



THE EDUCATOR

Newsletter of the Arlington Teachers' Association

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I Challenge You - No Ice Necessary

For the past four Septembers the theme of this editorial has been constant: although there have been many changes (schools closing, new administrators, more state mandates...) the part of your job that you love is still the same. And we're all in this together. And the ATA is there for you.

All of that is undoubtedly true again for this fifth year, but I'm finding myself unable to write my usual spiel. Maybe it is time for another change. How about instead of talking about how the ATA is there for *you* we talk about how *you* can be an active part of the ATA? Yes, you

can focus on the daily joys within your classroom to get through the onslaught of changes outside of it, but don't insulate yourself from your union.

*The ATA is not just a couple of officers who negotiate things and remind you about the school budget vote. **You are the ATA and I challenge every one of you to find just one way to get involved this year.***

The ATA is not just a couple of officers who negotiate things and remind you about the school budget vote. *You* are the ATA and I challenge every one of you to find just one way to get involved this year. No bucket of ice water is involved, just the opportunity to make a difference for yourself, your col-

leagues, and your community.

Here's a quick list of some ATA activities you can join in on: attend an executive council meeting, collect items for the SPCA drive, write for the newsletter, serve dinner at the Lunch Box, help at the highway cleanup, decorate for the holiday party, go to a school board meeting, donate to VOTE/COPE, assist in stamping budget mailings, work at the miniature golf event. The list goes on and I'm sure it includes something that every one of you can enjoy doing. Make this the year you embody the unity necessary to our success.

-Sam Falk, editor



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Meet the ATA's New PR Chair

Trivia Challenge

Answer the question below correctly and you could be the proud winner of ATA gear!

What funky New Yorker was the first governor of the state?

Submit your answer to the above trivia question to rmchugh@acsdny.org by September 19th. The winner will be randomly selected from the correct submissions.



Kristine Jackson

I am excited to be working as the new PR chair for the ATA. This is my eighth year as an ATA member, and I have worked at AHS, AMS, and will be starting LMS as a seventh-grade ELA teacher this year. I was a building

representative at AMS, and have been on the local PR committee for four years. I have a strong life-long connection to Arlington—I worked as a TA for two years at TIS, volunteered for my children's PTAs at their schools, and even graduated from AHS. I enjoy hearing all the wonderful things our members are already doing in the community, and being involved in PR is a way to help showcase that.

This year, I am hoping to continue the good works the Arlington Teachers' Association already does, as well as to create some new

opportunities to give back to our community. We will continue the Jackie Higgins ASPCA drive, have some dress-down for charity events, and host our biggest fundraiser of the year to benefit the Arlington Education Foundation, the annual mini-golf outing in June. We are always looking for volunteers, so please lend a hand if you can. A little goes a long way! I am very receptive to new ideas, so feel free to drop me an email if you have a suggestion or can offer feedback.

SPOTLIGHT ON ARLINGTON

Student Marc Cerio probably wasn't thinking much of the history of Arlington that fateful day he wandered off when he was supposed to be sketching the ancient boilers in the belly of the former AMS, pushed open a supply closet door, and discovered a veritable treasure trove of information. Hidden in that dusty little room were Registers of Attendance which dated back to the very beginnings of the Arlington School District and daily bulletins written by none other than the very first superintendent of Arlington, George Schiavone.

In 1998, former colleagues Jocelynn Andrew Arenson



ed a sabbatical work on the publication that would become *The History Of Arlington Central School District*. In the years following the completion of this project, Arenson and Banfield would continue to share the Arlington legacy and lore to faculty and students alike, instilling in their audiences a distinct pride for our school district. This column, "Spotlight On Arlington" will be devoted to sharing with you the research done by these two wonderful people in the hopes that the Arlington school community can partake in the vitality of Arlington that has enriched all our lives. Please feel free to let us know if there is particular topic you would like to see covered in future issues!

Arlington Banfield and were grant-leave to

Negotiations Update:

Happy new school year! It has been a quiet summer in terms of negotiations. We last met with the District in June and are waiting for the District to decide what the next move will be. We continue to push for a fair and equitable settlement and we will keep you posted on our progress. As always thank all of you for your continued support.

