

Teachers' Contract Ratification

Teachers of the Lynn Teachers Union ratified a three-year contract on October 19. The agreement included no concessions and includes a pay increase over the next two years.

- School year 2010 - 2011 no change in compensation
- School year 2011 - 2012 a 2.5% increase in compensation
- School year 2012 - 2013 a 2.5% increase in compensation

By November 17, teachers will receive a 2.5% increase in their compensation. Checks dated November 23, 2011 will also include retroactive pay to the beginning of the current school year. Contact the union office if you have any comments or questions about the new contract.

Paraprofessionals' contract

We're fortunate to have a number of talented educators on the paraprofessionals' negotiating team including Catherine Deveney, Barbara Houle, Terry Levasseur, Carol McPherson and Veronica Picano. Since negotiations will begin soon, the negotiating committee encourages paraprofessionals to complete an anonymous negotiating survey in order to convey their concerns.

Complete the survey from your home computer by:

- Visiting www.lynnteachersunion.org
- Selecting the paraprofessionals tab on the left
- Using the password: assist

Item Santa

The Lynn Teachers Union is continuing the tradition of working with the community to support the children of Lynn. The union will be coordinating activities to benefit *Item Santa*, a local charity that has provided 6,218 local residents with assistance, including 3,772 children in 2010. The charity also distributed 8,728 toys, 2,697 non-food vouchers, 2,931 garments and shoes, and 247 food baskets.

Please consider:

- Visiting the Lazy Dog on December 11th from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. and ten percent of the sales will benefit *Item Santa*
- Canning in Wyoma Square with fellow members (contact the union office if you are interested)
- Issuing a small donation in the form of a check payable to *Item Santa* (submit the check to your building representative or to the union office)



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Candidates for Lynn School Committee Debate

The Lynn Teachers Union held a successful forum on the state and future of the Lynn schools. All eight candidates addressed topics presented by moderator John Laubner. In our first-ever debate, we succeeded in getting the following messages across loud and clear:

- The voices of educators must be heard and included in district and school decision-making.
- Collective bargaining must play an important role in school improvement efforts.
- There is a dire need to improve the physical state of our schools.
- The Lynn Teachers Union supports lowering class size.

Lynn Teachers Union Holiday Social

It's time for the annual LTU Holiday Social. Please join colleagues from across the district to celebrate the holidays and to highlight the important work we do for the children of Lynn.

Who: Members and friends of the LTU
When: December 14th from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Where: Holiday Inn
Route 1 in Peabody

Out and about

Governor Patrick and Education Commissioner Chester visited the Cobbet School on November 1st to announce the latest NAEP results, the nation's report card. Once again Massachusetts students were tops in the nation, a score that reflects all of our hard work. Governor Patrick visited Jaime Paragios' classroom, read to Sarah McIssac's 1st grade students, and stopped by Alyson Serwacki's 3rd grade class for a lesson in arithmetic. Great job Alyson, Jaime, and Sarah!

In solidarity,



Brant Duncan

Upcoming Events

Executive Board Meeting – Wednesday,
November 9 – 3 p.m. – Union Hall

Membership Meeting – Wednesday,
November 16 – 3 p.m. – Union Hall

Holiday Social – Holiday Inn – Route One
Peabody – Wednesday, December 14 –
3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Lynn Teachers Union scholarships – Rewarding excellence

The Lynn Teachers Union grants three \$1,500 scholarships. Scholarships are awarded based on the Labor History Exam. The deadline to register for the exam is Monday, December 19, 2011. Visit our website (www.lynnteachersunion.org) for more information.

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