

Portland Federation of School Professionals

(FORMERLY PFTCE— PORTLAND FEDERATION OF TEACHERS AND CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES)

“A Union of Professionals... Working with Children”

PFSP • 1919 - 2014 • 95 YEARS STRONG!

PFSP LOCAL 111 • AFT • AFT-OREGON • AFL-CIO • CHARTERED 1919

September 2014

SPEAKING MY MIND

BELINDA REAGAN

PFSP PRESIDENT

BELINDA@PFSP111.ORG



The

PFSP


PROFILE

Welcome to the 2014-15 School Year!

As always, this summer has seemed to come and go so quickly! Not being a fan of hot weather, nor humidity, I've successfully managed to grumble my way through every 85+ degree day, while reveling in 75° and breezy. I hate to admit this, particularly to those of you that love the heat, but I'm actually looking forward to the cool nights and crock-pots of Fall!

Of course, with the end of summer comes the return of our kiddos to school, and most of you to your schools and classrooms. I hope that each of you, whether working year-round, or off for the summer break, were able to enjoy some time for yourselves, and return to work invigorated and renewed.

With our large group of retirees leaving us last June, we'll be seeing dozens of new faces in our worksites in the weeks ahead! We welcome each of you to Portland Public Schools and your Union, and hope you will accept our invitation to our annual **“Welcome Back” PFSP Union Meeting & Orientation** at the **Old Spaghetti Factory** on Wednesday, September 10th, from 5:30 to 7:30! Dinner's on us!

Whether you're new to the District, or just to PFSP, or you've been around through more Superintendents than you'd care to remember, plan to come spend a fun and informative evening with your colleagues and fellow PPS Classified staff! We look forward to seeing both Members and Fair Share Fee payers alike! For more information, turn to the next page of this newsletter. Please RSVP to our office by Monday, September 8th. We'd love to see you there! 

“WHAT IS PFSP? AND, WHY AM I RECEIVING THIS NEWSLETTER?”

Well, the answers to your questions are actually pretty simple! The Portland Federation of School Professionals (PFSP, AFT Local 111) is a **Labor Union** representing nearly 1200 Classified Employees of Portland Public Schools—including YOU, if you found this newsletter in your box! Our Union members work in every PPS school, and most District offices, as school-based and departmental Secretaries, Library Assistants, Campus Security, Special Ed Paraeducators, ESL & Gen Ed EAs, Physical and Occupational Therapists, Bookkeepers, Clerks, Sign Language

Interpreters, Translation and Interpretation Services Technicians, Community Agents, HS Career Coordinators, HS Site Tech Specialists, Transportation Route Schedulers, and dozens of other (non-certificated or administrative) positions in the District.

PFSP is proud to be the oldest AFT (American Federation of Teachers) affiliate west of the Mississippi, a member of the Northwest Oregon Labor Council, and the AFL-CIO. We work closely with AFT-OR, enjoying the hundreds of benefits of AFT membership affords our members.

Your Union is governed by an elected Executive Board consisting of myself (President), and eight volunteer members; our Executive Vice President **Michael Fried** (Paraeducator—Cleveland HS), Treasurer **Tim Taylor** (Sr Admin Secretary—Grant HS), Secretary **Norma Lawson** (School Secretary—Gray MS), Political Action VP **Frank Acosta** (Campus Security—Alliance HS at Meek), and four Vice Presidents; **Glenn Johndohl** (Paraeducator—Madison HS), **Michele Catena** (Physical Therapist—Motor Team), **Ryan Arditi** (Route Scheduler—Transportation), and **Michelle Batten**, who also serves as your Union Field Rep. Both Michelle and I are full-time staff in the PFSP offices, assisted by retired PPS employee Kathy Muir, who acts as our Office Assistant.

Michelle and I work to ensure that your rights are protected, and that our contract with PPS is not violated, while advocating for each of you with the District. We also serve as Trustees, alongside Tim Taylor, on the District's joint labor & management Health and Welfare Trust, overseeing your healthcare coverage.

It's important for you to understand that without YOU, Portland Public Schools could not operate! And, without your Union, you would have little, if any, job protection.

As we see assaults on public education workers, their unions, and the middle class increase, I am so honored that I serve as the leader of your Union. More importantly, I am proud to be a **UNION MEMBER!**

Union membership represents our commitment to improving working conditions and protecting the rights of the Classified workers of PPS. Please consider becoming a **FULL MEMBER** of your Union, PFSP, by completing the form inside. Please support the Union that supports YOU!

And, again, WELCOME! 

ATTN: WORKSITE REPS

BY MICHELLE BATTEN
PFSP FIELD REPRESENTATIVE
MICHELLE@PFSP111.ORG



Welcome Back! And a **"Welcome New PFSP Employees!"** What a delight to be able to say that. For the first time since I became your Field Rep, it is not a September filled with drastic cuts and a heavy heart. Sadly, we did lose a few full- and part-time employees, but some were able to take different positions, and we are hopeful for the others. Because of this new-found stability, I will be able to focus much more on reaching out to members and Worksite Reps—and potential new Reps. This is very exciting! Plus, we're working on a schedule of school visits—I will be contacting you to set up a date and time—or you can let me know if you have a time that works well for your site. If you'd like to learn more, please attend the **Worksite Rep Training** mentioned below and in the reminder on the next page. I look forward to visiting with all of you and meeting our new members!

