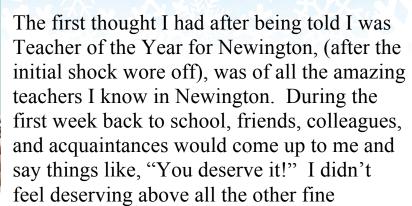
THE

## VANTAGE

## THOUGHTS FROM PAUL KEMP: 2013-14 TEACHER OF THE YEAR



teachers I know, but people's hugs and kind words were incredibly heartwarming.

I have had a few wonderful opportunities this year. The City Council honored me during a meeting at Town Hall in September. Mayor Woods and other council members had very thoughtful things to say about my program and

about music in Newington during that meeting. The Board of Education held a special dinner in my honor in October. It was a wonderful chance to meet former Teachers of the Year and to deliver a speech to the Board. Later that month, I was honored at the Bushnell Hall along with other Connecticut Teacher of the Year nominees throughout the state.

All of the hoopla is over, and my major Teacher of the Year responsibilities have passed. Although I am happy to get back to a normal routine, one experience above all others stands out. In my lifetime, there will be few memories more positively etched into my mind than the moment I was able to share my thoughts, hopes, and dreams with my peers, with the administration, and with my family on the morning of convocation. Your warm reception of my words meant the world to me, and I will always remember your kindness.



SPECIAL EDUCATION
WORKSHOP: MAR.13<sup>TH</sup>
NHS AUDITORIUM
4:00-6:00 p.m.

CEA EXPERT ROBYN KAPLAN-CHO
WILL PROVIDE A WORKSHOP ABOUT
SPECIAL EDUCATION FOR TEACHERS
IN HARTFORD COUNTY AT
NEWINGTON HIGH SCHOOL ON
MARCH 13<sup>TH</sup>. THE WORKSHOP WILL
INCLUDE POINTERS ABOUT PPT
PROCEDURES, TEACHERS RIGHTS AND
RESPONSIBILITIES, IEP FORMS AND
REQUIREMENTS AND A QUESTION AND
ANSWER PERIOD. ALL TEACHERS ARE
WELCOME. SIGN UP BY CONTACTING:
JAMIE RODRIQUEZ

(JRODRIQUEZ@NPSCT.ORG)



### LEGISLATORS IN THE CLASSROOM!

DURING THE LAST WEEK OF JANUARY, STATE LEGISLATORS WILL BE VISITING THE CLASSROOMS OF CONNECTICUT. IT IS AN EVENT PROPOSED BY CEA, CALLED "WALK A DAY IN MY SHOES".

LEGISLATORS MAKE THE LAWS THAT AFFECT TEACHERS. YET FEW HAVE BEEN IN A CLASSROOM SINCE THEY WENT TO SCHOOL. THIS IS AN **OPPORTUNITY FOR THESE** LEGISLATORS TO VISIT A CLASSROOM WITHOUT POLITICS BEING INVOLVED. THE LEGISLATORS WILL SHADOW A TEACHER AND SEE THE NORMAL **ACTIVITIES THAT FILL THE DAY** OF THESE TEACHERS. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN HAVING A LEGISLATOR THAT REPRESENTS NEWINGTON, VISIT YOUR CLASS ROOM, CONTACT HOLLY MIOTKE (HMIOTKE@NPSCT.ORG)



# Your Chance to Tell Legislators What's Happening in Your School

by Laurel Killough on December 28, 2013

Many of you have voiced concerns about the rapid changes in public education and their impact on students. CEA officers and staff have shared your concerns with state policymakers, and now they want to hear directly from you.

Let your voice be heard. Join your colleagues and participate in Regional Teacher Meetings with state legislators. This is your opportunity to tell legislators about meaningful changes that will improve education in Connecticut.

Meetings are free and will take place from 4:30 to 6:30 pm. Food will be provided.

WINDHAM COUNTYMonday, January 13The Gold Eagle, Dayville

TOLLAND COUNTYTuesday, January 14Georgina's, Bolton

MIDDLESEX COUNTYWednesday, January 15Crowne Plaza Cromwell

NEW HAVEN COUNTYThursday, January 16Cascade's, Hamden

NEW LONDON COUNTYTuesday, January 21The Spa at the Norwich Inn

HARTFORD COUNTYWednesday, January 22The Chowder Pot, Hartford

LITCHFIELD COUNTYThursday, January 23Crystal Peak, Winchester

FAIRFIELD COUNTYMonday, January 27Cinzano's, Fairfield

You will need to go to the CEA website to sign up: <a href="https://www.cea.org">www.cea.org</a>. Go to the Regional Teacher meetings registration. OR you can go to the cea link via <a href="https://www.newingtonteachersassociation.org">www.newingtonteachersassociation.org</a>



IF YOU HAVE BEEN
WORKING IN
NEWINGTON FOR MORE
THAN ONE YEAR, YOUR
DUES FOR
NTA/CEA/NEA ARE:
\$776.65. IF YOU
JUST BEGAN THIS
YEAR, CHECK YOUR
DECEMBER 20
PAYCHECK.

SAVE THE DATE:

NTA RETIREMENT PARTS
MAY 1,2014
(INDIAN HILL C.C.)

NTA ANNUAL MTG:
MAY 21,2014
(MKMS CAFETERIA)



### **UPCOMING**

CONTRACT TALKS: THE

NEGOTIATIONS AND GRIEVANCE (NAG) TEAM WILL BE HAVING A MEETING IN EACH BUILDING. THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETINGS IS TO HEAR CONCERNS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR THE NEXT CONTRACT. NEGOTIATIONS BEGIN THIS SUMMER! YOU MAY ATTEND A MEETING IN YOUR BUILDING OR ANOTHER IF IT FITS YOUR SCHEDULE BETTER!

JANUARY 23 – MARTIN KELLOGG 3:15

JANUARY 30 – JOHN WALLACE 3:15

FEBRUARY 5 – HIGH SCHOOL 3:00

FEBRUARY 12 – E GREEN 3:30

FEBRUARY 20 – A REYNOLDS 3:30

FEBRUARY 26 – J PATERSON 3:30

FEBRUARY 27 – R CHAFFEE 3:30

#### **SMILE FILE:**

YOU KNOW YOU ARE A TEACHER WHEN:

YOU WRITE YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS AS A SMART GOAL.

THE VACATION
ACTIVITY LIST FOR
YOUR FAMILY HAS A
LEARNING TARGET
ATTACHED!

SEND YOUR "YOU KNOW YOU'RE A TEACHER WHEN..." TO HFLORIAN. SUBMISSIONS WILL BE REVIEWED USING RUBRIC AND EXEMPLARY WORK WILL BE POSTED!