President’s Message

Welcome back. It seems like it was just June and the school year was ending. Summer always seems to fly by so fast. The start of the school year brings many new things: students, staff, procedures, contract, APPR, 105 Plan, union affiliation change (NEA merged with NYSUT), and for me another school photo ID that looks nothing like me.

During the summer the WTA created three goals to guide our association for the 2006-2007 school year. These goals which were approved by rep council during the September meeting are to:

1. Promote and maintain communication between building reps and principals.
2. Develop a WTA system enabling us to be more proactive at approaching potential issues.
3. Develop and train WTA leadership.

Regarding the 2006-2011 WTA contract and APPR documents; there were enough copies printed for each member to have one, but if you have not yet gotten your copy from your building’s main office and there are no more left, please let your building rep know. During the month of September there will be training sessions/meetings for the APPR and the contract/105 plan. There were 2 emails sent out by Mark Callahan during the first week of school containing important information, applications, and other forms for both the FSA and the new 105 Plan. If you accidentally deleted these emails before printing the various forms, copies will be made available during the 105 Plan training session(s). Please note that for teachers hired before June 30, 2006, who qualify for the 105 Plan, you must fill out the 105 Plan application in order to start submitting claims.

Have a great start to the school year,

Jason Carter

WTA Local News!

Committee Updates
Stipends Committee
Direct questions / concerns to Brad LaBarge, Jackie Senecal or MJ Hoffman.

Supplemental Benefits Committee. Committee members are Jason Carter, Nancy Domm or Kim Northrup. FYI - Judy Marion at DO processes the supplemental benefits forms and can address those type of questions.

Professional Conduct Committee: WTA members are Ronnie Steele, Maureen Nagel, and Betsy Hennessey.

We need you! WTA has several committees that benefit you and our community. These good works only happen when you make it happen. Please see your building rep to volunteer!

2006-07 Dues
The good news is that WTA is keeping the local costs of conducting business down while fully supporting you at the same time! There were no increases in the local portion of your dues. We also no longer pay out a political action or scholarship amount. Increases are due solely to the state and national level portion of our dues. This year’s dues are set at:

Full time dues = $607
Part time dues = $400

For a complete breakdown or specific questions about the WTA budget, feel free to contact your building rep!
The 3 R’s: Remarks, Reminders, and Relief!

Donuts are back! 3rd Thursdays begin September 21st. This month’s topic is How to Tackle a (union) Problem.

Issues currently being explored:
♦ MS: scheduling, safety issues and other concerns.
♦ Formation of WTA audit committee.
♦ Special ed teacher issues (lunch/planning time, etc).
♦ WTA election possible this fall.

Issues acted upon/resolved:
♦ Training for updated APPR.
♦ Trained admin team re: parent/teacher conferences and compliance with new contract.
♦ Adopted Landrum-Griffith Election Checklist as new election process per NYSUT regulations.

Dates to Remember:
October 6, is the deadline if you wish to opt out of the sick bank donation of 1.5 days.

Due NOW! Benefit Resource, Inc. (BRI) enrollment forms for the $800 Flex benefit if you want to start submitting claims.

Rule of thumb #33: Make sure that the person you are following has the map!

Our map is the new WTA 5-year contract—do you have your copy?

NYSUT Field Representative: Jeff Trout  Phone: 585-454-5500 at the Rochester Service Center/Union Place 30 N. Union St.—suite 302 Rochester, NY 14607

For other union information check out: NYSUT at www.nysut.org or contact them at 1-800-342-9810. We are also affiliated with the American Federation of Teachers and the National Education Association. Their websites are: www.aft.org and www.nea.org

Congratulations Tenured Teachers !

They made it! They’ve worked hard! They’re here to stay! Congratulations to all our newly tenured tenured teachers!

From the High School:
Brian Grayson  Math
Kathryn Crane  School Psych
Robert Doran  Science (Physics)
Brian Knebel  Technology
Thomas Siembor  Social Studies
Gail Streeter  Business
Riley Wheaton  Science (Chem)

From the Middle School:
Lorraine Willis  Special Ed
Amy Stahl  Math

From the Elementary School:
John Shearer  Science
Molly Doyle  Science
Scott Smith  Math
Tina Smith-Cieplinski  Science (Art)
Molly Doyle  Science
Scott Smith  Math
Tina Smith-Cieplinski  Science (Art)

From Freewill:
Michael Walker  Music

From Ontario Primary:
Rene Saba  Kndrgrtn
Catherine Grisley  Elem

From Ontario Elementary:
Debra Maier  Media Spec
Colleen Pesantes  Special Ed

Financial News

Michael G. Kramer, the famous cookie man and our registered representative with the Legend Group, has already made the rounds! He will be back a few more times this year with great cookies and even better financial advice. If you need to reach him in the meantime his contact information is:
The Legend Group
1425 Jefferson Road

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From the Middle School:
Lorraine Willis  Special Ed
Amy Stahl  Math

From Freewill:
Michael Walker  Music

From Ontario Primary:
Rene Saba  Kndrgrtn
Catherine Grisley  Elem

From Ontario Elementary:
Debra Maier  Media Spec
Colleen Pesantes  Special Ed

Dan DiPaola and Dave Pulcini those men in black from AXA are making the rounds too! Their schedule is as follows:
HS—September 13th
MS—September 20th
OE—September 27th
OP—October 11th
Freewill—October 4th

Rochester, NY 14623
(585)272-8470
(585)475-8421—Dan
(585)475-8446—David

Feel free to let them know what your financial needs or questions are. They are always happy to assist you.

They may be reached:
Retirement Benefits Group, of AXA Network, LLC.
175 Corporate Woods
Suite 250
Rochester NY 14623
(585)475-8421—Dan
(585)475-8446—David