



NEWSLETTER

Beaverton Chapter #48

September 2008

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Proudly representing

1795

Beaverton Classified
Employees!!

Notes from Terry

Hello everyone, I hope you had a great summer. Here we are starting another school year and seeing the children grow and go into the next grade.

This is going to be an exciting and busy year for our chapter. We have a new Executive Board to represent you, we have our new affiliation with American Federation of Teachers, there is a new school opening up in the district, and there will be contract negotiations in early 2009..

I hope to see more involvement from our members this year. This is YOUR union and it is "a member's union". By working together we can make it better and stronger!

It will be a challenging year for me, as your new President. I very much look forward to serving our almost 1800 classified employees. I look forward to visiting your work sites and to personally meeting you, as well as seeing you at our chapter meetings.

Have a great school year!

Terry Graham

"We are here to represent the membership. Nothing we do is about "ME", it is for the good of the membership we were elected to represent."

~ ~ ~

What are the new member benefits through AFT?

The key ones: 1yr of \$12,000 coverage of a prepaid life insurance policy (renewable at the end of the year with great rates), supplemental insurance policies for health, dental and vision, pet insurance, mortgage loans with reduced closing costs, MasterCard at great rates with no annual fees, special packages for theme parks throughout the United States as well as other entertainment packages, specific Oregon retail discounts and many more benefits.

Be a member & use these fantastic benefits.

Thank you, Letty!

Chapter 48 would like to express a heartfelt thank you to Letty Anderson, Principal's Secretary at Elmonica, for her years of service as our Newsletter Editor. Her patience, good humor, technical skills, and dedication were amazing and very much appreciated. Trying very hard to fill her shoes will be Kathleen Juskowiak, Secretary II @ Errol Hassell.

We Need YOU For Negotiations!

By Shawna Harris / OSEA Rep

Yes, it is time once again to start thinking about contract negotiations. Your executive board would like to select a bargaining team as soon as possible. As we have done in the past, interested folks should submit their name to President Terry Graham. The executive board will conduct interviews with all candidates and will select a bargaining team that represents many classifications. Traditionally we have had around 8 to 10 team members. These are the folks who will actually sit at the table and bargain with the school district. Of course, there will be many other opportunities as well to support the bargaining process. In the very near future look for a bargaining survey to be distributed. Please take a few minutes to complete it so that the bargaining team has an accurate assessment of your ideas, concerns and priorities. *If you are interested in being on the negotiating committee, please forward your name to Terry Graham via email by September 15.*

**The first General Meeting
of the 2008-09 year is
Sept. 15th!**

Great News About Insurance Rates!

It seems like it's been awhile since we've had some fabulous news to report regarding our insurance rates. However, the time has come! We now know that our renewal with Blue Cross is at an amazing 1% increase. Combined with the rise in the district's contribution, (which will soon be over \$1,000 per employee per month), folks who are on the Blue Cross Blue Plan will see a DROP in their out-of-pocket contribution! As of July 1, that contribution (for employees at 6 or more hours per day) will drop from \$141.80 per month down to \$69.40 per month. Both the Blue Cross Orange Plan and the Kaiser plan will remain under the cap, with no employee out-of-pocket contribution.

<http://www.beaverton.k12.or.us/home/departments/human-resources/OEBB-update/>

September Calendar of Events

- 2 First Day of School
- 5 Chapter 48 Executive Board Mtg. 5pm
- 8 BSD School Board Work Session
8 – 4pm @ Tualatin Hills Nature Center
- 15 Chapter 48 General Meeting
5:00pm @ Hazeldale Elementary
- 22 BSD School Board Business Mtg
6:30pm @ Admn. Center
- 27 State Board Mtg/Salem office



Your new Executive Board:

President: Terry Graham
1st Vice President: Steve Specht
2nd Vice President: Jim Campbell
Treasurer: Jean Gorton
Secretary: Diana Hess

Am I a member?

If you are wondering whether you will receive an AFT benefits package here is how to find out. Just send an email with the question, "Am I a member?" to: beavertonmembership@osea.org

You should receive a response within 24 hours. If the response indicates that you are not a member contact one of the following Chapter 48 board members: Steve Specht, Terry Graham, Jean Gorton, Kirk Wilkins, Kathleen Juskowiak or Shawna Harris.

We'll get a membership card to you. Complete and sign the membership card and return it to Terry Graham @ Hazeldale. Terry will ensure delivery of the membership card to the Salem OSEA office. After that you will receive your new OSEA/AFT member benefits package.

Web addresses:

<http://osea.org/48>
<http://aft.org>

*Webmaster / Greg Poulin , Ridgewood Elementary
Editor / Kathleen Juskowiak, Errol Hassell Elementary*