

RTA news from January 15, 2008

1. The NYSUT/AFT election results will be in the January issue of the *Rochester Teacher*.
2. Masters Grievance – Call after Feb. 1 to verify if your fax or email has been received by the RTA office. This will allow the RTA time to compile a clear list of submitted information.
3. RTA Educational Conference – January 22nd with Jean-Claude Brizard is full (500 participants) with over 125 on the waiting list. It is a 4 to 6 pm meeting at Temple B'rith Kodish on Elmwood Avenue with a dinner following for 2 PD credit hours. More will be listed on AVATAR for the future dates sent in the December meeting.
4. Retirement Incentive – As you have seen in the Administrative Bulletin, the administrators have been offered an incentive. A. Urbanski is vigorously trying to negotiate one for the teachers. If one is offered, there would be a very small window of opportunity. (The administrators have to decide by February.)
5. Remember that if anyone is retiring, you **must send a letter of intent by March 1** (which RCSD is considering binding) to receive your Absentee Reduction money. You would send your letter to Human Resources (and have it date stamped and get a copy).
6. Junior/Senior High Department is sending out a handbook to all teachers with resources and contact numbers that will be helpful to all. (i.e. crime victims contact, building reps, etc.)
7. When asked about Cala's report, Martha Keating, who was leading the meeting, said that at this time they weren't prepared to make a comment. However, it is available for all teachers to read on the following websites:
D&C: <http://www.democratandchronicle.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2008801130336>
City Newspaper: <http://www.rochestercitynewspaper.com/news/articles/EDUCATION:+Cala+leaves+behind+a+tough+critique/>
Channel 10: <http://www.whec.com/article/stories/S310614.shtml>
8. Jean-Claude Brizard came to speak to the teachers and take questions. He said that his initial plan is on the [RCSD website](#) for all to read. He also said that he wants to have monthly teacher meetings with special interest groups (secondary teachers, elementary teachers, etc.) to discuss what is going on in the buildings and with programs. He said that they are hiring auditors to review the Special Ed program to give recommendations. Finally, when asked about Cala's report, he said it didn't go far enough, nor deep enough. He said that he has spoken to Cala about it.