

# The Tell Tale

Rockwood NEA Newsletter

Volume 42 Issue 1

## Navigating the Waters

Allison Seitz, President

While you've been busy getting the school year underway with your students, the RNEA has been busy organizing for the school year as well. The work of the RNEA this year will include:

- A full negotiation with the District and School Board (*see Kevin McColgan's article for more information*)
- Participating in the procedures, training, and implementation of Infinite Campus, the new student information system
- Completing the research in the Alternative Compensation Committee to report to the Superintendent/RNEA Forum
- Representation and valued input for the Middle School Program Evaluation
- Participation in resolving the effects of new state requirement of 2 additional high school credit hours for graduation

And as always the RNEA is here to support and advocate for all members whether that means answering a simple question over email or providing assistance with a more serious situation. You may not think about your RNEA membership everyday, but the RNEA is working everyday for the benefit of our members!

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***In this Issue...*** ■Bargaining ■RNEA Calendar ■Celebrations

# Bargaining

# Kevin McColgan, Bargaining Chair

In full bargain years, the RNEA and the school district may bring any issue to the table to be negotiated. The process of negotiation may seem clouded in mystery to many people. To help dispel some of the myths and misinformation that tend to surround the process, this year's bargaining team will be coming to you for a select series of meetings to listen to concerns and discuss issues that we may choose to bring to the negotiation table. Our intention is to visit all areas of the district and provide forums for both secondary and elementary members in order to hear the unique concerns of each level. These meetings will be in conjunction with the bargaining survey that will go out to the membership at the end of October. This new method information and data gathering comes from the suggestions of many of you who attended last year's ratification meetings. As a team, we are trying our absolute best to be available to the membership before the process begins. Locations, dates, and times will be announced via your Association Representatives.

This year's team is composed of 8 teachers that represent the wide spectrum of teachers in the district at different levels and with varying years of experience. The team is committed to representing your concerns. This process only works when we have the power of the collective membership standing behind us. Please honor the work these fellow Rockwood teachers are about to embark on for your behalf. Attend one of the meetings, meet members of the team, learn about the bargaining process, let your concerns be heard. Knowledge and information is power in any bargain process and should flow from the team to the membership and from membership to team. We look forward to meeting with all of you.

### MNEA / Reliant Tuition Grant for Probationary Teachers

Winners receive reimbursement for a 3 hour graduate course in education.

Deadline is September 15<sup>th</sup>. Check [mnea.org](http://mnea.org) for details and application (only 1 page).

### TAP: Teachers Assisting Peers

Any member interested in being partnered with a veteran teacher for confidential instructional support over the course of the school year email RNEA at [rnea@surfbest.net](mailto:rnea@surfbest.net)

**~\*~Welcome~\*~ to new members who joined RNEA at the New Teacher Lunch on August 9<sup>th</sup>.**

**\*~\*Thanks\*~\* to the Exec Board and Association Reps who helped recruit and serve lunch.**

**~\*~Congratulations~\*~ to Todd Fitzpatrick (Ellisvile),**

**Tim Mosby (Wild Horse), and Barrett Robinson (Crestview) on winning tuition grants!**

## RNEA CALENDAR 2005 – 2006

### **October**

12 – AR mtg\*  
26 – Exec Board

### **November**

9 – AR mtg  
10&11 – MNEA Fall Conference (St. Louis)  
16 – Exec Board  
23,24,25 – No School

### **December**

7 – AR mtg  
14 – Exec Board

### **January**

11 – AR mtg  
16 – MLK Holiday  
25 – Exec Board  
?? School Board Candidate screening

### **February**

8 – Joint AR/Exec Board mtg  
20 – President's Day Holiday

### **March**

8 – AR mtg  
15 - Exec Board  
17 – No school  
20-24 – Spring Break

### **April**

?? – Phone Banking  
4 – School Board Election  
5 – AR mtg  
19 – Exec Board  
21-22 – MNEA-RA Lake of the Ozarks  
14 – No School

### **May**

10 – Joint AR/Exec Board mtg  
25 – Last Day for Students

\*All Association Rep. meetings begin at 4:30 at Crestview in the front conference room.