



MEETING THE CHALLENGE OF CHANGE

TOTEM FORUM

TOTEM ASSOCIATION OF EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT PERSONNEL

Volume 2019/2020 ISSUE 2

December 2019

2019-2020 TOTEM

Board Members

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Secretary Felicia Woods

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Denise Buchanan 742-5220

Abbott Loop, Benson Secondary, Bowman, Central Middle, Denali, Hanshew Middle, Huffman, Inlet View, Lake Otis, Polaris K-12, Rabbit Creek, Service High, Spring Hill, Steller Secondary, Student Nutrition, Transportation, Turnagain, Willow Crest, Williwaw

Tina Parks 742-7400

Kassun, North Star, Northern Lights ABC, Northwood ABC, Rogers Park, Russian Jack, Taku, Trailside, Tudor, Wendler Middle

Amey Tamagni 742-3895

Airport Heights, Bartlett High, Baxter, Begich Middle, Chester Valley, Clark Middle, Chugach Optional, College Gate, East High, EISC, Fairview, King Tech High, Mt View, Muldoon, Nunaka Valley, Ptarmigan, Scenic Park, Susitna, Tyson, Wonder Park, Whaley

TOTEM Office 562-1183

ACT, Alpenglowl, ASD Ed Center, Aurora, Bayshore, Bear Valley, Birchwood ABC, Campbell, Chinook, Chugiak Elem, Chugiak High, Creekside Park, Dimond High, Eagle River Elem, Eagle River High, Fire Lake, Girdwood, Gladys Wood, Goldenview Middle, Government Hill, Gruening Middle, Homestead, Kincaid, Klatt, Lake Hood, Mears Middle, Mirror Lake Middle, O'Malley, Ocean View, Romig Middle, Sand Lake, South High, West High

HOLIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

A Note from the President...

As the first semester of the 2019/20 school year comes to a close in a couple of weeks, and we get ready to celebrate a New Year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the paraprofessionals in the Anchorage School District for your dedication and hard work every day. You work tirelessly to support our students, staff, families and community and don't always get the recognition you deserve. Your TOTEM Board appreciates all that you do.

As we reflect on 2019 and the challenges that came with the November 30th earthquake, I believe we have come out stronger on the other side. Having been through the 1964 earthquake in Seward, it's not something that you forget, but you know you are better prepared for a disaster of this magnitude. TOTEM members were invaluable during this time and as always, put our students & families first. You all deserve a huge shout out!

I hope you all have a well-deserved Winter Break. Spend time with family, rejuvenate your soul with what gives you joy, travel safely if going out of state, and come back to finish the school year strong.

"Every smile, every laugh and every bit of kindness, lets a little more light into the world... Light up the world today!"

-Sandy Thompson Wallace, TOTEM President

Holiday Social

Join us on Thursday, December 12th from 4-7pm here at the TOTEM office for our annual Holiday Social. Please bring a pair (or two) of socks to donate to the Anchorage CLC sock drive. Donations will go to the CIT/H program in ASD.



Do you have a suggestion and/or a presenter you would like to see at the 2019 TOTEM Spring Conference? If so, please email the information to the TOTEM Office at totemassoc@gci.net.

The TOTEM Scholarship Applications for the 2020/21 School year will be available on the TOTEM Website after January 6.



Upcoming TOTEM Events

Mark Your Calendar for these upcoming events:

Saturday, January 18, 9 am –1 pm:

First Aid Recertification Class

Tuesday, January 28, 5:30 pm:

TOTEM New Employee Orientation

Thursday, January 30, 6pm:

TOTEM Meet & Greet at Lake Otis Elementary

Monday & Tuesday, March 9 & 10:

TOTEM Spring Conference

If you are planning to attend a TOTEM First Aid class, please sign up on mylearningplan.com.

Paid Holidays

To be eligible for holiday pay, you must be in paid status (at work or on paid leave) the last workday before and the first work day after the holiday or break.

During Winter Break, December 24, 25 & 31, 2019, and January 1, 2020, will be the paid holidays. For school based, you will need to be in paid status Friday, December 20th and Monday, January 6th. For non-school based, the dates are Monday, December 23rd, and Thursday, January 2nd.

Kudos to the following PSP recipients, both new and recertifying that met the September 15th date!

Lenny Aniel
Theresa Barnard
Karen Bronczyk
Karleen Grace Dominguez
Valerie Goward
Angel Saeteune
Charity Schnurr
Jessica Tullius
Rebeca Wesen
Rosana Zukowski

Adela Baliton
Suzanne Boots
Kimberly Buskirk
Ava Goodman
Sandra Roys



APEA/AFT EPIC BOARD

Do you have an interest in politics? Would you like to have a voice on the State level in our Union? TOTEM holds (2) board positions on EPIC (Employee Political Information Committee) as part of APEA/AFT. Both of our alternate board seats are vacant at this time, and we are currently seeking interested members to fill those seats.



Winter Word Scramble



1. PCONEINEI _____
2. IEC _____
3. TTEMISN _____
4. ATOC _____
5. RPIECEFLA _____
6. AEGEDNRIGBR _____
7. EZRNFO _____
8. YBURARFE _____
9. SONW _____
10. OWOD _____
11. EBDMECER _____
12. TEAKS _____
13. OTBOS _____
14. YEOKHC _____
15. LIICEC _____
16. UAYRAJN _____
17. OLCD _____
18. KSSCO _____
19. INHMCEY _____
20. ARSFC _____