President’s Message

It looks like the warm weather of spring has finally arrived. The birds are coming back, spring flowers are beginning to bloom, and the WTA has several new things to introduce as well!

The Health Care Buyout Option: If you currently purchase 2 Person, Family NS, or a Family healthcare plan from the district please strongly consider the proposed healthcare buyout of $3,250. We need approximately 25 people to take the buyout in addition to the other 32 people who already do not purchase healthcare from the district. To see if the buyout would financially be a benefit to you add the price of the health care plan that you would purchase next year to the $3,250 buyout amount.

For example: next year’s Blue Point 2 ($5 family NS) costs $1,449, if you add that to the buyout amount of $3,250 it equals $4,699. If you spouse’s employer offers a similar plan for less you stand to save money. Please consider taking the buyout even if you only will save a small amount of money as it may enable your fellow WTA members to save a significant amount of money depending on their situation.

VOTE–COPE Needs You! We will be starting our VOTE–COPE drive on May 14. We are asking all of our members to sign up for a paycheck deduction of at least 1 dollar per pay period for the 2007-2008 school year as well as make a small one-time donation for the current school year through a check made out to VOTE-COPE.

Call Out the Budget Vote: We will also be conducting a Budget Vote calling on Wednesday, May 9th at the NYSUT regional office in Rochester from 5 to 8 PM. We are looking for at least 10 volunteers. Dinner and refreshments will be provided. If you are interested please email me directly.

WTA Website is here! To obtain more information on these and many other topics please visit our new WTA website at http://www.wayneta.org/ (Beth says, “Oh! - What’s to become of Wayne’s World!!?!”)

Jason Carter

WTA says vote YES for the WCSD budget, Tuesday May15th!
Wayne’s World

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

3rd, 4th, 1st Thursdays????
Please note the date change:
April 26th! — MOA’s!
Health Care Buy Out! & VOTE-COPE! How much more good news can you handle in 10 minutes?

Issues acted upon/resolved:
⇒ Stipend committee proposal ready for review!
⇒ MOA allowing payroll deduction for VOTE-COPE.
⇒ MOA recognizing domestic partners for healthcare benefits.
⇒ MOA to allow WCSD to create a child care committee to oversee the creation of an on site child care center for employees.
⇒ MOA to clear up confusion regarding the awarding of the Master’s degree stipend.
⇒ MOA regarding the distribution of retirement incentive monies to be in line with current tax law and to protect WCSD employees’ benefit.

Issues currently being explored:
♦ Data collection and distribution issues.
♦ Creating a WTA training re: professionalism.
♦ Special Ed Admin concerns.

Dates to Remember:
⇒ Summer Curriculum proposals due April 30th.
⇒ WTA Scholarship applications are due April 30th.
⇒ Student Recognition names are due to WTA by Monday, May 7th.
⇒ Call out the Budget Vote, Wednesday May 9th from 5—8PM at the NY-
⇒ MOA regarding the distribution of retirement incentive monies to be in line with current tax law and to protect WCSD employees’ benefit.

Rule of thumb #39: “It’s your right - so use it!” Cast your vote for your school budget on Tuesday, May 15th.

NYST Field Representative:
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Rochester, NY 14607

Health Care Committee Report
Jason Carter: Health Care Buy Out! — The Supplemental Benefits Committee (SBC) has researched the concept of the Healthcare Buyout. It has been determined that this is of mutual benefit to both the WTA members and Wayne CSD. Even if you only make $50 on the buyout you are saving money and creating a significant benefit for all of our members who have spouses in district or currently purchase healthcare from their spouse’s non-WCSD employer. This committee will be holding a Health Care Information Seminar after break (date TBD), which will answer questions on this topic and provide training on health care in general. There will be significant information provide at the April 26th, 3rd Thursday meeting as well—so don’t miss it. (WTA committee members are: Jason Carter, Nancy Domm, Kim Northrup)

Stipends Committee Report
Brad LaBarge: Yeah! They have reached a tentative agreement that your rep council will be reviewing a presentation on at or before our next meeting in May. (WTA committee members are: Brad LaBarge, MJ Hoffman, Jackie Senecal)

Updates from the Contract Committees!

A delegation over 3,000 strong will converge on the nation’s capital April 26-28 for NYSUT’s 35th annual Representative Assembly.

The convention, themed ”We Are NY-SUT,” is the first since NYSUT and the National Education Association of New York signed a unification agreement last year. Attending from the WCSD will be Jason Carter, Beth Peters, and Tom Seimbor.

WTA Social!
June 1st
3:30 p.m. to whenever
Light munchies provided!
Branding Iron Restaurant, Knickerbocker Road, Ontario

It's a matter of principle
Public schools, not private interests