

RTA news from the Rep meeting, March 17, 2009:

The seminar with Jonathan Kozol is on the AVATAR website for 2 PD hours. There are about 200 seats left.

Administrative Evaluations are going to be done on an individual school basis upon request from the RTA reps of that building. If you want our school to do the admin eval, let me know so that I can request the forms. There must be a 50% return for them to be tabulated and in the past our school never has met the minimum number of returns for the info to be published.

The RTA has developed a NYSUT Plan to help motivate more members to participate in union activities. Jon Hickey and Aim ee Rinere are working on this.

School Based Planning Teams need to be made aware that there is a concerted effort on the part of the superintendent to shift all decisions to the principal with no teacher input. RTA will grieve this with an improper practice suit against the district because School Based Planning has been a long standing part of the contract and practice. If each building has examples of principal decisions that used to be part of School Based Planning, let RTA know so that they can be placed as examples for the improper practice case. Principals are being trained to not bring budget and educational changes to School Based Planning. One such example is that the Superintendent has changed the Specialists' positions so not to be called "Lead Teacher" positions and do not need to be applied for or interviewed by SBPT and can be appointed by principals.

Schools were congratulated for being schools "in good standing" for one and two years. (School 9 was not mentioned.)

Master's Degree info -- Names will be published in the Rochester Teacher of those teachers who the district or the union cannot find and are entitled to money from this award. If you know where they are or how to contact them, do so, or let RTA know so that their transcripts can be in by August 28, 2009. If all paperwork is not in by that date, they will not be able to receive any money due to them.

RTA Elections -- No one is running against Adam Urbanski as president or John Pavone as first Vice President. Debbi Jackett is running against Margaret Sergent for 2nd Vice President. There are 2 people running for Treasurer and 4 people running for Secretary. You will be receiving campaign material and info in your election ballot of those running for RTA offices and departments. Remember, if you have changed addresses and are not receiving RTA or NYSUT materials at your home, you will want to let RTA know of your change of address so that you can receive your ballot as well as up to date material.