for many. Without educators and those other BTU members who work in the schools shaping policy at the school and city level we risk a great deal in how our students are educated and the conditions under which they learn. I ask for your vote for the Executive Board and as a Delegate to All Affiliated Bodies on June 1st.

### Karen Wood-Hocker Holmes ES

As a candidate for election to the Executive Board and Delegate to All Affiliated Bodies, I respectfully ask for your vote and your support.



For years, the tone of public comment and published opinions has been hostile to public education and public service. Merit pay, charter schools and reduced benefits are only a few of the many challenges we face. We need to stand together to keep our union strong in order to ensure our rights and preserve and protect our working conditions.

I have served as a building representative for over ten years. I have fought for the rights of my colleagues without reservation and I am a union activist.

If elected to the Executive Board, I will work with the same rigor to build and sustain a strong union. I promise to defend our rights as we continue to provide excellent education to the children of Boston we serve.

As a union member, it is important that you come out and vote. This is your chance to make a difference. I ask for your vote on Wednesday, June 1. Thank you.

### Sterling Scott Blackstone ES

(continued on next page)

**Pursuant to new membership policy, election as a delegate does not guarantee participation in future AFT Teach Conferences (formerly called AFT QuEST).**



# Candidate Statements for E-Board & Para Council

## Executive Board

### ☐ Mary Ann Urban Retired

It's that time of year when candidates are asking you to think about the people you want to guide the BTU for the next 2 years. It's that time of year when teachers, paras, nurses, substitutes and retirees must work together to achieve this goal. We must stay united within the BTU to repel the attacks of people who tell us that we work too little, have extravagant health benefits and have the audacity to collect a pension. We must stay united when the people who attack us say that it is all right for CEO's to get million dollar payoffs because their contracts were signed during different economic times. Our contracts and benefits were also negotiated during different economic times. We did not demand our pay and benefits, we collectively negotiated them with the BPS. We must not let them CONTINUE to distort our collectively bargained contract so that they can CONTINUE to destroy public education.



At the April membership meeting we showed what working together means. We joined with other union across the city to help rein in health costs. We must now CONTINUE to work with the other unions to save collective bargaining.

My name is Mary Ann Urban and I am the only retiree running for the board. I have been on the board longer than any other elected member. When I was an active teacher I served as a member of your negotiating team. I am still a member of COPE and a member of the Retirees Legislative Committee. I occasionally sub, used to work in the Homework Helper Program and work as needed for the AFTMA. I ask for your vote on June 1, 2011, for executive board and delegate.

### ☐ Michael Crain MPTVHS / HPEC / SBEC

My name is Michael Crain and I am writing to ask you to please support me in my candidacy for Executive Board with your vote on June 1.



There is more need now than ever for strong union leadership. We are trained professionals who work hard to educate the students of our community, yet we are under constant attack in the media as the root of a wide range of society's problems from the achievement gap to budget shortfalls. We must be diligent in informing the public and our elected officials of the important work of education that we have taken on as our career. We must continue to fight for our collective bargaining rights such as health benefits, pensions, and full COLA raises for retirees. We need to educate the public that our working conditions are our students' learning conditions. Lower class size translates into more time to spend with each student. Through my participation in the Collective Bargaining Team, I ensured that the unique supply needs of the Early Childhood and Special Education Classes were included in the contract. As a Building Representative and union activist I have served on numerous committees for the AFT, AFT Mass, and the BTU including the COPE Committees and New Member Recruitment Committee. I have lobbied on our behalf in Washington and testified at the State House on educational and pension issues. I have proudly marched with you at rallies and on picket lines. With a great respect for the work of our veteran union members and a desire to intensify our current efforts, especially during these tumultuous times, I ask that you vote and elect me to the Executive Board and as a Delegate.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

### ☐ Tricia Melanson Madison Park TVHS

Brothers and Sisters of the BTU, we are facing some tough issues as a collective bargaining unit. Day in and day out we see our contractual rights under attack at a local and state level. The time is now to unite and fight together to retain the rights we have. As a responsive and responsible building representative, I have put forth my best effort to see that our contract is honored at the school level to make sure every member's rights are protected. I plan to continue to press forward and fight for our rights as union members. There comes a point in your life when you are faced with some tough decisions, how we react to them in that moment in time is crucial. I will make those decisions that are in our best interest as a group. I will stand up for our members and be a voice for everyone.



I ask for your support and vote as your next Executive Board Member. I plan to make a difference and use my experience to ensure we continue to succeed and make sure the BTU continues to be a leader in the education field.

### ☐ James (Timo) Philip Brighton HS

For the umpteenth time, I am asking for your support and your vote as I seek reelection to the BTU Executive Board. I am committed to being a vocal advocate for all of our members as we work diligently to provide a quality education for Boston's youngsters. I will continue to oppose the efforts of those who denigrate the competence, professionalism, and dedication of our teachers, nurses, librarians, paraprofessionals, and substitutes who labor for the Boston Public Schools. "Fixing the teacher" should not be the focus of efforts to reform education.



The attacks on teachers and other public employees will continue to escalate. Limiting collective bargaining rights, altering health care benefits, and restructuring our retirement plans are blatant attempts at "union busting" under the guise of fiscal responsibility. If reelected, I pledge to continue to raise my voice in support of all of us and against

those who defame us – and like William Lloyd Garrison, "I will be heard."

I am proud to be a Boston Public School teacher and a member of the Boston Teacher Union.

On June 1, 2011, please cast your vote for James (Timo) Philip for Executive Board and Delegate to all BTU affiliates.

