

ETA appointment for bargaining 2014

Elsbeth Alvarado

My name is Ellie Alvarado and I have been teaching in U-46 for 6 years now. I taught 2 years of bilingual kindergarten at Channing Elementary School before I moved to Ridge Circle Elementary School to teach Primary Bilingual/ELL MLP. For the past four years I have taught 1st-3rd grade MLP. The self-contained ELL room seems to be a forgotten area of education in U-46 and I like to speak up for my niche department as often as I can. I have my MSED in Early Childhood Education (Type 04) with my ESL and Bilingual endorsements. As of this spring I will have my second MSED in Special Education (LBS1). This year I am serving as an ELL representative to the SEC. In my building I am on the PBIS team and the Building Committee. I am dedicated to special education, especially bilingual special education and am honored to be considered for the team and will add to the voices representing bilingual education, early childhood education, and special education.

Mike Basich

My name is Mike Basich and I have literally spent my entire academic career in U-46. I attended Wayne Elementary, Canton Middle School, and graduated from Elgin High. I began my teaching career as a full time substitute at Elgin in 1992, worked two years with high school kids, was RIF'd to Larsen Middle where I spent 11 years and am currently in my 10th year at Kenyon Woods. My current assignment is 7th and 8th grade English and challenge English. I also served on the AVID site team for the last 4 years and am currently the co-coordinator. I spent 5 years as an ETA building representative and only gave that up this year to dedicate the required time to serving the AVID site team. I would like to serve on the bargaining team because I believe it is time to make our voices heard and to do justice to the endless hours of time that we freely give to our students, our parents, our buildings and to each other. Work that we do day after day, week after week, month after month and year after year with little to no compensation for the quality work that we do. I believe that I can represent the best interests of our constituency.

Jeff Horler

My name is Jeff Horler, and I am just one class set of essays away from finishing 9.5 years at Bartlett High School (although if Infinite Campus keeps freezing, I might be starting year 10 before I can actually Post my grades).

I am a high school English teacher, yearbook sponsor, and devoted marathon runner. I hold--but have never used--certifications to teach middle school social studies and high school sociology. I am not certified to teach elementary students, which is just as well because the thought of trying to control 28 elementary school kids at one time terrifies me (think Arnold Schwarzenegger's first day in *Kindergarten Cop*). Regarding that last sentence, one of my hobbies is alluding to movies that most people have not thought about for decades.

This is my second year as an ETA rep, and I have been active this year as a member of the Compensation Committee. I want to be on the Bargaining Team because ETA members have the best understanding of what U-46 students need in order to succeed. The needs of ETA member and the needs of U-46 students generally walk hand-in-hand.

Audrey Leaver

My name is Audrey Leaver. I have been a teacher for 15 years, all in U-46. For 14 of the 15 I have taught sixth grade. I did make a drastic change one year and taught a .5 kindergarten and a .5 interventionist. I have been a building rep, SEC member, CIC Student Growth Member, and am currently a ETA section director. I want to serve on the team because I feel that I can represent the concerns of all

our membership. Aside from the ETA participation, I have and do serve on many committees and think that is a benefit.

Randy Monger

I so appreciate being considered for this team. I have been a Special Educator since graduating from Indiana State University in 1989. I have taught in the self-contained setting at the elementary, middle school and high school levels in the private day setting (The Larkin Center), public day (Gifford Street Alternative School) and regular education buildings (Eastview Middle, Centennial, McKinley, Fox Meadow Otter Creek and Eastview Middle again) in Illinois and in Florida. I hold a type 75 certificate in addition to my Special Education teaching certificate. I have worked in the teacher Mentor program and served as a building rep on several occasions. Currently, I am one of the district's certified CPI instructors and through putting on in-services for various schools, I am able to have many, many discussions about issues around the district and am, hopefully able to offer our membership support and guidance in resolving some issues in these buildings. I am also currently on the ETA/BOE Communication Committee and enjoy the insights I have gained through that program and gaining a greater understanding of how we are perceived by BOE members as well as how they are kept in and out of the loop around the district. This will be my first public school bargaining experience though I did serve on the first bargaining team for the staff of the Larkin Center when they first unionized back in the early 1990s. That was a real eye-opener. I look forward to getting to know everyone and working towards a safer, more productive, more stable and rewarding environment.

Jane Mursewick

I have been a U-46 special education teacher for 26 years. I started my teaching career in elementary special education and most currently have been at Kimball for the past 14 years. Prior to teaching, I was a classroom assistant in a kindergarten classroom and transferred to early childhood special education. My time as an assistant offered me the opportunity to work with some great teachers who have influenced me and made me the teacher I am today. I am currently an ETA/BOE member and I am a member of the middle school task force committee, head representative at Kimball, and Kimball's district PD rep. My past experiences include SEC committee and SD committee. I frequently attend BOE meetings to keep a pulse on district happenings.

I look forward to representing you, our members, at our upcoming bargaining. I am up to the challenge and look forward to hearing your frustrations and challenges as we move forward with this most important work.

Mary Wojtczak

My name is Mary Wojtczak. I have worked in the district for many years, the last 19 at Huff Elementary School, one of the "transformation" schools. I currently teach 6th grade. I have served on many district committees and currently am on Instructional Council, EI. Report Card Comm., and TMP Oversight, along with building based committees. I am an ETA building rep and have attended IEA and NEA events as an ETA rep.

I want to be part of this team and feel I will be able to represent our members concerns regarding many issues.