

RTA representative meeting, May 27, 2008

- RTA is having an end of the year celebration at Midtown Athletic Club, June 20 from 3 to 7:30. See the brochure in your mailbox.
- The RTA budget was passed. Info: 40 to 50 teachers are expected to be going back to the buildings from Central Office taking positions from retirement and attrition which will mean less new teachers hired. Therefore, RTA will be expecting a loss of \$12,000 of dues money. They will take money that was not used from this year's budget to balance it. There will be no dues increase this year.
- June 10 is the RTA retirement dinner for its members at Burgandy Basin Inn.
- Info: Martha Keating said that she **hopes** that the Masters grievance will pay out this summer. There will be a 3rd mailing to those teachers who have not responded to past letters.
- Placement Days: were in the recent mailing from Central Office. They are posted in the building. The High School time will be adjusted.
- Elementary Summer School letters were sent this past weekend and asking for teachers to reply by today. Joanne Giuffrida said that she would extend the date to reply, however, get your decision sent soon.
- 7th and 8th grade continuing classes during regents week: the RTA filed a class action grievance for the teachers and are continuing to meet. Central Office said that they are trying to accommodate the scheduling, but RTA is not satisfied with what they have come up with on lunches, transportation, subs, an instructive packet for students, attendance, "opportunity to enrich students", etc. Adam Urbanski assumes that the differences will not be resolved but that the students will be in attendance in June.
- Rochester Teacher Academy -- have listed several classes on AVATAR for July and August for 10 to 15 hours. Some are near full; but keep checking because they will be adding more. They will be in the afternoons to accommodate teachers in summer school.
- Vote Cope: Please join by giving \$1 or \$2 per paycheck. Two lobbying groups are trying to get the 25/55 retirement incentive without penalty and to get an enhancement for those who had paid the 3% for more than the present 10 year plan. Your donation helps to get this legislation passed.
- Extreme Classroom Makeover -- district was supportive at beginning until lead paint and asbestos was found. They got money from Wilmot and Paetek. The winner was at Wilson High School, a science teacher. There will be another contest in the fall.
- From the Living Contract Committee with the Superintendent:
 - People on leave for charges will report to a centralized location (6 people currently) and they will be given work in their specialty areas.
 - Adam Urbanski is beginning to work on the next contract and looking at Salary Benchmarking for 2009 -10, opening negotiations for next year. According to the contract, next year (2008-09) we will be receiving 4.39%.
 - CO wants to incorporate into the PD to know the students better and not just know the subject material better (as a result of last week's reporting why students dropout).

- Dream Schools -- Superintendent said they will adhere to the contract, any extra work will be compensated. Dream Schools will receive more resources, not burden the staff.
 - Site based budget -- increases the role of School Based Planning.
 - Adam Urbanski wants joint training of administrators and staff to understand the contract and joint decision making.
 - Adam Urbanski or an RTA person will respond to today's editorials about punishing teachers for absences and lost books.
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- RTA is still accepting the administrative survey until Monday, June 2 when the results will be tabulated.
 - 590 signed the petition from 23 work locations on student discipline and safety.
 - Another topic from the Living Contract -- the Super has a strong bias against separate facilities for disruptive students. RTA feels services that are needed are not in the buildings and can be concentrated in a separate facility. RTA supports safe learning environments. AU suggested case managers for the in school suspension rooms so that students can get services needed.
 - The Teacher Center sent out a survey about their services. They ask that you respond.
 - June 13 -- there will be a Special Ed picnic, flier is placed in your mailboxes.
 - Problem at many schools in a.m. of what to do with students when they get off the bus at 8:30. They are having problems with fights. AU said that if this is an administrative issue, they should take it to their supervisors. Martha Keating will organize a network for ideas of how different schools can solve the problem.
 - Breast Cancer Walk is in October. Each building needs a contact person.

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