

WAYNE'S WORLD

WTA/NEA-NY

WTA Newsletter

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Maureen Doyle (MS), Acting Internal VP
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Professional Integrity



Happy Holidays!
Can it possibly be time for me to say that? If there are any of you out there who would volunteer to do my shopping and baking, please let me know.

I love this time of year at the primary school. I smell the applesauce the kindergarteners are cooking for their Thanksgiving feasts, and I see the stories the children have written about the pilgrims. The hallway walls are covered with lists and pictures of those people and things for which the children are grateful. Their lists are so simple: mom, dad, my house, school, my dog, my friends. I hope we all take time to echo them and add our own

personal blessings.

We've reached a point in the school year where suddenly there are all kinds of documents to be filled out: report cards, IEP progress reports, exam protocols, observation forms. The list seems to get longer every year.

At the same time, certification requirements are becoming more complex. In the past, extensions were often granted when deadlines passed, and provisions could sometimes be made to keep a teacher on until requirements were met. The State Education Department is no longer granting any exceptions. If an individual has not met requirements or has falsi-

fied information to SED or the school district, that person's certificate can, and most likely will, be permanently revoked.

It is critical for us, as educators, to maintain standards of integrity. State exams have specific protocols. IEPs have confidentiality requirements. Observation forms have deadlines. Don't be fooled by rumors of backlog at SED. It is not just your job that is at risk; it is the education of your students.

The topic of our 3rd Thursday meetings on December 15 will be Professionalism: What Does It Mean? Please plan to attend.

Lori Sensenbach

WTA—Keeping us Relevant!

Marc Binsac (Negotiator at Large and Delegate, MS) Maureen Doyle (Internal VP, MS) and Cindy Coomber (Building Rep, OP) spent the weekend of October 21st together at the **NEA—NY Fall Leadership Training Conference held at Holiday Valley** this year. Although the weather outside was downcast, they reported that the atmosphere inside was energy

charged and eye-opening!

Workshops attended included heavy hitting topics such as Grievances and Legal Issues.

Marc came away with legal knowledge regarding current court decisions effecting education. With regard to disciplinary actions and teachers here is a strong piece of advice: *Tenured teachers should always remain silent when being questioned by ad-*

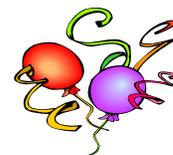
ministration and/or police!

For a copy of his summary of that workshop see your building rep!

Maureen and Cindy delved into the whole picture of grievances from procedures to committee structures, and contract language.

Many thanks to them for attending on our behalf!

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CELEBRATE !

Stork Visits:

Kelly Gallup's little girl, Ava Grace has just arrived!

Andrea Dysart is now the proud adoptive parent of 5 year old Melisa!

Welcome aboard to our New Negotiator at Large— Marc Binsac (MS).

Special Recognitions:

Deb Maier (OP) recently received the J. Ernest DuBois Educator Award from the Genesee Valley PTA!

Martha Hanley and Tammy Scheuer (FE) accepted 3 National School's of Character Awards in recognition of promising practices promoting character education being implemented at FE.



WTA (Beth and Maureen) presenting School Board members (Mr. Schultz and Mr. Johnson) with a "Commitment to Excellence" pin in honor of New York State School Board Recognition Week.

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

3rd Thursday— December 14

(November was cancelled)

Topic: Professionalism? What does it mean?



Issues acted upon/discussed:

- ◆ Examined extra duties encouraged of staff.
- ◆ Department Chair grievance is being withdrawn.

Issues currently being explored:

- ◆ APPR committee meeting re: summative evaluation forms.
- ◆ Timeliness of responses to in-

quiries made to district office

- ◆ Evaluation of Block Schedules at the HS.
- ◆ Review of supervisory pay.

Rule of thumb #25: *When you begin with the end in mind you always know where you are (on the seniority list that is!)*

Sick Bank Donations total for 2005 /2006 = 230 out of a possible 250. Thanks to all who donated!

Dates to Remember:

- ◆ **December 1st Deadline** for reporting any seniority list discrepancies to HR! So check the list—see your building Rep.
- ◆ **Pre-Retirement Planning Seminar**, Friday, December 9th 8:00am - 3:00pm at the Radisson Hotel -Airport, 175 Jefferson Road, Henrietta

Rumor has it that Pat Yates is hoping to return real soon!

Negotiations Update

From: Lori Sensenbach and Michael Havens

Date: 11/18/2005

On Wednesday, the contract team met for the fifth time, continuing to discuss and develop our proposed contract. A number of sub-committees were appointed to further analyze data from our jointly selected comparable districts regarding com-

pensation, health benefits, stipends, and time. They will be bringing their information back to the larger group on November 30.

Teams assigned are:

- ◆ Jason Carter and Mark Callahan – Health Benefits
- ◆ Michael Havens and Jeff Trout - Compensation
- ◆ Jay Gauthier – Stipends

Additional meeting dates are scheduled for Dec. 14 and Dec. 20.



Wayne Teachers Earn Recognition!

Debbie Maier, teacher/librarian at Ontario Primary was presented with this year's J. Ernest DuBois Educator Award from the Genesee Valley PTA! This award was established in 1986



and honors a non-administrative educator who demonstrates excellence in education through his/her work with children and youth. Other criteria include an active educator who works directly with/for students who has made a commitment to PTA and has served in a leadership capacity. The Genesee Valley PTA represents over 38 school districts and 21,000 mem-

bers. Debbie is the first librarian to receive this award. The award was presented by J. Ernest DuBois, himself to Debbie Maier, for her efforts not only at the school, but in her PTA leadership capacity at Ontario Primary. She was awarded a crystal bell.

Tammy Scheuer (art teacher) and Martha Hanley (speech teacher) flew to Atlanta, Georgia this month to accept three awards at the National Schools of Character Conference! Values Bingo, STARS at Home, and Souper Bowl—MVP were the three

promising practices implemented at Freewill Elementary School that received this national recognition. Both Tammy and Marty head up the Freewill STARS team that helps develop and implement their character education philosophy through out the building. They are working toward national recognition as a School of Character and this is a giant step forward!

