

WAYNE'S WORLD

WTA/NEA-NY

WTA Newsletter

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November, 2004

Volume 3 Issue 3



President's Message



Working with difficult people

Much has been written about “dealing with difficult people,” but most of what I read seems to advise following steps for making most “people problems” more manageable. Assuming that you have the ability to think rationally about the situation, these steps may help you.

1. Decide when it is time to talk. Communication is the key to solving most interpersonal problems.

2. Discuss what is bother-

some. Point out the specific problem you are having with the person's behavior rather than letting it become resentment.

3. Ask for change. The most common response by another to assertiveness is accommodation, not rejection. (Books on assertiveness sell well because it works!)

4. Remain calm and take a deliberate approach to resolving people problems. It will help you feel more in control of you reaction to people you cannot change.

I am neither a trained counselor nor an analyst! Leadership training through NEA/NY often supplies me with guidelines and suggested reading. That source, along with frequent opportunities to talk with others about concerns, leads me to believe in this approach.

Try it. I would love to hear any success stories from those that find this powerful interaction works.

I wish you a peaceful Thanksgiving.

Pat

Working Families Tax Relief Act

Good news! Congress recently passed The Working Families Tax Relief Act of 2004. This Act reinstates an educator expense deduction which had expired at the end of 2003. The Act provides for a **deduction from adjusted gross income of up to \$250 for both 2004 and 2005.**

The IRS advised teachers

and other educators to save their receipts for books and other classroom supplies. Eligible educators are those in public or private elementary or secondary schools. To be eligible, a person must work at least 900 hours during a school year as a teacher, instructor, counselor, principal or aide.

This deduction is available

whether or not the taxpayer itemizes deductions on Schedule A.

For more information: call IRS Tele-Tax at 1-800-829-4477 or go to IRS Web site at www.irs.gov Whether you call or surf you will want to select Tax Topic 458 that addresses this topic.

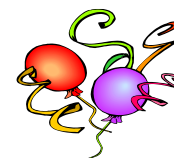
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CELEBRATE !

OP Janice Hyde just delivered her baby , David Charles.

OE
FW
MS

HS Emery Roethel is the proud parent of baby boy Brice born in October. Welcome back to Holly Armitage—beloved VP!

District Wide

And the winner is Donna Stalker! Have you gone shopping yet with that gift certificate? By the way the answer to last month's question is:
The largest teachers' union in the United States is the NEA. It's over 2.7 million members strong!

The 3 R's: Remarks, Reminders, and Relief!

3rd Thursday! November 18th—already! Negotiations need good negotiators — come meet ours and find out more about this process. New contract for 2006!



ment was clarified and will be pro-rated.

- ◆ Salary issue was fully investigated.

Issues currently being explored:

- ◆ Marking periods and grading windows.
- ◆ Tuition reimbursement issue.
- ◆ Professional Development Team and union's role.

National School Board Recognition— Thursday, November 18th, 7:30PM at the MS. Please come and show your support!

Rule of thumb #18:
DON'T WORRY—
BE HAPPY!

(especially at the
WTA social on Friday,
November 19th
at the Ontario Golf Club!)



Issues acted upon/discussed:

- ◆ Grievance brief has been filed - ruling forthcoming—4 wks!
- ◆ Part time employees' requirement for 7 hours of professional develop-



NEA - NY Call In Days— Help Restore the Cuts!

In response to Governor Pataki exercising his veto power over the legislative proposed and accepted budget, **NEA has organizes a State Wide Call in for Tuesday, November 16th and Wednesday, November 17th** in time for our legislators coming back to session. Please see the attached PDF poster for contact information and a helpful script.

Paul Webster, NEA/NY's Legislative and Political Issues Coordinator communicates the following: *Unfortunately, these programs outlined below, and many more designed to*

improve higher education in New York State, were vetoed by the Governor in August. Six of the executive's vetoes directly affect the SUNY community colleges represented by NEA/NY.

These include: veto number 74, which provided \$1.1 million in support to the HEOP Program Fund; veto number 75, which provided \$500,000 to the STEP & CSTEP programs; veto number 76, to allocate general fund support to the Teacher Opportunity Corps; veto number 101, an appropriation of \$2 million for part-time student aid through the Higher Education Services Corporation; veto number 111, to provide \$13.8 million to

the SUNY Community Colleges Fund; and veto number 112, a general fund appropriation of \$700,000 for rental aid.

Additional items vetoed that could directly effect our students and their families are; library aid and after school programs, vocational services for the disabled, the Education and Economic Opportunities act, Health Care Capital Initiative, and access to affordable housing.

Please take action this week to support the education budget as it was proposed and promised for this year!

***WTA salutes you—
we've come a long way baby!***

NATIONAL AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK

NOVEMBER 14–18TH.

NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT PERSONNEL DAY—

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17TH!



1922 TEACHERS CONTRACT SALARY APROXIMATELY \$750 /YR.

Teachers could not: get married, have the company of men, loiter downtown in ice cream parlors, leave town without permission of the Chairman of the Board, smoke cigarettes, drink beer, whiskey, or wine, ride in a carriage or automobile with any man except their brother or father, dress in bright colors, dye their hair, wear dresses shorter than 2 inches above the ankle, or be out after 8PM or before 6AM or their contracts would be terminated. Oh, those good ol' days!