-Donna Doerrier, Chief Negotiator

-Joseph Healy, Jr., UVMS

Don't Let It Be Politics As Usual: Vote On September 9

Yes, you saw that correctly: not only do we need you to vote on Election Day in November, but on September 9 you also have the chance to decide who gets to be on the ballot in a few races. That responsibility is perhaps even greater. Unfortunately, New York is one of only 12 states to have a closed primary system, so you can only vote if you are registered in the party holding a primary. The following is some information about primaries that are relevant to our area. The most coverage is given to the governor's race since it will have the greatest impact on education policy in New York.

Republican Party

NYS Senate District 40: Terrence P. Murphy (www.voteformurphy.com)
Bob Castelli (www.bobcastelli.com)

Democratic Party

Lieutenant Governor: Kathy Hochul, former U.S. Representative (running mate of Andrew Cuomo)
Tim Wu, Professor of Law at Columbia University (running mate of Zephyr Teachout)

Governor:

Andrew Cuomo

Current Governor, former NY Attorney General and U.S. Secretary of Housing and Development

Endorsed By: NYS Working Families Party*



Andrew Cuomo, by Pat Arnow (Wikipedia)

On Education Issues:

- Tied school funding to teacher evaluations
- Instituted a cap on property taxes
- Replaced some formula-based school aid with performance incentives
- Doubled the allowable number of charter schools in the state
- In favor of closing failing schools instead of issuing vouchers
- Budgeted funding for full-day pre-kindergarten
- Put Smart Schools bond on the November 2014 ballot to fund technology in schools

Other Key Issues: LGBT rights, firearms regulation

For more information: www.andrewcuomo.com

*While other endorsements must exist, no other information was available via the internet, though hours were spent researching this page. Cuomo is not actively campaigning. -Sam Falk

Zephyr Teachout

Associate Professor of Law at Fordham University, former Director of Internet Organizing for the 2004 Howard Dean presidential campaign



ATA CAC Co-Chair Betsy Marshall (left) met Zephyr Teachout during a campaign stop in New Paltz.

Endorsed By: NYS National Organization for Women, The Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter, Badass Teachers Association, The Nation, Public Employees Federation, Diane Ravitch (and more)

On Education Issues:

- Will work to lessen the gap between funding schools in poor and wealthy districts
- Wants to halt new Common Core tests and those that are part of teacher evaluations, then reevaluate them with input from parents and educators
- Will work to repeal the mandate that New York City pay for charter school rent
- Wants to repeal the provision of tax cap legislation requiring a supermajority

Other Key Issues: Fighting corruption, ending fracking

For more information: www.teachoutwu.com

Welcome, New Members!

This school year the closure of Arlington Middle and the relocation of Arthur S. May greatly augmented the usual movement of teachers to different buildings, and the loss of positions we have become accustomed to, but also brought many new faces to the Arlington family. The Arlington Teachers' Association hopes that all members are settling in to their classrooms this year and would like to welcome the following brand new people to the Arlington School District and the ATA.