### ☐ Erik Berg Philbrick ES

If re-elected to the Executive Board, I will continue my work to build and sustain a strong union. At a time where public employees are under constant attack, the BTU must reach out to all members, particularly younger members, to make sure that our hard-won gains are maintained in the future. We need this strength and unity to negotiate and enforce an excellent contract in difficult fiscal times. As a member of the negotiating team, I am working for a contract that is fair for all members. I believe that our union, and our contract, must support giving teachers a say in decisions affecting their profession and their schools. We must also maintain the quality of pay and benefits that we deserve.



I also believe that the BTU needs to reach out and build alliances with community organizations, especially parent groups. The parents of the children we teach are our allies, and we will be stronger if we work together. I will work to be sure that your dues money is spent wisely, and that any increases are in line with our salary.

I have been teaching for 19 years, and currently teach second grade at the Philbrick School, where I am Building Representative and a member of the ILT. I am the father of two BPS students, so I bring the perspective of a parent as well as a teacher. I serve on the BTU Executive Board, the Negotiating Team, the COPE Committee, and chair the BTU School Governing Board. I also serve on the AFT Committee for the Common Core State Standards, the Board of Trustees for Common Core, a national organization which advocates for a broad curriculum, and the Teacher Advisory Board at the Leventhal Map Center. I ask for your support.

### ☐ Alice Yong Murphy ES

The importance of a strong union are the people who want their voices heard from all the different areas of our schools. We must all be united and committed in the fight for collective bargaining. We can all play a vital role in our union. As an active member, I will continue to organize and commit my efforts to represent all avenues of our union. I plan to dedicate my experience and efforts for the rights of all teachers, paraprofessionals, substitutes and our retired teachers chapter. We need to fight for a fair contract and continue the support for our healthcare and pension rights.



THE FUTURE OF OUR UNION DEPENDS ON YOUR VOTE!  
EVERY VOTE COUNTS!  
I AM COUNTING ON YOUR VOTE ON JUNE 1, 2011.

### ☐ Cheryl Kelly, R.N. Alighieri ES / Edwards MS

Hello. Considering all the changes that have taken place this past year, one thing remains constant; our right to vote. Whether or not your school is closing or merging, everyone is affected. Staff and students will change, some job locations will change and although some situations may be a challenge, we adapt.



We still remain under attack, it's important to remain vigilant, we don't have to look far for the enemy. Coming out to vote on June 1st is of paramount importance. Our rights are too hard-fought for not to exercise them. Thank you for your time.

## Paraprofessional Council

### ☐ Debra Brown Sumner ES



### ☐ Christine Buttigliari Umata MS



## Paraprofessional Council

### ☐ Lynette Harrell Holland ES

Lynette Harrell has been employed by the Boston Public Schools as an educator to elementary students with learning differences for the past twenty years and has recently taken on the role of Parent Coordinator and officer of the Faculty Senate. In addition, Lynette is also a Certified American Red Cross Trainer and Instructor, Consultant in Education, and National Trainer for the American Federation of Teachers.



Lynette began her career in the Boston Public schools as a parent coordinator for Healthy Kids. Her love for seeing children receive a good education inspired her pursuit to become an educator herself. She quickly obtained the position as a paraprofessional in which she was a part of a highly valued teaching team for upper elementary children with learning differences. During her years as a paraprofessional, Lynette went on to become a graduate of Lesley University with her focus on special education. Her roles as Parent Coordinator and officer of the Faculty Senate, lend to some of her many gifts to encourage and inspire change within her school and community, as well as bringing people together through her visions of fun-filled school events and fundraisers.

### ☐ Adrienne Jordan Edison K-8



### ☐ Josefina I. Lascano Edison MS

I am asking for your vote to be re-elected to the Paraprofessional Council and as a Delegate to All Affiliated Bodies and be able to have a voice in Union matters.



I have been a Paraprofessional for 31 years and my experiences extends from a bilingual classroom to a special education setting, where I work presently with an excellent group of teachers and paraprofessionals.

Over the years I have served as a member of the Paraprofessional Council, Building Rep., Election Committee, Bargaining Committee, AFTMA Delegate, Delegate to All Affiliated Bodies, Trustee of the Paraprofessionals Health and Welfare Fund, and the last two contracts as a member of the Negotiating Team.

Being an active member of the Boston Teachers Union has been an enriching experience and I would like to continue to serve you, my brothers and sisters in the Union.

I have received the BTU Paraprofessional of the Year and the AFTMA Distinguished Service Award. Also I am a Para Mentor Graduate and AFT ER&D local Trainer for support staff.

Thank you in advance for your vote!

### ☐ Cassandra Samuel Holland MS

Your vote is your voice for a new pathway to a brighter future.



As a newly elected candidate for the Paraprofessional Council, I will do my best to represent you with honesty, integrity and the energy to help us move forward in the coming year.

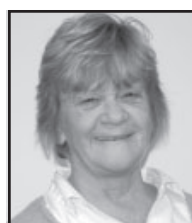
For the last fourteen years I have been a Paraprofessional at the Holland Elementary School. I began my career as a LAB paraprofessional in grades 3/4/5. I then moved to grades 4/5 SAR classroom. For the last four years I have been a Library/Media Paraprofessional. I also coordinate and teach "Tech Goes Home", to students and their families on Saturdays.

I served on the Holland Faculty Senate for six years representing both teachers and paras. As treasurer of the Faculty Senate, I managed funding for staff events and planned budgeting for future endeavors. As a member of the Faculty Senate I met with administrators monthly to address concerns of staff members in order to resolve issues in a timely fashion.

I will bring my experience as an educator and manager to help the board facilitate new opportunities for Paraprofessionals at all levels to have a stronger voice in the Boston Public Schools.

Your support is very much appreciated.

### ☐ Maureen Sutherland Gavin MS



**Pursuant to new membership policy, election as a delegate does not guarantee participation in future AFT Teach Conferences (formerly called AFT QuEST).**