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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 2018

A publication for education support professionals of PSEA

Message from your president

PSEA's ESP of the Year

We celebrated ESP Day during American Education Week in November – a day when communities show their appreciation for education support professionals in our public schools.

I took some time to reflect on how proud I am to work with such great ESP members across Pennsylvania. One such member is Susan Lynam, who works in the North Penn School District, Montgomery County. I was especially proud on ESP Day this year to announce that Susan has been awarded PSEA's 2017 ESP of the Year.

For most of her 15 years at North Penn, Susan has been the guidance office secretary at Penndale Middle School. She is also active with the North Penn Education Support Professionals Association, having served as president, PACE chair, and treasurer.

As a guidance office secretary, Susan interacts with students daily.

She gets to see many different students throughout the day and believes school is a place where they feel safe. She encourages all ESPs to be present and available to help the students.

Mideastern Region President Alan Malachowski nominated Susan for ESP of the Year. Susan lives in Hatfield with her husband of 27 years. They have one daughter who went through the North Penn schools and is now a teacher in the district.

As PSEA's ESP of the Year, Susan will be nominated for the National Education Association ESP of the Year Award.

Just like Susan, all ESP members, regardless of job title or classification, make a positive impact on the education of all students. You are the foundation on which public education is built and are an integral component of the educational process. You ensure our students are healthy, safe, engaged, supported, and

challenged.

We all need to advocate to protect all ESP members from poor working conditions, layoffs, and privatization. ESP jobs are not for sale, and we do

not want strangers taking over our jobs. Please keep alert for a potential call to action in the future. The state House and Senate have introduced bills to make privatizing our jobs more difficult and the process more transparent. We may need you to contact your legislators regarding these bills.

Thank you for making a difference and having a positive impact on public education and our students.



Dawn Bandle
ESP Region President



“A group of swimmers used to come in to see me. They were eighth-graders all on the swim team, and they had to be at the high school early because that’s where our pool is. Then they would be bused here to the middle school, and instead of going to the cafeteria before school opens, they used to sit here and eat their breakfast and talk to me. I was what I call the ‘Mom Counselor.’ I would give them a little advice about what they needed to do, stop being petty, those kinds of things. I miss it this year because they all moved to the high school. ... We still have a lot of kids who like to come in. This is their safe haven – this office.”

– **Susan Lynam**, *Guidance Office secretary at Penndale Middle School, leader in the North Penn Education Support Professionals Association, and PSEA's 2017 ESP of the Year.*

ESP Region to elect officers in 2018

Elections for the following officers and committee positions will take place at the ESP Region House of Delegates at the DoubleTree Cranberry Township on April 20.

Members wishing to run for election to any of these positions should complete the Statement of Candidacy form on Page 3.

Candidate forms submitted to the Credentials and Elections Committee

will be published in the spring issue of *Dispatch*. The candidates will have their names printed on the election ballots.

Statement of Candidacy is due Feb. 9, 2018.

REGION OFFICERS

Term 2018-2020

- Vice President
- Officer-at-Large

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Term 2018-2020

- Committee Members (two)
- Alternate Members (two)

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Term 2018-2020

- Committee Members (two)
- Alternate Members (two)

Vote for ESP representatives to 2018 NEA-RA

Remember to take a moment to vote for the ESPs who will represent you at the 2018 NEA Annual Meeting and Representative

Assembly (NEA-RA) in Minneapolis, Minnesota, on June 30-July 5.

Online voting for delegates opens on Dec. 18, and closes at 5 p.m. on

Jan. 31.

For more information, visit www.nea.org/RA.

ESP Gettysburg scholarships available

PSEA will host the 2018 Summer Leadership Conference in Gettysburg July 22-26, 2018. There are several scholarship opportunities for ESPs 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 will be retiring prior to the conference and are interested in being considered for this school, please contact Norb Paunovich at (412) 606-9519 or npauno@comcast.net 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. 23.



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 P.M., FEB. 9, 2018 at:
ESP REGION CREDENTIALS AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE
c/o Candace Kuba, Field Assistant
PSEA
P.O. Box 1724
Harrisburg, PA 17105-1724**

Winter 2018

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 education support professionals of the
 Pennsylvania State Education Association
 400 North Third Street, PO Box 1724
 Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17105-1724*

Dolores McCracken - PSEA President
Richard W. Askey - 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



The Upper Darby Education Support Professional Association was presented with a state House Resolution by Rep. Jamie Santora, R-Delaware County, for the great work it does enriching the lives of children. Receiving the resolution, left to right, are: Denise Kennedy, Kathy Rowan, Kim McDevitt, Denise Worthington, and Mary Dougherty.

Dates to Remember

NEA-RA voting
**December 7, 2017 –
 January 31, 2018**

PSEA Political Institute
January 12-14, 2018

ESP Local Audit Certificate Due in
 PSEA Headquarters
January 31, 2018

PSEA Minority Leadership and
 Women's Leadership Training
 Conference
March 17-18, 2018

ESP Region Leadership Conference
 and House of Delegates
April 20-21, 2018