



2016 BTU Internal Election

Meet the PSRP Candidates



(Bios Appear as submitted by candidates)

**CANDIDATES
FOR
PRESIDENT**

**MARIETTA A. ENGLISH
WORKSITE LOCATION: BTU**

Marietta English has been the President of the Baltimore Teachers Union for 16 years. She has a great vision for the BTU and would like to continue her work as the President.

Ms. English holds a Master's Degree from the University of Maryland College Park and a Bachelor's Degree from Morgan State University. She is a graduate of Western High School and studied at Coppin State University and Johns Hopkins University.

An ardent advocate for the education of children, Ms. English has been a classroom teacher, a consulting teacher and a mentor teacher. She has taught all grades from Pre-K through grade eight and worked as a special educator. She is a member of several civic, social and cultural organizations,

Ms. English has served as president of the Metro-Baltimore Alliance of Black School Educators and served as the Liaison to the North American Association for Environmental Education. Ms. English also serves as the National President for the National Alliance of Black School Educators.

She was selected as National Teacher of the Year, Life member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.; Phi Delta Kappa, Johns Hopkins Chapter; Jewish Labor Committee, NAACP Life Member and ACT-SO Chair. She is the President of AFT-Maryland, an AFT-Vice President and Chair of the AFT Women's Rights Committee.

"Several years ago it was my vision that Baltimore City would become the number one school system. I want to thank you for making that dream come true. We have been number one for the last four years. Thank You! We have the most innovative contract in the entire nation. I want to thank you for your patience and support as we have worked hard to implement this contract. It has not been easy, but you have made it possible. Is it

perfect, by no means? We continue to work to improve the process. Teachers in Baltimore City are among the highest paid in the state and you continue to earn at your own pace. Our PSRP chapter has also received raises above any other district in the state.

As we enter into negotiations, I will continue to fight for our healthcare and planning time and the other items that you feel are important. I am proud of the work you do each and every day for our children. But our work is not done. I ask for your support as we continue to work to improve the lives of teachers, paraprofessionals, secretaries and all school-related personnel.

**VOTE THE ENGLISH SLATE
ON MAY 18th."**

**KIMBERLY MOONEY
WORKSITE LOCATION: 233**

Kimberly Mooney conferred a MAT from Johns Hopkins University in 2008 and a Certificate in School Administration and Supervision from JHU in 2010. In 2005 she earned a Bachelor's Degree in

Philosophy and a Minor in Spanish from Towson University.

She has worked as a Spanish teacher for BCPSS for 11 years; three at William H. Lemmel Middle School and eight at Roldan Park Elementary/Middle School.

I will advocate to:

- ❖ Reform the teacher evaluation system,
- ❖ Oppose the use of SLOs for teacher evaluations as this measure does not consider factors that influence student performance which are outside of a teacher's control. I oppose using the Instructional Framework for formal observations and evaluation purposes as it was developed and can only be validly used for giving feedback.
- ❖ Reduce standardized testing so we can get back to teaching and learning and making schools places that kids want to be.
- ❖ Increase transparency and democracy in the Union.

- ❖ Improve working conditions and provide more employee support.
- ❖ Create contracts and evaluation measures appropriate for non-teacher professionals covered by the BTU contract such as counselors.

**CANDIDATE
FOR
CHAIR**

SANDRA E. DAVIS
WORKSITE LOCATION: #341

Sandra currently holds the position of BTU PSRP Chair and AFT-Maryland Area PSRP Vice-President. She is a member of the AFT Program and Policy Council, PSRP negotiating team and Progressive Caucus. She serves on the BTU's Special Education Committee, Special Events, Area Coordinators, Civil, Human and Women's Rights Committee, Health and Safety Committee, COPE, Legislative Committee and on the Committee for BTU PSRP Conference.

Sandra is a graduate of Archbishop Keough High School and Strayer Business College.

Sandra has been an employee of the Baltimore City Public School System for 26½ years, currently assigned to REACH PARTNER-SHIP #341 as a Special Education Paraeducator. She has worked with students on every grade level, Pre-

K through 12; and has worked with students with special needs for more than 20 years.