Noxon Road Elementary

Michelle Hogan - Special Education

Favorite Book: *Firefly Lane*, by Kristin Hannah

Favorite Food: Eggplant Parmesan



Alicia Jazayeri - 4th Grade

Favorite Book: *Middlesex*, by Jeffrey Eugenides

Favorite Food: Arroz con Pollo



Nicole Ryan

Favorite Book: Too many to choose from

Favorite Food: Thai



Stephanie Ryan - 4th Grade

Favorite Book: *For One More Day*, by Mitch Albom

Favorite Food: Ice Cream



Jill Losee - Art

LaGrange Middle

Kelly Hand - Physical Education

Favorite Book: *The Giver*, by Lois Lowry

Favorite Food: Cheese of any type



Eric Rothbard - Science

Favorite Book: *ATA Handbook*

Favorite Food: Pasta

Arlington High

Michael Collyer - Science

Favorite Book: *The Kite Runner*, by Khaled Hosseini

Favorite Food: None



Yamir DeJesus-Decena - Math

Favorite Book: *The Time Between*, by Maria Dueñas

Favorite Food: Yellow Rice with Corn



Courtney Grey - Social Studies

Favorite Book: *none*

Favorite Food: Carne Asada



Marcos Monteagudo - Guidance

Favorite Book: *The Catcher in the Rye*, by J.D. Salinger

Favorite Food: Pizza



Megan Murphy - Science

Favorite Book: Anything about basketball

Favorite Food: Chicken Tenders



Christopher Olsen - Music

Favorite Book: *The Pillars of the Earth*, by Ken Follett

Favorite Food: Gelato

Traver Road Primary

Caitlin Barry - 1st Grade

Favorite Book: *The Peace Book*, by Todd Parr

Favorite Food: Pizza



Meredith Geerlings - Kindergarten

Favorite Book: *The Glass Castle*, by Jeannette Walls

Favorite Food: Watermelon



Julie Pelusio - Kindergarten

Favorite Book: *Corduroy*, by Don Freeman

Favorite Food: Eggplant Parmesan



Carly Simco - Speech

Favorite Book: *The Great Gatsby*, by F. Scott Fitzgerald

Favorite Food: Mac & Cheese

Did we leave someone out? Please let us know so that we can include him or her next month!

Beekman Elementary

Lisa Cole - Social Worker

Favorite Book: *A Separate Piece*, by John Knowles

Favorite Food: Shrimp

Kristen DeYorio

Favorite Book: *Many Lives Many Masters*, by Brian L. Weiss

Favorite Food: Ice Cream

Joseph D'Aquanni West Road

Lauren Boldrin - Special Education

Favorite Book: *The Glass Castle*, by Jeannette Walls

Favorite Food: Seafood

Kristen Stephan - Special Education

Favorite Book: Anything travel

Favorite Food: Pizza

Patrick O'Connor - Special Education

Arthur S. May School

Erin Blackmar- Library

Favorite Book: *Brave Irene*, by William Steig

Favorite Food: Eggplant

Katherine Howard - Music

Favorite Book: *A Discovery of Witches* by Deborah Harkness

Favorite Food: Ice Cream

Brendan Hunt - Physical Education

Favorite Book: *The Score Takes Care of Itself*, by Bill Walsh

Favorite Food: BBQ Pulled Pork

Rebecca Maroney- 5th Grade

Favorite Book: *Oh, The Places You'll Go*, by Dr. Seuss

Favorite Food: Mexican

Laura Oliver - Kindergarten

Favorite Book: *My Sister's Keeper*, by Jodi Picoult

Favorite Food: Chili

Caitlyn D'Apice



ATA New Teacher Luncheon - August 28, 2014

Edcamp Excites Educators

2014 — 2015 ATA Officers

President

Bob Maier

First Vice-President

Greg Nieman

Second Vice-President

Steve Hertzog

Treasurer

Kathleen Blank Cicala

Chief Negotiator

Donna Doerrier

PR Committee Chair

Kristine Jackson

Community Action Chairs

Betsy Marshall

Robert McHugh

Welfare Trust Chair

Ron Higgins

Media Specialist

Sam Falk

Éminence Grise Emeritus

Robert McHugh

Senior Building Representatives

ASM — Johanna Pungello

BES — William Mueller

NES — Nicolle McMorris

VFES — Pam Goetz

OPS — Anne Marie Beesmer

Traver — Siouxzanne Harris

JDWR — Betsy Marshall

TIS — Sue Ramsden

LMS — Carmine Anastasio

LMS — Steve Bronzi

UVMS — Jim DeBonis

AHS — John Filor

AHS — Noreen Mills Martin



Many Arlington teachers and administrators gathered at Poughkeepsie Day School for EdCamp Hudson Valley 2014.

pants, including three teachers from the high school who were instrumental in organizing this event: Kathy Bellino, Katie Nixon, and Julie Jee. The ATA also acted as a sponsor to the event.

From the beginning, participants were encouraged to share ideas and facilitate discussions. After brainstorming and organizing

On Monday, August 25, 2014, educators from around the state and beyond

tors, by educators. Participants go into the day with ideas of what they might want to learn about, or even what they would like to facilitate. One of the key elements of edcamp is to, "vote with your feet," so if a session does not meet your needs, you can easily walk

away from it and find a session that does.