► Are you interested in serving as the Union representative for your department or building? Then, please plan on coming to our first **Worksite Rep Training** of the new school year. We'll be meeting on **Wednesday October 1, at 5 PM, at the PFSP Offices**. If you are interested in attending, please contact me at michelle@pfsp111.org. I will be sending out an informational flyer about the meeting soon with more details. A light dinner will be provided. (*You know we'll feed you!*)

► If you are new or returning to Portland Public Schools as a PFSP Classified Employee, please email Belinda at belinda@pfsp111.org so that we can add you to our email Listserv. Much of the information you will receive about District and Union events, as well as important updates regarding your job and your rights, will be disseminated by our office, and until we receive updated records from Payroll in October, we won't have email addresses of new workers. We want to keep in touch!

► **Weingarten Rights: Remember!** If you are called into a meeting that you believe is disciplinary or may lead to discipline, you have the right to have a Union representative in that meeting with you. If you find yourself in this situation, please call our office.

NOW IS THE RIGHT TIME TO BECOME A PFSP MEMBER

There's no better time than NOW to show your support for PFSP...**YOUR** Union.

YOU are an essential part of PFSP's strength.

Don't think of PFSP as "the Union"—PFSP is truly the Classified Employee's "YOUunion" !

Yes, I want to support the Union that supports me! I want to join the Federation and show my commitment to positive change in educational quality and working conditions for PFSP Classified Employees.

Name _____ Worksite _____

Residence Address _____ City/State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (_____) _____ Employee ID# _____

PPS email address _____ @pps.net / Home email address: _____

Position:

____ Secretary/Bookkeeper/Clerk

____ Educational Assistant

____ Paraeducator

____ Community Agent

____ Campus Security

____ Translator/Interpreter

____ Library Assistant

____ Sign Lang. Interpreter

____ OT/PT

____ ITA or STS

____ LPTA/COTA

____ HS Career Center Coordinator

____ Other: _____

I authorize School District No. 1 to deduct Federation dues from my payroll.

Signature _____ Date _____

FAX to (503) 236-3694, or send by PONY to PFSP



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PFSP Worksite Representative Training

Wednesday, October 1st,
5:00 - 7:00 PM
at the PFSP Offices, 1110 SE Alder #205

*Please Come Join Us and
Learn More About Being
A Worksite Rep!*

~Info about resources for you & your co-workers
~How to be a "First Friend, Best Friend"
~How to help protect Worker's Rights
~Understanding our Contract
(A Light Dinner will be Provided!)

Please join us for the
"Welcome Back!"
PFSP UNION Meeting & Orientation
Wednesday, September 10th, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm, at

The Old Spaghetti Factory

715 SW Bancroft, Portland

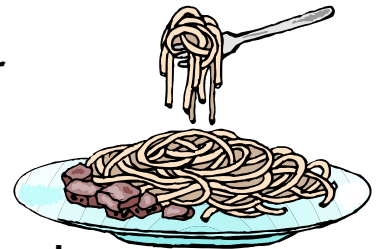
Space is very limited, so please email kathy@pfsp111.org with your reservation.

When you RSVP, please let Kathy know which menu item you wish to order:

1. *Marinara Sauce*
2. *Mizithra Cheese with Browned Butter*
3. *Meat Sauce*

Our agenda will include:


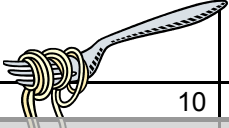

- * Welcome To the New School Year!
- * Introductions of your new Executive Board Members
 - * Belinda's "State of the Union" annual address
 - * Info on our newly ratified 2014-17 Contract
 - * Plans for the upcoming year
- * Worksite Rep recruitment and training


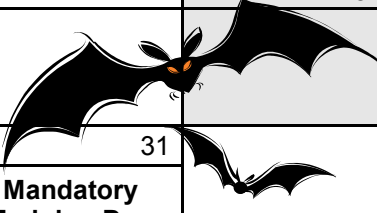


Both Full Members and Fair Share Fee Payers are Welcome!
(Sorry, we aren't able to accommodate family members!)

PLEASE RSVP SOON!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 LABOR DAY District Closed	2 Students Return	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 	11	12	13
		Union Meeting & Orientation SPAGHETTI FACTORY 5:30-7:30				
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
			PFSP Board Meeting 5:30-7:30			
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	SEPTEMBER 2014 			

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
OCTOBER 2014			1 Worksite Rep Training PFSP Office 5-7 pm	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
					State Inservice Day (only 260s report)	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
			PFSP Board Meeting 5:30-7:30			
26	27	28	29	30	31	
					Mandatory Training Day Location TBA	