She has been honored with the following awards from BTU: Outstanding Building Representative, John Bethea Novice Award, Dennis Crosby Longevity Award and BTU Trailblazer in the Women's Labor Movement Award. If elected as Chair to the PSRP Chapter, she will continue to promote the rights and fair treatment of colleagues as well as students.

"Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'"

— Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

**VOTE THE ENGLISH
SLATE!**

**CANDIDATE
FOR
VICE-CHAIR**

SHAWN J. MCKAY
WORKSITE LOCATION: #86

Shawn J. McKay is Vice-Chair of the PSRP Chapter. She is the oldest of three. Born in Philadelphia, PA., her educational background began there, up until third grade. Her parents then moved to North Carolina where she graduated from Fairmont High School. She moved to Baltimore more than 20 years ago. Shawn McKay started as a parent volunteer at Furley Elementary School; then she went to Northeast Middle for two years; then she became a full-time BCPSS employee.

She has worked for BCPSS for 15 ½ years starting as a TSP at Chinquapin Middle. In 2007, she became a Special Ed para educator after taking part in the Para-Pro classes that were offered at Pimlico. She's currently working at Lakewood Elementary School, #86 the only primary school in the district; she works in a kindergarten class. She is presently attending Baltimore City Community College and has a GPA of 3.77. She was inducted into the PHI Theta Kappa Honor Center on Oct. 29, 2015. She is a member of the National Alliance of Black School Educators (NABSE) and AFT. Her graduation date is June 4, 2016; she will then have an Associate of Arts Degree. She plans to continue her education degree this fall at Coppin State University. She is the wife of a wonderful husband of 25 years, Tony McKay, the proud mother of three daughters, Shanika, Shanell and Shani Cheatham and one son Kendrick, and the grandparent of three awesome boys, JaRell, Markel, Eric Jr. and an awesome granddaughter Leah Shani. She decided to get more involved to be able to be informed as well as to continue learning a great deal more of information about the importance of being in a union that gives us the foundation of strength to fight for equal rights for all being involved in the union; this is what has been instilled in her way of living. Shawn McKay's goal is to stand for all the

betterment of our union family by doing the best of her ability.

**VOTE THE ENGLISH
SLATE.**

**CANDIDATE
FOR
SECRETARY**

TERRY HARPER
WORKSITE LOCATION: #75

Terry Harper is a family oriented Christian who is a member of the Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church. She has been married for 32.5 years to Marion Thomas Harper, Jr. Her beliefs and goals were taught to her by her mother, Sallie Chatman. She is also a mother of two wonderful young men (Derek Nelson –deceased) and Tyron Harper. She wouldn't be satisfied without mentioning her wonderful daughter-in-law (April Johnson and lovely grandchildren Imani Nelson, Kayden Johnson and Phoenix Harper).

Terry Harper is currently a Secretary/Budgetary assistant at Friendship Preparatory Academy under the leadership of principal, Martia T. Cooper. Her current position at Friendship has allowed her to be a secretary/budget assistant to the Principal; and a senior secretary to the house managers. She has worked since 1983 beginning in the Parent Involvement Program that was placed throughout Baltimore City Schools. Also she worked as a substitute, parent involvement leader and then became a school

secretary with a full-time position in 1997. Mrs. Harper became the secretary at Harlem Park Middle School where the late Wyatt Coger was the principal. Under the leadership of Mr. Coger, Dr. Andrey Bundley and Roger Shawl, she began to learn critical thinking skills. Mrs. Harper became the senior secretary at the school where she managed the house office secretaries and developed leadership skills and performed workshops to increase everyone's knowledge of office etiquette. In 1998, Mr. Wyatt Coger retired and Mrs. Harper was promoted to the Southwest Area Office.