AHS teachers Danielle Collica (left), Case Cruger (center), and Tory Biasotti attended EdCamp.

gathered at Poughkeepsie Day School to hold and participate in Edcamp

Hudson Valley. According to the website, an edcamp is an "un-conference" which means there is not a set keynote speaker, or even pre-planned sessions to attend. It is free of charge, and it is for educa-

away from it and find a session that does.

The Arlington Teachers' Association had many partici-

possible topics, a session board emerged with twenty different sessions. Some included a Google Classroom class, co-teaching and differentiated instruction, BYOD (Bring Your Own Device), Apps for the Classroom, Augmented Reality, and Teaching the Novel.



AHS teacher Sarah Combs checks out the reading wheel at Poughkeepsie Day School.



AHS teacher Katie Nixon facilitated a session on co-teaching and differentiated classrooms.

-Kristine Jackson, LMS
-Photos by Julie Jee, AHS

Finally, No Rain for ATA Night at the Renegades!



The Renegades' mascot Rascal visited with ATA offspring.

On July 29 ATA members gathered at Dutchess Stadium in Beacon for the 4th Annual ATA Night at the Renegades, and for the first time the weather was perfectly clear. The evening included pre-game all-you-can-eat food and post-game fireworks along with some great baseball.



Seating on the left field patio allowed for a great view of the game and even a chance to catch a few foul balls.



Approximately 100 ATA members, friends, and family gathered for a night of baseball, food, and fireworks.

Photos by Sam Falk

Congratulations to Newly Tenured ATA Members

Elementary

Beekman

Christie Boydston

Noxon

Maureen Frischknecht,
Melissa Meneses-Tirado,
Kylie Urso

Traver Road

Kimberly VanVoorhis

Middle

Union Vale

Eva Mimran, Kathleen Spinelli

High School

Marcia Brant, Peter Ziemins

Dates to Remember

SEPTEMBER

9th—NYS Primary Elections

Board of Education Meeting, 7 p.m., AMS

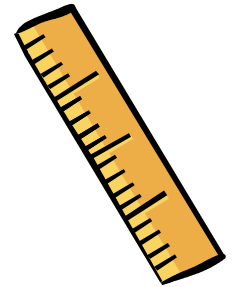
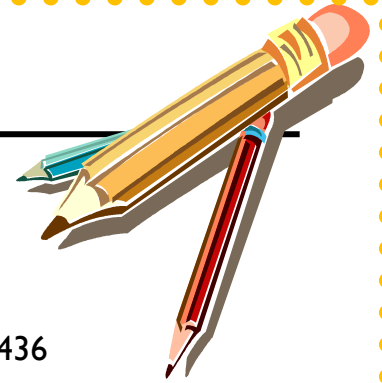
15th—Flex Benefit Plans Meetings, 3 p.m. and 4 p.m., AHS room 1436

16th—ATA Executive Council Session, 4 p.m., AHS room 1432

18th—Middle School Open House

23rd—Board of Education Meeting, 7 p.m., Location TBA

25th—Rosh Hashanah—No School



OCTOBER

1st—Deadline to submit information for graduate or inservice credit

1st—Deadline for using 2013-2014 Welfare Trust Benefits

2nd—High School Open House

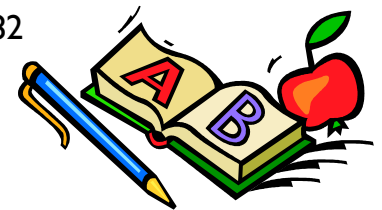
4th—Fall Highway Cleanup, 9 a.m., Intersection of Routes 55 & 82

13th—Columbus Day—No School

14th—Board of Education Meeting, 7 p.m., Location TBA

21st—ATA Executive Council Session, 4 p.m., AHS room 1432

28th—Board of Education Meeting, 7 p.m., Location TBA



Announcements

The Educator needs you!

Would you like to see more information about *your* school in here? We need your help in gathering information to print! Let us know about the great things ATA members do at your school by emailing Sam Falk at sfalk@acsdny.org .

Volunteers are needed to serve dinner at the Lunch Box in Poughkeepsie from 4 - 6 p.m. on September 8 and 12 and October 6 and 10. Contact Colleen Napora at AHS to sign up.

Stay informed! Like us on Facebook or check out www.arlingtonteachers.com for forms, photos, calendars, and more.