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Dispatch

P E N N S Y L V A N I A S T A T E E D U C A T I O N A S S O C I A T I O N - E S P

Winter 2019

A publication for education support professionals of PSEA

Message from your president

Farewell to a friend and champion for public education

As I write this article, it is American Education week, and ESP members across the country just celebrated on Nov. 14. On this day, I spent much time thinking, reflecting, and reminiscing. Instead of being happy and excited for “our day,” I was saddened that our most celebrated ESP member was not there to help us honor the great work our ESPs are doing.

As you are aware, our number one ESP, Dolores McCracken, passed away on Nov. 13, one day before ESP Day. Dolores was our PSEA president, tireless advocate, and friend. She was a paraeducator in the Council Rock School District for nearly 20 years. In Council Rock, she served as president and vice president, negotiated local contracts, and advocated for her members.

Dolores knew she could make a difference on a larger stage. In 2011, she successfully ran for PSEA treasurer. After two terms as treasurer, she was elected PSEA vice president in 2015. In 2017, she made us all proud as she became the first ESP member to serve as PSEA president. She was extremely proud of this accomplishment, and we were all proud for her.

Dolores never forgot where she started and always made it a point

to visit with and connect with our ESPs across the state. She was well respected at the local, state, and national levels. As PSEA president, Dolores led by example and related well with all members. She understood our needs and advocated for us at all levels.



Dolores was strong and a fighter. However, her fight against cancer was one she could not win.

I have had the honor and privilege to work alongside Dolores for most of my career as a member and ESP region president. We were each other’s sounding boards when we had to



Dawn Bandle
ESP Region President

vent. We often talked and sometimes disagreed on issues, but we never took anything personally and always remained close.

Dolores may not be here, but her legacy will live forever. We will move forward just as she would want us to. She touched so many lives and advocated to make things so much better for us all. She positively influenced both our professional and personal lives.

Dolores was very proud to call herself an ESP, as you should be. I am proud of the work you do each day for the students and public education. You are the foundation on which education is built. Together we will achieve great things and make Dolores proud.

I will miss her smile. I will miss her Philly accent. I will miss our long talks and many visits. I will miss her strength, leadership, and positive outlook. Most of all, I will miss my friend.

PSEA's 2019 Summer Leadership Conference

PSEA's Summer Leadership Conference at Gettysburg College is July 21-25, 2019.

There are several scholarship opportunities for ESP members interested in attending.

If you would like to be considered for a scholarship to attend ESP Core School, contact your local president and UniServ representative. Specific questions regarding Core School can be sent to Nate Greenawalt at ngreenawalt@psea.org.

Participation in this school is by invitation only.

The PSEA-Retired School will award three scholarships to retired ESP members. If you are retiring before the conference and are interested in being considered for this school, please contact Norb Paunovich at 412-606-9519 or npauno@gmail.com with "ESP Scholarship" in the subject line.

The "PSEA ESP Jack Connolly Gettysburg Scholarship" is awarded

annually to an ESP member. This scholarship was established in memory of ESP board member and dedicated advocate Jack Connolly, who passed away in 2014 after a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer.

Go to www.psea.org/esp to view the application form and scholarship guidelines.

Applications are due by 4 p.m. on Feb. 22, 2019.

Elections to be held for division officers

The PSEA Central, Eastern, Mideastern, Southern, and Southwestern divisions will hold elections at their spring meetings. Officers will serve three-year terms. Members interested in running for office should contact their respective division president:

- **Central:** Janet Hill
570-724-4212
nealhill@ptd.net
Meets on March 30
- **Eastern:** Roe Paolucci
570-839-3139
rjpaolucci@hotmail.com
Meets on March 27
- **Mideastern:** Christine Cooke
215-300-9352
ccooke335@gmail.com
Meets on March 5
- **Southern:** Pat Petruska
717-272-5796
ppetruska@comcast.net
Meets on March 19
- **Southwestern:** Terri Pajak
724-872-0650
Pajak.terri065@gmail.com
Meets on Feb. 25

PSEA-ESP Elections

Elections for the following officers and committee positions will take place at the ESP Region House of Delegates at Kalahari Resort, April 5, 2019. Members wishing to run for election to any of these positions should complete the Statement of Candidacy form. Candidate forms submitted to the Credentials and Elections Committee will be published in the March issue of *Dispatch*. The candidates will have their names printed on the election ballots.

Statement of Candidacy is due Feb. 8, 2019. The following positions will be up for election:

- **REGION OFFICERS:** *Term 2019-2021*
President, Secretary, Treasurer
- **RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE:** *Term 2019-2021*
Three (3) Committee Members
Three (3) Alternate Members
- **LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE:** *Term 2019-2021*
Three (3) Committee Members
Three (3) Alternate Members
- **INSTRUCTION and PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (IPD):** *Term 2019-2021*
One (1) Committee Member
- **PACE DIRECTOR:** *Term 2019-2021*
One (1) Committee Member

ESP Region Statement of Candidacy

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Home Phone _____ School Phone _____

Membership Category: Aide Custodian Maintenance Personnel Food Service Secretarial/Clerical

Bus Driver Paraprofessional Confidential Personnel Other

Local Association/Division _____

Candidate for the office of _____

Candidate for Committee/Term _____

Association positions held _____

Statement of Candidacy

SUBMITTED CANDIDATE FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER

THAN 4 PM, FEBRUARY 8, 2019 at:

ESP REGION CREDENTIALS AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

c/o Candace Kuba, Field Assistant

PSEA

P.O. Box 1724

Harrisburg, PA 17105-1724

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 Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17105-1724*

Richard W. Askey - PSEA President
Korri J. Brown - PSEA Vice President
Jeffrey D. Ney - PSEA Treasurer
James G. Vaughan - PSEA Executive Director

Dawn Bandle - PSEA ESP Region President
Marc Howshall - PSEA ESP Region Vice President
Mindy Anderson - PSEA ESP Region Secretary
Holly Harrington - PSEA ESP Region Treasurer
Peg Rockwell - PSEA ESP Region Officer-at-Large



Denise Kennedy – ESP of the Year

When Denise Kennedy started work as a school secretary in the Upper Darby School District, she figured it was a short-term thing. Twenty-two years later, Denise is still the first person parents in her building see and the one who wipes away students’ tears and helps them solve their problems. She is also a key part of her school’s budgeting, purchasing, financial reporting, and data maintenance operations.

As much time as she spends in school, she still finds time to serve as vice president of the Upper Darby Education Support Professionals Association and president of Southeastern region’s ESP Division.

Now, she’s PSEA’s 2018 Education Support Professional of the Year. Congratulations, Denise!

Vote for ESP representatives – 2019 NEA-RA

Remember to take a moment to vote for the ESP members who will represent you at the 2019 NEA Annual Meeting and Representative Assembly (NEA-RA) in Houston, Texas on July 2-July 7, 2019. Online voting for delegates opens on Dec. 17, 2018 and closes at 5 p.m. on Jan. 30, 2019. For more information visit www.nea.org/RA.

Dates to Remember

NEA-RA voting
**December 17, 2018-
 January 30, 2019**

ESP Local Audit Certificate Due
 in PSEA Headquarters
January 31, 2019

PSEA Minority and Women’s
 Leadership Training, Intermedi-
 ate Unit Conference, Urban Local
 Conference
March 8-9, 2019

NEA ESP Conference
March 22-24, 2019

ESP Region Leadership
 Conference and House of
 Delegates, Kalahari Resort,
 Pocono Manor, PA
April 5-6, 2019