

Rep meeting for October 30, 2007

- NYSUT/AFT delegate elections take place in December. Nominations by write in are being taken by November 7. Forms are in the RTA newspaper or ask a rep. Nominations are taken at the Rep meeting, November 27.
- Vote Cope - Please join. They are having an RTA social Friday, December 7 at Soho.
- Don't forget to vote next Tuesday. The RTA endorsed Carla PALUMBO and Adam McFadden for city Council.
- Make sure you vote in county legislation elections. As you know Maggie Brooks took money away from suburban schools. Next year she has indicated that she will do the same with the money that goes to city schools (\$55 M).
- Martin Luther King student - Fliers will be sent out asking you to nominate a model student. This year's ceremony will take place at SOTA on January 15. It is the 25th anniversary of RTA recognizing students so there will be a special medal and ceremony. The teacher recognizing the student needs to attend to introduce and speak about the child. Forms and more information will be available at www.rochesterteachers.com
- Rochester Teacher Academy continues to put classes on AVATAR for PD.
- Dial A Teacher SES services are beginning in schools that chose it as a provider. They have more than 600 students enrolled.
- President's report:
 - Urbanski and Paula Givens have filed a legal suit against Mayor Duffy and Lois Geiss because of a "maintenance of effort" legislation in which the city is not to give less than what it gave last year to the district. It should have been filed by the School Board but because they didn't and it will mean teacher positions, Urbanski decided to do it. Duffy is saying that he will be giving the district \$11M less next year. If "next year" is January, it will cost 500 jobs, if it means September it would be 250 jobs. With this threat and Maggie Brooks, the situation needs to be monitored by the state legislature.
 - BENTE (clerical/custodial staff) offered \$1,000 to the family of the crossing guard killed recently. They asked that RAP and RTA match the contribution.
 - Superintendent search: the 4 candidates are being interviewed.

- RTA will be having seminar dinners for PD. A list of them will be coming out in November.
- Urbanski has met with Cala for the Living Contract Committee. They discussed the need for alternatives for disruptive students and looking at a new salary schedule. They will continue to discuss this.
- The NYSUT convention that was to be held in Rochester in 2009 has been moved to Buffalo because of the dispute with the Crown Plaza that is not allowing its employees to organize.
- RTA's Special Ed's Committee is going to have forums to listen to the concerns of Special Ed teachers. Their first meeting is December 6 at East High. Jeff Feinberg said the meeting will be 1/2 meeting, 1/2 social.
- A teacher asked about the attendance letter that is mentioned as a pop-up on Chancery. RTA will be coming out with procedures. Martha Keating said that what was agreed upon is that teachers need to fill out one form (letter 1) after the first 3 absences and nothing more.
- Friday there will be an op-ed piece as a point/counterpoint on should teachers have tenure.
- Masters Degree grievance has been sent to the highest court of appeals.
- By February the district said that they will change ID numbers taking out the Social Security numbers. However, Jon Hickey said that the person who agreed to it will not be working for the district in February. Discussions will continue with current administrators in Central Office.