Mrs. Harper became a member of the BTU within the last five years and is running for the secretary position. She is a member of the Order of Easter Star; she is also attending Phoenix University where she has received her AAS in Human Resources and is pursuing her BA degree in Human Resources Administration. **VOTE THE ENGLISH SLATE!**

**CANDIDATE
FOR
TREASURER**

DEBORAH R. CROCKETT
WORKSITE LOCATION: #406

Deborah Crockett has been employed with BCPSS for 36 years. In the past, she has worked at Baltimore City School #301, #402 and #324. She was elected Building

Representative at three schools. At present, she is a member of the BTU Safety Committee and BTU Special Education Committee. She is the Chair of the Women's Rights Committee and a member of the PSRP Conference Committee and an Area Coordinator. She serves as a National Trainer for the ER&D Program; she is the Treasurer of the PSRP Chapter, and serves as a BR at Forest Park High School, #406.

If I am re-elected treasurer, I will work diligently to ensure that our monies are spent wisely and that your concerns are met with reasonable solutions. "I am a team player who realizes there is no "I" in team. I believe in fighting for the rights we deserve and I'm ready, willing and able to fight for you."

**VOTE THE ENGLISH
SLATE!**

**CANDIDATES
FOR
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
V.P.**

BRANDI BOONE-WEST
WORKSITE LOCATION: #301

(NO BIO SUBMITTED)

SUSAN IRELAND
WORKSITE LOCATION: #37

Susan has served as a paraprofessional in BCPSS for 25 years. She has served as a building representative for 10 years at the amazing Harford Heights. She likes working

as a building representative and serving our union members. She enjoys going to Annapolis and attending rallies.

"It is important to learn to work closely with our union and members of our union. Keep members informed about both the latest events and having accurate current information are important to me. I'm interested in keeping our union focused and positive on any issues or concerns. I enjoy serving our union members and their interests."

**VOTE THE ENGLISH
SLATE!**

TIFFANIE MURRAY
WORKSITE LOCATION: #144

Tiffanie D. Murray was born and raised in Baltimore. She graduated from Arundel Senior High School in 2003, and is currently enrolled in classes at Strayer University, planning to graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in 2017. This is her 9th year in the role of Para-Educator for Baltimore City Schools.

She began her career in education at Edmondson Senior High School in the Main Office, and matriculated to William Pinderhughes as a classroom Para-Educator. She currently works at James Mosher Elementary School, and loves supporting the work of students and parents on broadening and enhancing my knowledge of technology and updated software or resources that will provide instructional support to the students, staff and parents of

James Mosher Elementary. I also want to continue to build my professional capacity and grow in the area of wide communities. Our learning community is one that is conducive to building leaders and strengthening collaborative relationships. As I work towards achieving my goals, I want to become a more (highly) effective and qualified school-based professional and employee of Baltimore City Schools. In my leisure time, I enjoy participating in several church activities, which include, but are not limited to singing in the choir and a variety of youth and young adult events. I also love spending time with my family and friends. My hobbies include shopping and drawing. I take great pride in being a role model and member of the BTU organization. I will continue to do my best to be a faithful and dedicated member of the Baltimore Teachers Union to be used in any capacity where I am needed.

As an Elementary School Vice-President for the PSRP Chapter, I will help make resources available to Paraeducators, teachers, parents and students. I will work to ensure that Paraeducators have the training and tools they need to meet academic standards of every learner. I will work diligently to follow district level guidelines for Paraprofessional development. I will also work in conjunction with our Presi-

dent to enhance the decision-making process for all Paraeducators. In addition, I plan on assisting the executive board and the president's decision to support all district, school and classroom policies. My goal is to seek creative ways to better assist child care programs as resources for students and their parents. As an active leader I want support the needs of my union, district, school, parents and scholars I serve on a daily basis. I will observe and adhere to the bylaws set forth by the President and executive board.

VOTE THE ENGLISH SLATE.

DARLENE RANDALL BROWN

WORKSITE LOCATION: #245

Darlene Brown has devoted herself to the Baltimore City Public School System for more than 20 years. Throughout her years of service, she has committed her energies to helping the special needs students in many different sectors. Notably, she is always committed to the cause and action for the rights of BTU policies. Serving as a BTU building rep she has assisted many of her colleagues with valuable information that has benefitted them in job awareness and security. Darlene continues her support serving as a member and volunteer on numerous committees and organizations.

