

Meet the BFT Candidates for Delegate to the National Education Association Representative Assembly



*Hope
Chybion*

Hope Chybion has been a member of BFT since 2004, her first year teaching. She has also served on the BFT Executive Board for over 10 years and is currently serving as one of BFT's South Area Directors. She has taught at Endeavor Elementary, Turner Elementary, where she was the BFT Building Representative, and currently teaches at Brevard Virtual School where she is also the BFT Building Representative. She would be honored to represent the members of BFT at this year's NEA Representative Assembly.



*Kevin
Howkins*

Kevin Howkins currently serves as a teacher at Golfview Elementary where he also is the BFT Building Representative. He serves as the Central Area Director on the BFT Executive Board.



*Michele
McCormack*

Michele McCormack is a Teacher of the Deaf/Hard of hearing at Meadowlane Primary Elementary where she also serves as the BFT Building Representative and as the political coordinator on the BFT Executive Board. As a student, she was the first class to open Southwest Jr. High and she graduated from Palm Bay High in 1994. Her oldest graduated and her youngest will be graduating Melbourne High this year. Yes- a Pirate has two Bulldogs! She never thought that would happen as Palm Bay and Mel High had quite the rivalry back when she was a student.



*Jackie
Small*

A school counselor with 35 years in education, Jackie Small teaches and presents about Mindfulness in Education for educators, parents, and staff. She is a counselor at University Park where she also serves as the BFT Building Representative. She is passionate about empowering young minds and instills knowledge of empathy, compassion, and other core social & emotional skills to students. Jackie serves as an Executive Board member of BFT and is the representative to the Space Coast AFL-CIO Labor Council.



*Vanessa
Skipper*

Vanessa is the Vice President of BFT and also serves as the Secondary Director on the Executive Cabinet of the Florida Education Association. She was one of six finalists for the 2014-2015 BPS Teacher of the Year. She taught secondary English & journalism for twelve years before being elected as a release officer of BFT. Standing up for teachers, students, and our profession is her passion. She loves representing Brevard teachers in the fight to keep our profession respected and our classrooms places where learning comes first.



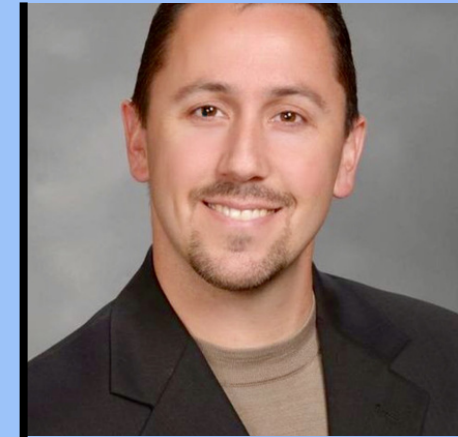
*Khadejah
Veal*

Khadejah Veal is a Pre-Kindergarten teacher at Sherwood Elementary. She would be honored to represent BFT for NEA. She is currently a part of Florida's Young Remarkable Educators (FYRE), a state-wide program. She is also an ambassador for the Khan Academy kids program. Locally she is active in her school's environmental club, social community, and will always lend a hand to any other committee. Her overall goal as a representative is to give our county a voice for those teachers in subjects that feel they are underrepresented.



*Caitie
Walters*

Caitie Walters is a Pre-Kindergarten itinerant teacher and has represented BFT at two prior NEA Representative Assemblies and as an FEA Delegate almost every year since 2018. She serves as BFT's head member organizer, also known as the person who sends you a bunch of texts! Additionally, she is the North Area Director on the BFT Executive Board. She would love another opportunity to represent our wonderful union at the 2023 NEA Representative Assembly.



*Matt
Yount*

Matt Yount is a fifth grade teacher at Imperial Estates Elementary with over 20 year teaching experience. He is married to an amazing educator, Stacey, for over 15 years, father of 3, son Jordan (24) and twin daughters Faith and Alanna (13), Elder Pastor at Coastal Community Church, Proud UCF alumni with a Master's in Elementary Education, Bachelor's in Exceptional Education, Board member for the Brevard Schools Foundation, inaugural member of the Florida Teacher Lead Network, and staunch supporter of teacher voice, retention, and recruitment.