

WORLD LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT
Union Township Public Schools

Sigrid Pagano, Supervisor

851-6553

March 25, 2008

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Over a year now has passed since our school and community lost a devoted teacher and treasured friend, Ellen S. Rever. For over twenty five years Ellen served in the Township of Union Public Schools, first as an elementary and then later as a secondary school English as a Second Language teacher. She was founder of and advisor to the International Students Organization as well as the International Students' Honor Society, ISO Plus, at Union High School. Throughout her years in these roles she was a fierce and enthusiastic advocate for the rights and needs of her students and their families. During the last year of her service to the community of Union she was called upon to help serve the ESL students in the role of Guidance Counselor.

It was always very important for Ellen to encourage her students to reach their full potential and continue on to higher education. In fact, she was quite instrumental in motivating and helping many of them to achieve that goal. It was not unusual for former students and graduates to return for periodic visits to Ellen's classroom or numerous club sponsored activities in order to seek out advice, share their joys and sorrows or simply strengthen the bonds of friendship that they had formed. Ellen's students became her extended family and she often was present at their graduations, weddings and other momentous life-changing events.

In order to keep the memory of this persevering and committed humanitarian alive, the Township of Union World Languages/ESL Department, with the approval of the Union Township Board of Education, established a scholarship in her name. Last year this scholarship was granted to three outstanding graduating students of English as a Second Language who went on to attend accredited colleges or universities.

We are once again seeking donations for the purpose of continuing funding of this scholarship. A committee has been organized to oversee the number of awards and their amount as well as to determine student eligibility and selection. It is our hope that you will support us in these efforts through your contributions. We invite you to join us in honoring the passionate conviction of a dedicated and beloved teacher and human being.

Cordially yours,

Barbara Perska, Gary Hayden, Esterina Fusco and Sigrid Pagano

P.S. Contributions may be made payable to the "Ellen Rever ESL Scholarship Fund" and sent to:

Mrs. Barbara Perska
Washington School
301 Washington Ave.
Union, NJ 07083

or

Gary Hayden
Union High School
2350 North Third St.
Union, NJ 07083.

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