VOTE ENGLISH SLATE!

CANDIDATE FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL V.P.

THERESA BAILEY-GWYNN WORKSITE LOCATION: #67

Ms. Gwynn's 30 plus years of service working in BCPSS. She has served on several committees. BTU QuEST, Special Education, PSRP Conference, Progressive Caucus and C.O.P.E. (Please re-elect PSRP and AFT Delegate). Mrs. Gwynn received recognition from the School District, Mayor of Baltimore, Baltimore City Council and the Maryland Senate. She also has received Most Valuable Citizens Award from the Governor. She received several awards and certificates for her diligent effects in working with students, parents, staff, administrators and community stakeholders. Mrs. Gwynn provided many opportunities for students in Pre-K to 12th grade school settings to receive rewards and has encouraged their academic success. Mrs. Gwynn partnerships begin several years ago with businesses and corporations. She work with Baltimore Police Department and Fire Department and sponsored a Safe School Relay and Poster Contest for 14 schools, students were rewarded with pizza parties and

trophies. Mrs. Gwynn also provided hotels (breakfast and lunch), movie theater tickets, magic shows, also tickets Orioles and Ravens games as a reward.

VOTE THE ENGLISH SLATE!

CANDIDATE FOR SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL V. P.

SITA CHAITRAM WORKSITE LOCATION: #401

Sita currently holds the position of Senior High School V.P. for the PSRP Chapter. She is a graduate of St. Joseph's Convent, Arima, Trinidad. She has been working in Baltimore Schools for 26 years.

"If elected I would maintain the integrity of the Baltimore Teachers Union, uphold the policies and understanding of the BTU. My goals would be, Fair Treatment of Para's (understanding their position in/out of school with principals) and to help promote the best interest for the members.

VOTE THE ENGLISH SLATE

LAKEISHA S. PURNELL WORKSITE LOCATION: #818

(NO BIO SUBMITTED)

CANDIDATES FOR SPECIAL SERVICES V. P.

IRENE E. BOOZE

WORKPLACE LOCATION: #374

Irene E. Booze is currently Vice-President of Special Services in the PSRPS Chapter of the Baltimore Teachers Union Board. She has been an active PSRP for eight and a half years with Baltimore City Schools. Irene is currently a classroom paraeducator at Vanguard Collegiate Middle School, #374. She works alongside an awesome teacher named Ms. Burasca where they both teach a classroom of PAL (Pupils with Autism) students. Irene is just as diligent when it comes to her service in the union. She believes that there is no "I" when accomplishing anything, but together as a unit we can accomplish anything. Because of her desire to make a difference, Irene has continued her education at BCCC where she has graduated this past fall with AA Degree in Education with a GPA of 3.85. Irene is a part of the National Honor Society, a member of Phi Theta Kappa, AFT and NABSE. Irene will continue to pursue her educational endeavors at Coppin State University this fall. Irene is the proud mother of four grown children, three girls, Latarica, Latonya and Myleka and a son Cedric. She is also the proud grandmother of three amazing grandchildren, Jaydin, Laylah and Corey Jr. Striving and continuing to work

hard, Irene understands that: Education matters and together we can always make a difference.

VOTE THE ENGLISH SLATE.

MIRIAM BROOKS-ARNETTE

WORKSITE LOCATION: #177

(NO BIO SUBMITTED)

**SHERRI G. HARRIS
GIBBS**

WORKSITE LOCATION: #825

(NO BIO SUBMITTED)

**CANDIDATE
FOR
VOCATIONAL SERVICES
V.P.**

JUANITA WARE

WORKSITE LOCATION: #341

Ms. Ware has been employed by BCPSS for 15 years. She was first employed at Diggs Johnson Middle School as an attendance monitor. After Diggs Johnson closed, Ms. Ware transferred to REACH Middle/High School as an attendance monitor and a technical support person for the Special Education Office. Ms. Ware has been a volleyball team and soccer team coach for the girls teams. She has been a BTU Building Rep for six years.

“If I am elected, I will do my best to represent PSRPs who work

in Vocational Education. Also, I am willing to attend a meeting to give my best input for you.”

