

and received important longevity benefits for its members. He then fought for survivor health insurance benefits for all Brookline's municipal employees, taking the fight to the voters and winning on a ballot initiative.

Frank would build on these achievements as his career progressed, improving the lives of thousands of public employees throughout New England. He secured numerous wage increases, obtained more paid sick leave time, and successfully negotiated the Agency Fee in Maine. In 2012, Frank was appointed as the executive director of Council 93 and as vice president to the AFSCME International Executive Board, where he has served since. It is a leadership position befitting his service and dedication.

On April 1, 2019, Frank will retire as AFSCME Council 93 executive director. Throughout my and Frank's years of service, I have had the privilege of working closely with him and am lucky enough to call him my friend. Frank is irreplaceable, but his successes have left the council strong and one of the most effective AFSCME affiliates in the Nation.●

TRIBUTE TO BRANDY BUNKLEY

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Brandy Bunkley, the Union County Teacher of the Year from Union County High School in Lake Butler, FL.

Brandy has taught for 21 years and is the career specialist at Union County High School. Her dedication and support for students has been credited for the increasing graduation rate at the school.

Brandy believes that every voice has value and that every student matters. As a teacher, she works to ensure her students are developing clear and positive career paths for themselves and provides a caring and enthusiastic support system.

Throughout her time at Union County High School, she has put a high importance on the value of students' voices and as individuals by forming strong teaching relationships with her students. She has continuously proven that being an educator is deeply rooted in her core.

I extend my sincere thanks and gratitude to Brandy for her dedication to her students and look forward to hearing of her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO KAMILLE CHAPMAN

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I am pleased to honor Kamille Chapman, the Lake County Teacher of the Year from Mount Dora Middle School in Mount Dora, FL.

After receiving this award, Kamille credited the relationships she builds with her students as one of the reasons for her success. She works with her students to improve their lives and considers improved academic results a

byproduct. When some students have behavioral issues, she invites them to have lunch with her instead of writing a referral, believing this to be an investment in their well-being.

Kamille's eighth grade geometry students score 21 percent higher than any other school in her district and they outperform their ninth and 10th grade peers. Ninety-three percent of her algebra students pass their end of course exam, an increase from the previous 50 percent passage rate 2 years ago. She originally returned to Mount Dora Middle School with the intention to retire in 2016 after first leaving in 1996. Instead, her students inspired her to continue teaching after being surrounded by positive influences that reminded her why she became a teacher.

Kamille earned her bachelor's degree in health education from the State University of New York Cortland and her master's degree in education from Florida State University. She has taught over a 32-year span in Houston, TX, and several schools throughout Lake County. She also worked as a curriculum specialist for math and science for middle and high schools in the county.

I express my sincere thanks and appreciation to Kamille for all the fine work she has done throughout her career for her students and offer my best wishes on her future endeavors.●

TRIBUTE TO JUSTEN EARLY

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I honor Justen Early, the Hernando County Teacher of the Year from Nature Coast Technical High School in Brooksville, FL.

Justen's desire to become a teacher began when he first volunteered as a football coach at Central High School. He became invested in the success of his players, both on the football field and in the classroom. From this experience, he decided his next step would be to enter the classroom.

As a teacher, Justen seeks to build a camaraderie to make students feel they are a part of a community. He focuses on his students learning differences and encourages them to make teaching suggestions.

Justen attended Florida A&M University and currently teaches technology support classes. He serves as the co-offensive coordinator of the high school's football team. He has been with the school since 2014 and is grateful for his school's administration for providing him the opportunity to teach. Justen credits his success to his mother, grandmother, aunt, Mrs. Rosemarie Poluchowicz of the language arts department, and Coach Rudolph Story for their mentorship.

I extend my sincere thanks and gratitude to Justen for his dedication in helping his students succeed in life and offer my best wishes for his continued success in the coming years.●

TRIBUTE TO DONELLE EVENSEN

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Donelle Evensen, the Flagler County Teacher of the Year from Rymfire Elementary School in Palm Coast, FL.

After receiving this award, Donelle said, "It makes me feel like I may have accomplished what I've set out to do and that's increase student achievement and increase support for our teachers and make them feel like they're valued and are appreciated for what they do every day." She tries each day to plan different ways to inspire and excite students and teachers at her school.

Donelle previously spent 10 weeks backpacking through nine European countries with her husband. This experience served as a reminder of life back home and how we treat those around us and the true value of all lives. She has brought this reflection to her classroom to share with her students.

Donelle has been an educator for 13 years and currently is the literacy coach for kindergarten through sixth grade at her school. She earned her master's degree in elementary reading and literacy from Walden University in 2008 and her master's certification in educational leadership from Stetson University in 2017.

I express my sincere thanks and appreciation to Donelle for her devotion to her students and look forward to hearing of her continued success in her future endeavors.●

TRIBUTE TO ELISA HALL

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I am pleased to recognize Elisa Hall, the Suwannee County Teacher of the Year from Suwannee County High School in Live Oak, FL.

Elisa is a Florida High Impact Teacher and was honored to receive this important recognition. In her classroom, she implemented the House System, which encourages friendly competitions, school spirit, and a comradery built by students who strive to help each other succeed. She collaborated with her fellow teachers, Emily Blackmon and Vanessa Menhennett, to create this system.

The House System consists of four houses named Diligence, Optimism, Generosity, and Sincerity, to spell out DOGS, in honor of the school's mascot, the Suwannee Bulldogs. The houses are mixed with students from ninth through twelfth grade and compete with one another to win the House Championship. Elisa's work with the House System is credited with increasing students' motivation to earn prizes through improved attendance, completion of assignments, positive behaviors, and teamwork.

A ninth grade English teacher at Suwannee County High School, Elisa has taught at the school since 2015. Through her positive experiences within the school district, she is dedicated