

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **BEA School B.E.L.L. Project**
- **Invite The Cat in the Hat to your school!**
- **Become A Rep**
- **School based PD committee surveys**

“Our association feels that education should be the nation’s first and most important priority.”

Elaine Pelaia Idenden, chairperson for the School B.E.L.L. Project for the Belleville Education Association.

BEA School B.E.L.L. Project

School 7 Special Education teacher, Elaine Idenden conceived, organized and launched the BEA School B.E.L.L. Project. (School Books for Early Learning and Literacy).

The Belleville Education Association (BEA) donated brand new copies of *The Little Engine That Could ABC Time*, published by Scholastic Inc. to the Maternity Department at Clara Maass Medical Center (CMMC). The Association’s plan to distribute a new book to every baby born at CMMC, was made possible by the School B.E.L.L. Project to promote early literacy in the community.

“Our association feels that education should be the nation’s first and most important

priority,” said Elaine Pelaia Idenden, chairperson of the School B.E.L.L. Project for the Belleville Education Association. “These books will provide parents an opportunity to start the learning process.”

The Belleville Education Association is comprised of dedicated teachers and secretaries who work diligently to ensure that all of the children in Belleville community achieve excellence. As a teacher/secretary advocacy group, the BEA is committed to promoting academic excellence, professional recognition and community liaisons.

More than 2,000 babies

are born a CMMC each year. CMMC offers comprehensive maternal health services, a Level II Neonatal Intensive Care Unity, state-of-the-art labor and delivery suites, private post-partum rooms and childbirth preparation and new parent education classes. The unit is staffed by dedicated maternal health specialists.

The BEA is happy to sponsor this early literacy project. Thank you, Elaine.



The Cat in the Hat can visit your school

Want a great way to kick off your Read Across America program? Would you like the Cat in the Hat to help your school celebrate? Then consider a visit from the Cat himself!

NJEA members can now request a visit right online. It’s simple; if you would like to invite the Cat to visit your school, fill out the online request form by

Nov. 15, 2009. The first 50 members who request a visit will even receive a great Dr. Seuss giveaway!

Visits will begin in February and continue through mid-March. Depending on when the Cat is available, his visit may be the beginning or the end of your ongoing Read Across America celebration.

NJEA cannot accommodate requests for specific dates, but will advise you in January of the Cat’s availability to visit your school. Visit njea.org often to get tips and tools to make your celebration the best it can be.

The deadline for inviting the Cat is November 15.

Project Pride



Project Pride display at Livingston Mall.

Project Pride Expo at Livingston Mall was a great success again this year. As in past years, Belleville’s display was one of the largest of the county. All district schools participated in the event.

The expo highlights the accomplishments of the county’s public schools. Students’ academic and artistic talents are displayed throughout the mall. Student Performances are held throughout

the week.

In addition to the displays and performances, an essay contest is part of Project Pride. This year five Belleville students won prizes for their essays.



Winners:
First Grade
Jared Garcia— Third place

Fourth Grade
Razelle Amante—Second place

Fifth Grade
Megan Loflin –Third Place

Sixth Grade
Kristen Mucha—First place

Seventh Grade
Andre Hildago—Second place



Wind Farm Science Project

Become a Representative

Please consider becoming an association representative. It is imperative that the association information is disseminated among staff members. The BEST way to provide information is through colleagues. The association meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at The Chandelier, where a buffet is provided for representatives.

The Chandelier is located at 340 Franklin Ave., Belleville and the meetings begin at 3:30 PM.

The Association meetings provide important information concerning issues affecting public education as well as addressing issues affecting the membership of the local. The Association meetings pro-

vide a forum for issues that affect all of us and our profession.

Each school is allowed one representative for every ten members. Please consider joining the representative council to address the concerns of your school and provide important information to your colleagues.



Jamie Conway, Christina Hurta & new teacher, Jennifer Constantino

School Based PD Committees

This year, the school based committees will be working to ensure that the PD activities for each school meet the needs of the teachers and the students.

The school committees will distribute surveys to faculty as well as the building principal at each school. The surveys

will ask teachers to identify their needs, the needs of the school, and the needs of the students.

Results of the surveys will be reviewed by the school’s PD committee and the principal and a list of pertinent PD activities will be compiled.

All PD activities need to be aligned with the Core Curriculum Content Standards, the State Professional Development Standards, and, more importantly, centered on student learning and student achievement.

For more info—visit the PD page at bea-online.org.