VOTE THE ENGLISH SLATE!

**CANDIDATES
FOR
MEMBERS-AT-LARGE**

BERNARD BARBER

WORKSITE LOCATION: #254

Mr. Barber has been working in Baltimore City Schools since 2008. Prior to that he worked in security field from 2005-2006 at Johns Hopkins Security and from 1998-2004 at Admiral Security as a security inspector. He is also a 23-year veteran of the US Air Force.

Mr. Barber is a product of Baltimore City Public Schools and a graduate of Baltimore City College High School. He is a graduate of the United Baptist College and Seminary with a Bachelor’s Degree in Theology.

“Being in harmony with the Baltimore Teachers Union, Local 340 Constitution, I accept without reservation and adhere to its proclamation and that of the BTU Executive Board, except for matters decided by referendum of the membership, as final authority. If I were elected to the position of Member-at-Large, my goal would be to represent the PSRP membership and assume all duties and responsibilities assigned by the President or

Executive Board. In addition, to the best of my ability, I would engage in advancing the standards of the teaching profession and promote the welfare of its members. This can be done by my insuring that every scholar in the city is guaranteed a quality education and have an environment that is safe and conducive to learning. I aim to promote the best interest of the public schools of Baltimore City and the American Federation of Teachers.”

Mr. Barber is married and the father of four children. He is an ordained Baptist Preacher and on June 4, 2016 will be ordained into the Evangelical Luther Church in America.

VOTE THE ENGLISH SLATE

CELIA ELLIOTT

WORKSITE LOCATION: #11

Celia. Elliott was born in Lynchburg, VA, but lived in Baltimore for the majority of her life. She graduated from Baltimore City Public Schools. She has two daughters and three grandsons. In 1992, she worked at the former Harlem Park Middle School, #78. From January 1999-June 1999, she worked at the former Madison Square Elementary School as the school secretary. Going on to Harford Heights Intermediate School, which has now been combined with Harford Heights Primary School and is known as Harford Heights Elementary School, #37.

She is now the school secretary at Eutaw-Marshburn Elementary School #11 and has been since 2008. This will be her second year as the Building Representative. This year she has and will continue to facilitate BTU workshop/trainings for professional development for PSRPs.

Ms. Elliott is a dedicated family oriented person who loves helping others.

Her main goals are to inform PSRPs of information and know their rights and also to unite the PSRPs so that all feel like they are part of the Baltimore Teachers Union family.

VOTE THE ENGLISH SLATE!

KRISTEN ROBINSON

WORKSITE LOCATION: #219

Kristen has been working for Baltimore City Schools since August 2005 when she became a para-educator at Yorkwood Elementary School. Prior to working at Yorkwood she worked with children for 25 years. She served as a Senior Staff teacher in a preschool classroom at the Social Security Child Care Center and was appointed Assistant Pre-School Director there as well.

Kristen has an Associate’s Degree in Early Childhood Education and is currently attending Morgan State University and is expected to earn her Bachelor of Science Degree in

Family and Consumer Sciences in June, 2017.

She is the mother of two children, a 27-year-old son Aaron and 17-year-old daughter, Kamari.

“If I am elected, my goals would be to become an active member of the PSRP board as well as help in decision-making on items that will benefit the PSRPs in this chapter. I will also make sure to make my ideas/views known. I believe that being a member of this board will assist me in becoming more informed about the issues that are important both in our union as well as unions throughout the country. This opportunity will also allow me to be more involved in communicating information back to our members.

VOTE THE ENGLISH SLATE.

**WANDA THOMPSON
WORKSITE LOCATION: #250**

Wanda Thompson is the fiancé of Roland Nixon, mom to Simora, a 3 year-old English Labrador Retriever. I would like to thank you in advance for the opportunity to serve and deliver strong guidance and dedication in the capacity of Member-at-Large. I place high regard for all it takes to right the wrongs we face as educators in public schools. I believe that in unity we can never be denied. It keeps me striving on.

Wanda Thompson has been a paraeducator for 41 years in BCPSS.

VOTE THE ENGLISH SLATE.