Welcome back. It is amazing how quickly the routine of the school year becomes our lifestyle again. My message to you this month is to encourage you to take the time to look at the benefits material your building representative put in your mailbox this month. You should have a NEA/NY pocket calendar. I recommend you keep track of your professional activities on this calendar. The calendar has condensed versions of the benefits of membership as well as a leave record page in the back of the calendar. If you do nothing else, keep track of your absences, workshops, professional days and leaves on this page!

You also should have received a blue magazine with in-depth coverage of everything you need to know about NEA/NY from leadership to legal benefits. There were a few pamphlets for you that describe attorney referral program benefits and your liability insurance certificate.

Coming to your building in October will be your personal Educator Access card. After you register your card, it will save you up to 50% on: dining, hotels, golf, travel, automotive, condos, cruises and much more. Some major affiliations are Pearle Vision, Domino’s Pizza, and Meinike. Boston Market, Dunkin’ Donut, Jackson – Hewitt and Liberty Travel. There are over 80,000 locations participating.

Look for your card in October and a description on how to register in the October Wayne’s World.

Until then, enjoy your students and keep communicating with your representative to WTA and with your administrators.

Pat

PS: Thanks to all who shared their concerns for my husband, Craig’s, surgery. He had a total knee replacement and is recovering at a pace the surgeon feels is healthy. We both appreciated the cards, notes and food!

The Legend Group’s Mike Cramer returns again this year with those great cookies and financial updates and advise tailored just for public employees. He is available for any Wayne staff. Here are some of the high points that he can help you with:

♦ updates to the tax laws.
♦ New rules regarding retirement planning and the MOA regarding retirement benefits.
♦ NEA Value Builder’s program.
♦ 403B tax shelters through payroll deduction.

His scheduled appearances are as follows:

O.E: Sept. 13th, Oct. 27th, Dec. 1st
O.P.: Sept. 14th, Oct. 28th, Dec. 2nd
Freewill: Sept. 27th, Nov. 2nd, Dec. 16th
Middle School: Sept. 22nd, Oct. 19th, Dec. 6th
High School: Sept. 23rd, Oct. 18th, Dec. 13th

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CELEBRATE!

OP Traci Collier married John Watson!
Lori Sensenbach’s son, Ben, returned from active duty in Iraq!
OE Congratulations to Jim Adamo on his special assignment for 2004/05.
FW MS Wedding bells rang this summer for Marc MacMillan, Jackie Courtney, and Christina Entres now Sauers.
Holly Young had a baby girl!

District Wide
Welcome to our 28 new teachers, 2 new nurses, and 9 new teacher’s aides. That’s 39 new people added to the Wayne family for this year!

25 teachers and 6 administrators were granted tenure this year. Yes all your hard work does pay off and were glad you are here!

Surprise! Michael Havens and Larry Spring got married this summer too. No, not to each other!
What’s a “3rd Thursday?” It’s our way of making the union more assessable to you. Every month your building will host a 10 minute (down and dirty) meeting. You get the latest, we hear your latest, and we all enjoy donuts!

Issues acted upon/discussed:
♦ Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) written and accepted regarding the summer induction program for non-tenured staff.
♦ MOA written and accepted regarding retirement incentive payout of accumulated sick days through a 403B contributory plan.
♦ Grievance arbitration date set.
♦ Summer curriculum pay issue between June rate and July rate has been adjusted.
♦ Collaborated to develop list of characteristics of quality administrators.

Rule of thumb #16: Give at least one day to the sick bank (fill out form now)- your good deed will help someone you know!

Issues currently being explored:
♦ Ms and HS procedures for congruent time between teachers.
♦ Copier issue at HS.

Helping Your Community!

Being involved! That’s what WTA people are known for. We have our hand in everything from before and after school clubs to fund raisers and volunteering for good causes in the community. It’s so natural to reach out to others, yet we forget to take care of ourselves sometimes! One of the best ways to help yourself and help your WTA community at the same time is through committee involvement.

WTA currently has 11 volunteer committees. Each committee should have a chairperson and at least one representative from each building. Lori Sensenbach, as the Internal VP, receives reports from each committee chair. Each building representative recruits committee members or serves on the committees themselves. It is your participation that keeps us vital—there is a committee that is just right for you!

American Education Committee:
Chair- Heather Melnick (OP)

Student Recognition:
Chair- ?

Communication/Newsletter:
Chair- Beth Peters (FE)

Teacher Recognition:
Chair- ?

Weisenreder/Community Outreach:
Chair - Martha Hanley (FE)

Social Committee:
Chair—Nancy Domm (OP)

Nominations & Elections:
Chair—Lori Sensenbach (OP)

Scholarship:
Chair -Donna Schumacher (HS)

Political Action:
Chair—Beth Peters (FE)

Constitution:
Chair—?

Board of Education Liaison Committee:
Chair—Lori Sensenbach

WTA supports CSEA in their negotiation of a YES, YES, YES contract this year!