

WAYNE'S WORLD

WTA/NEA-NY

WTA Newsletter

Pat Yates, President
 Lori Sensenbach, Internal Vice President
 Elizabeth Peters, External Vice President
 Lisa Twitchell, Treasurer
 Martha Hanley, Secretary
 Kathy Emison, Retirement Delegate

December, 2002

Volume 1, Issue 3



President's Message



We hope you enjoy and appreciate the continued efforts on your behalf occurring in our district. The positive interaction at the monthly meetings with our DO administrators has been powerful for growth. Issue by issue, together we hope to provide you with the optimum teaching environment allowed under the changing NYS education laws and expectations. Please continue to communicate with your representatives. They have established a working relationship with your principals to address and correct building level concerns.

Fact-based conversations work!
 Respectfully,
 Pat

New beginnings, that seems like the appropriate thought for this month's note. We promise ourselves new hope with our New Year's resolutions, our students get the clean slate of a new semester, and we smile at pictures of new babies in our local paper.

But what about the new beginning associated with **retirement**? Much discussion has been occurring since October 2002 around the possibility of reviewing the eligibility requirements for our local retirement incentive. The advise of many has been sought and used. Michael Havens and I have signed a memorandum favorable to all of the Wayne

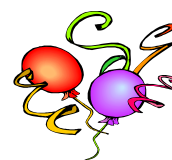
Central community. The retirement incentive language does not change! If you are between 50-55, you will receive a letter outlining the eligibility changes. Private information sessions may be set with Pat Yates, Jeff Trout (NEA local representative) or Abi Buddington with a simple phone call. A complete copy of the memorandum of agreement will be presented at Representative council (RC). If you are one of the members that have followed the contractual 16-month eligibility requirement, there is no mandatory change for you.

... Retirement incentive language does not change! ... you will receive a letter outlining the eligibility changes.

Inside this issue:

3 R's: Remarks, Reminders, and Relief	2
Knights of the Round Table	2
Valentines Benefit Dinner Dance	2

L
E
T
S



Celebrate!

OP

Welcome back to Julie Weils returning from a surgery.

OE

FW

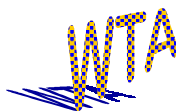
MS

Congratulations to Jenny Wing on the birth of her baby boy—Jackson Charles!

HS

Kudos and special thanks to Tech Support for helping us through all our electronic budget woes.

You Rock!



Acting Locally—Supporting Nationally!

For over thirty years, Larry Ruth has served the membership of WTA in various capacities. As Negotiator, Building Representative, Vice President, and Association President for eleven Years, the "Legacy of Larry" and his leadership benefits us every working day. Larry has accepted the call of many members of our state organization, NEA/New York, to bring his ideas and talents of the service of its membership of forty thousand teachers and educational support professionals. NEA/New York is at a difficult period in its

history, and will require skilled imaginative and bold leadership to build it back to a condition of strength. Larry has teamed up with other leaders who will be able to meet these challenges. Morty Rosenfeld of Plainview Congress of Teachers and Matt Jacobs of Sewanhaka have joined with Larry to form a *New Solidarity*, a group of NEA/New York leaders who share their vision of what is necessary so that our state union can better serve its membership. Running for Secretary-Treasurer of NEA/New York takes money, hundreds of dollars, in fact. Reach-

ing out to membership that is spread from Long Island to Buffalo, doing mailings, phoning long distance, and traveling to meetings across the state all require greater financial resources than most candidates can shoulder themselves. If Larry's campaign is to be successful, he will need our financial support. We are a key source of campaign funds. WTA has made an initial donation of \$500.00. If you wish to join in standing behind the man who has served us and represented us for so many years contact Ed Currier at the Middle School. "Together we stand . . ."

The 3 R's: Remarks, Reminders, and Relief!

3rd Thursdays—

10 Minute Meeting

January 23rd- Free Donuts!
10 minutes— We've got the
Cream!

Topic :

Your 7 Hours of Professional Development

If you wish to donate to Larry Ruth's Campaign—make your check payable to "New Solidarity" and send it to Ed Currier.



Problems/issues recently resolved

1. Exit Survey—new and improved!
2. In-service credit to be awarded for AED training.
3. Seniority issues all addressed and resolved.
4. Request for back up alternative to Electronic submission of budget.

Itemizing your Taxes? WTA deductible dues amount is \$532.00.

Rule of thumb #3 Need tuition help? Always ask for a tuition waiver and keep asking!
(Contact HR.—Abbi Buddington for details)

Donna Schumacher and her Scholarship committee have been sponsoring a **3-point Basketball shoot out contest at Wayne's Home Basketball games**. At last report, they had raised around \$100.00! She shoots—She scores!



Knights of the Round Table (President's Council)

You remember the Knights of the Round Table - those gallant

few who were willing to put their swords aside and come together peacefully to discuss issues, ideas, and concerns and then ride off into the sunset ready to fight for and protect the community of Camelot (or something like that). Every month, here at Wayne Central, seven people can be seen gathered at the "round" table, side by side as equals, swords sheathed, discussing concerns and issues, and planting the seeds of ideas. These seven are Pat Yates - WTA President, Lori Sensenbach, -WTA Internal V.P., Kathy Emison, -contract expert/Retirement Delegate, Mike Havens - Superintendent, Abbi Buddington - Human Resources, Greg Atsef - Assistant Superintendent of Business, and Larry Spring - Assistant Superintendent of Instruction.

This coming together began back in the days of Dr. Crombe (several superintendents ago) and was called the Joint Faculty Administrative Council.

Different administrations have held different views regarding this coming together at the table. The current administration highly values this spirit of collegiality. Pat Yates says, "This round-table group has become a community of trust for fact gathering and decision making. I cannot name any other group that has helped me grow more." "I'm enjoying the spirit of shared decision making that these meetings produce. I feel that the good will generated by both parties at this table will enable us to continue to solve many problems in the future," states Kathy Emison.

What is the goal or overall purpose of these meetings? Larry Spring believes that, "The "roundtable" is very positive activity for the district. It functions as a low-key way to bring out concerns and issues, to gather information, get questions answered, and discuss issues. It is a great way for the administra-

we are committed to looking at each issue with the goal of finding a solution that offers benefits to all involved.

tion and association to collaborate around common issues... great solutions come from these discussions." Abi Buddington summarizes it in this way, "The purpose and goal of these meetings, is to look at our organization through the lens that considers, "What is best for the children in our district?" I feel very fortunate to

be surrounded with strong educators who hold this purpose dear to their hearts. I also feel we are committed to looking at each issue with the goal of finding a solution that offers benefits to all involved. I have enjoyed the challenges and rewards these meetings have produced."

Truly, the goals of the "round" table are being met. Barriers of the us vs. them mentality have been broken down. The door of communication is open. A collegial atmosphere exists and is inspiring true collaboration. Chivalry is not dead - welcome to the new code of the Wayne Knights of the Round Table!



VALENTINES DINNER DANCE

Benefit for Darlene Fousse

Friday February 7th, 2003

Arena's Banquet Center - Webster

Flower City All Star Big Band 9 pm—Midnight!

\$30.00 per person / \$60.00 per couple

Tickets on sale through 1/23

Contact: Julie Crandell, Tom Sousa, or your building contact person

