



BMUST BUZZ

The Monthly Newsletter of The Bellmore-Merrick United Secondary Teachers

Calendar – November/December 2009

- Nov. 4 Trustees Meeting 6:30 p.m.
- Nov. 7 Defensive Driving Course 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- Nov. 12 Election of Delegates to NYSUT
- Dec. 2 Trustees Meeting 6 p.m.
- Dec. 4 Holiday Party (TREEHOUSE) 3 – 6 p.m.
- Dec. 16 RA Meeting 6:30 p.m.
- Dec. 17 NUMC Distribute Toys to Children

Message From The President:

When we signed our last contract in October 2006, it seemed like the next round of negotiations were a long way off. Not so. As you know, that contract expires this June, and the task of negotiations is again upon us. Our negotiations team, as of this writing, has already met twice, and has begun its work in preparation for task ahead of us. The members of the team are: Mike Dolber, President; Cathy Silletti, First VP; Mark Steinberg, Second VP; Peter Brideson, co-head negotiator; Jon Dell'Olio, Kennedy HS; Rob Walsh, Mephram HS; Neal Madnick, Calhoun HS; Laura Sheridan, MAP; Lisa Gaeta, Grand Ave; Amanda McAnally, Merrick Ave.

I am proud of this team. It has a breadth of experience, outlook, and ability that I believe will serve us well. In addition to the officers and the chief negotiator, each of the buildings will be represented. It is a large team, but it will allow us to establish a more specific division of labor in terms of research on particular issues and concerns, and to have a liaison to the team in every building. The team represents a variety of experience, departments, and outside interests.

We are ready for this endeavor, but we need your help and your support. We are planning to introduce an online survey, to enable us to get your ideas and suggestions more easily and efficiently. We will be scheduling meetings in all of the buildings to hear what you have to say. All of us know that, to put it mildly, we are not negotiating at the best of times. We must be creative and intelligent in putting together our proposal. I strongly believe that we have an excellent team, but we do not have a monopoly on ideas, knowledge, or creativity. I appeal to all of you to share your thoughts, your ideas, and your insight. Feel free to speak to a negotiator from your building, or to call or email me or any other team member directly. It is time to put our differences and disagreements on the back burner, and to join together in a common interest. The difficulties we face are obvious. The opportunities are there if we work together.

In solidarity,

Mike

News From The Hive



Congratulations to:

- ...Jessica & Roland Skemmer (Grand Avenue) on the arrival of their first child, Matthew Jacob, on July 13.
- ...Donna Greco (Grand) and Jim Derby on the birth of their third child, Charlotte on April 13th.
- ...Abby & Rick Hamilton (Former BMUST President) on the marriage of their son, Chip Hamilton to Kelly Roper on September 12.
- ... Rick Hamilton's father celebrated his 90th birthday on Oct 18 at a family party in Spring Hill, Fla.

We Mourn The Loss Of:

- ... Barbara Church – Science (Jerusalem/Grand/Kennedy - Retired)

Condolences to:

.... Barbara Buffalino (Brookside Personnel) - on the loss of her mother, Mildred Cottone.

.... Nancy Law (Nurse/Merrick) - on the loss of her mother.

.... Neal Madnick (Calhoun) – on the loss of his nephew.

Membership Services:

Defensive Driving: This is a reminder for those of you who have registered and paid your course fee. The class is being held at Merrick Avenue Middle School in the East Cafeteria on November 7th from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. The course includes a workbook and lunch. Please call the union office at ext. 1068 if you have any questions.

Holiday Party: Join us for our Annual Holiday Party on **Friday, December 4th from 3 – 6 p.m.** at The **TREEHOUSE, 1833 Sunrise Highway, in Merrick.**

There will be a FREE Buffet which includes 1 complimentary beverage. For your **admission fee**, we ask that you bring **an unwrapped present for a child.**

Optional are hats, scarves and gloves. All of which will be donated to children at the Nassau University Medical Center.



Toys for Children: If you are not able to join us at our Annual Holiday Party and would like to donate an unwrapped toy to a sick child, you may send it to the BMUST Office at Brookside by December 15th. We will be distributing these toys to children at The Nassau University Medical Center in East Meadow on December 17th. **Volunteers are needed** to help deliver the toys. Please contact Kim at ext. 1068 if you are interested.

BMUST Death Benefit: Any change of beneficiary, please contact Kim Black at ext. 1068. If you have not already filled out this form, please do so & return it to the Union Office at Brookside.

This is a **free** \$500 policy for active teachers and paras.

New teachers if you have not filled out the following forms: Membership Application, Payroll Dues Deduction Form and Vote/Cope Contribution Payroll Deduction Form, see your Head Building Representative or call the Union office at ext. 1068. Completed applications must be returned to the Union Office at Brookside.

Any member, who has *changed name, address, phone # or e-mail address*, please notify Kim at the union office at ext. 1068, by e-mail bmustsecretary@gmail.com, or by interoffice mail – no stamp needed. Those returning from leave must fill out a new membership application.

If you have not done so, PLEASE sign up for the BMUST e-mail list serve at www.bmust.org.

Important Dates;

BMUST Meeting Dates 2009/2010

Board of Trustees 11/4, 12/2, 1/6, 2/3, 3/10, 4/14, 5/5, 6/2, 6/25.

Representative Assembly: 12/16, 1/20, 2/24, 3/24, 4/21, 5/19, 6/16.

Holiday Party: December 4th

NUMC: December 17th Distribute Toys to Children

BMUST Awards/Dinner Dance: June 17, 2010

Special Education Committee Meeting Dates 2009-2010

11/12, Dec TBA, 1/21, 3/3, 4/14, 5/19, June TBA
All meetings are held in the Union Office at Brookside, Room 96 at 3:15 p.m.

Emergency School Closings

For information tune into:

WINS (1010 AM)	WHLI (1100 AM)
WBAB (102.3 FM)	WBLI (106.1 FM)
K-JOY (98.3 FM)	WOR (710 AM)
WALK (97.5 FM)	WCBS (880 AM)
WNBC/WNYW/Fox 5	WABC-TV
WMJC (94.3 FM)	WRNC (103.9)
LOVE (96.1 FM)	

Cable News - Channel 12 or check the Website www.bellmore-merrick.k12.ny.us

When possible, Emergency School Closing Decisions will be made by 6 a.m.

The Buzz

The Buzz is published monthly following our Representative Assembly Meeting. If you would like anything announced in the next **BUZZ**, please E-mail Kim Black at bmustsecretary@gmail.com by November 20th.